

NORTH CHANNEL LEPC MEETING MINUTES

March 1, 2010

Galena Park ISD Administration Building
14705 Woodforest Blvd.
(NE corner of intersection BW-8 and Woodforest)
Lunch at 11:30 am

- I. Call to Order and Introductions – Meeting began at 11:55 am with 30 attendees.
- II. Review of Minutes from Feb. 1, 2010 Meeting – Minutes were distributed prior to the meeting. No corrections were proposed. A motion to accept the minutes was raised by Anorga, 2nd by Artero. Motion carried by voice vote.
- III. Committee Reports
 - Finance w / Treasurer's report – Spaid presented the financial report through March 1. Only outstanding invoice is \$200 from North Channel Chamber of Commerce. Motion to accept financial report by Battise, 2'd by Anorga. Motion carried by voice vote. Spaid plans to prepare a first draft of our 2010 budget for discussion at our next meeting.
 - HHWCD – Squyres noted we plan to utilize grant money to finance our efforts this year but it is too early to submit an application. We are also considering expanding the HHWCD to include collection of controlled substances.
 - Compliance and Emergency Notification System – Squyres noted that EHCMA's CECC (event notification committee) has been meeting lately. One issue noted was that many facilities use the CAERLINE as their official notification to authorities in their jurisdiction, but the CAERLINE is intended to be for messages to the public. The EHCMA CECC protocols have been adopted by all the LEPC's in East Harris County, but there continues to be an issue with cross-Ship Channel communications.
 - Air Products' recent releases were discussed. Anorga related some details as he was nearby when the releases occurred. Most AP ER personnel were at a conference in San Antonio so the Plant Manager tried to handle the communications himself while also trying to coordinate the facility's response activities. (This release resulted in a NO2 plume floating across Highway 225.) We will work to get Air Products and American Acryl representatives at a future meeting. Further discussions followed regarding the use of the EHCMA CECC protocols and the merits of a system like E-merge
 - Spaid noted we received about half the Tier II's in the proper electronic format. Spaid is contacting submitters to obtain proper formatted files.

- Site visitation plans: Tex-Trude is tentatively set for sometime in March but the LEPC has not had communication from CVFD or Tex-Trude on a date. The LEPC wants all its fire departments to coordinate their facility visits with the LEPC. The LEPC has developed a visit agenda but there is a need to develop a set of criteria for use during these visits. The Harris County Haz Mat team wishes to be involved in these visits also.
- Drills and Training / Chief's Council Report –Battise – No report.
- Transportation – Anorga – No report.

IV. CAPLE and HAD-CAP Reports

- CAPLE – Strouhal - Met on Feb. 18, Tom Blackwell of Lyondell-Bassel had a presentation about Process Safety Management and the need for risk assessments. Discussion included the recent Air Products event. Blackwell described how L-B used their notification systems and First Call. L-B now has a single plant manager, Mike Vandernick?
- HAD-CAP –Squyres and Spaid reported on the Feb. 22 HAD-CAP meeting where Squyres presented the most recent EPA figures on reportable releases. As expected Texas, and specifically Harris County, leads the nation in the number of reportable releases. The meeting included a presentation by American Acryls on their recent toluene fire and explosion.

V. Agency Reports

HCPHES – Darbonne – Noted the Air Products event would have affected the NC area if the wind had been from the South.

Precinct 2 – Commissioner Garcia is starting her town hall meetings. The meeting for this area will be this fall. HHW mobile event will be May 1 at the Grayson Center, Freeport Street. Texas Hurricane Conference is planned for 3rd week in May in McAllen

HCOEM – No report.

GPISD – C. Vital reported GPISD has applied for the ???? Emergency Management for Schools Grant which will allow for improved emergency plans and for functional exercises. Also included in the application was funding to improve chemical management in the schools (labs, custodial, maintenance, etc.)

EHRMC – Anderson – Merger with Bayshore helped EHRMC have a good year in 2009. EHRMC is getting a new CEO.

Sheriff's Office – Nothing to report.

VI. Old Business – None.

VII. New Business – Short discussion regarding the construction on Haden Road. Great potential for a truck rollover.

VIII. Next meeting:

- April 5

IX. Adjournment at 12:45.