**Alamo Area Council of Governments**

**Regional Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Wednesday April 17th, 2024 – 2:00pm**

**2700 NE Loop 410, Suite 101**

**San Antonio, Texas 78217**

**MEETING MINUTES**

***MEMBERS PRESENT:***

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| 1. **Donovan Agans** 2. **Ray Kallio for Judge Rochelle Camacho** 3. **Andrew Cardiel** 4. **Manuel Casarez** 5. **Mark Chadwick** 6. **Walton Daugherty** 7. **Shelby Dupnik** 8. **Vance Meade for Eric Epley** 9. **Jeffery Fincke** 10. **Darren Brinkkoeter for Tony Gross** 11. **Nolan Byrd for Gary Haecker** 12. **Brandon High** 13. **Jeff Kelley** | 1. **Donald Keil** 2. **Bryce Houlton for Judge Kyle Kutscher** 3. **Judy Lefevers** 4. **Jerremy Hughes for Eric Maloney** 5. **Samual McDaniel** 6. **Scott Moreland** 7. **Rey Torres for Michael Morlan** 8. **Steve Olfers** 9. **Patrick Lewis for Todd Perna** 10. **Sammy Sikes** 11. **Cindy Stafford** 12. **Michael McLaughlin for Michael Starnes** 13. **William Thomas** |

***MEMBERS ABSENT:***

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| 1. **Justin Klaus** 2. **Christopher Monestier** 3. **John Overstreet** 4. **Curtis Roberson** 5. **Braxton Roemer** | 1. **Judge Peter Sakai** 2. **Judge James Teal** 3. **Chief Mark Trevino** |

***AACOG STAFF PRESENT:***

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| Marcela Medina – Public Safety Manager  Justin Monarez- Criminal Justice/Homeland Security Coordinator  Laura Richardson- Public Safety Specialist |
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**1. Meeting called to Order.**

Jeff Kelley called the meeting to order at 2:00pm.

**2. Roll Call.**

A quorum was established with twenty-six **(26)** members present.

**3. Public Comments**

None

**4. Consider and act upon the approval of the March 18, 2024 minutes.**

A **motion** was made by **Bryce Houlton** and secondedby **Shelby Dupnik** to approve the minutes.

**All Approved, Motion Carried.**

**5. Presentations:**

1. Monthly National Weather Service Update- Paul Yura
2. Cybersecurity Advisory (CSA) for Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)- Todd Vasilou

CISA is the pinnacle of national risk management for cyber and physical infrastructure. CISA assists the public and private sectors secure its networks and focuses on organizations in 16 critical infrastructure sectors.

Communications, Chemical, Critical Manufacturing, Commercial Facilities, Dams, Defense Industrial Base, Emergency Services, Energy, Financial, Food & Agriculture, Government Facilities, Healthcare & Public Health, Information Technology, Nuclear Reactors, Materials & Waste, Transportations Systems and Water.

The Cybersecurity Advisors (CSAs) assess, promote, build, educate, listen and coordinate.

There are many regional and national resources and workshops. They use a ransomware readiness assessment. The RRA is a self-assessment based on a tiered set of

practices to help organizations better assess how well they are equipped to defend

and recover from a ransomware incident.

For information on training: [education@cisa.dhs.gov](mailto:education@cisa.dhs.gov) & <https://ics-training.inl.gov/learn/signin>

**6. Program Updates**

**A. Staff Updates-**

Mitchell Mensinger resigned. We are going to be re-hiring that position soon.

**B. Scoring FY24 NSGP Applications-**

AACOG Staff will be scoring these applications. They will conclude May 17.

1. **Tower Enhancement- Consolidated Appropriations 2024-** see Robert Adelman’s report.

**7. Discussion and appropriate action on subcommittee reports.**

1. **Emergency Management-** there was a virtual meeting. They will start meeting quarterly to discuss current topics. Covered multiple topics including hazard mitigation plans, ACFs, and working on goals for future grant projects.
2. **Fire/Hazmat/WMD-N/A**
3. **Law Enforcement/Fusion Center-N/A**
4. **Interoperable Communications-**

Robert Adelman- AACOG was awarded $4.5 million in appropriation funds for the infrastructure project. This will be in the area that congressman Gonzales wants it to be added. There may be a little more benefit in the West area of the COG than the East at first. We are working with TX DOT to come up with a plan. We have to verify timelines and submit projects. We may also be able to submit a subscriber project which may help quite a bit. We may be submitting 3 projects to the different congressmen to see what we may be able to receive.

Karnes county was one county where we already used some of the funds. They are entering into an agreement with TXDOT to use their tower which will immensely help to build out their site.

Yesterday was the JAG grant scoring and Robert answered questions that CJAC had about the radio projects pending. Working with AACOG staff about putting in prohibitions for any radio purchases made in the AACOG region on the CJAC side as well to make sure everyone has what they need for interoperable communications.

1. **Hospital/EMS/Medical-**

Have the DECON rodeo coming up. Hazmat teams with hospitals come together to go over what they will do in incidents.

1. **Public Health-** H5N1 is back in the news but not in our region. Only affects animals. We have not had any human contact. Working with veterinarians.

**Old Business:**

1. **NA**

**New Business:**

1. **Discussion and appropriate action on REPAC Bylaws and the following:** 
   1. **Policies and Procedures**
   2. **Subcommittee Guidelines**
   3. **Risk Informed Methodology**

There was a discussion opened for these topics which will continue over the next several meetings. We have gotten feedback about what changes we might want to make. The by-laws have a strike through version of different items. New items were in blue. Some items were gone over. Taking out two-year terms, having 50% +1 to make quorum, conflict of interest definitions, etc. Staff suggest going over each document and make notes to go over at the next meeting.

There was a membership with seat held form given out. Staff needs to know any changes that need to be made. Please check and see if your name is on there correctly or where it needs to be added. This will be sent out as well.

It was suggested to looking at limiting the number of projects per agency or division. Look at what you need to concentrate on in order of importance.

**Closing Items-**

1. **Upcoming Events, Trainings and/or Exercises**
2. AACOG is hosting a 3-Day TEEX ICS-300 training May 21-23. Free classes
3. Trainings available on [www.preparingtexas.org](http://www.preparingtexas.org). Open for registration:

May 9 & 10 G-358 Evacation & Re-Entry

June 7 G-191 Emergency Operations Center/Incident Command System Interface

July 19 G-557 Rapid Needs Assessment

Aug 14-16 G-300 Intermediate ICS

Sept 12-13 G-400 Advanced ICS

1. **Items to be placed on next meeting agenda.**

None

1. **Next Meeting Date: Wednesday May 15th, 2024 –2:00pm**

**13. Adjournment.**

A **motion** was made by **Jeffery Fincke** and seconded by **Bryce Houlton** to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30pm.

Glossary:

1. AACOG – Alamo Area Council of Governments
2. CISA – Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency
3. DSHS – Department of State Health Services
4. DVE – Domestic Violent Extremism
5. GIS – Geographic Information Systems
6. HSGD – Homeland Security Grants Division
7. JTTF – Joint Terrorism Task Force
8. LETPA – Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Act
9. NPA – National Priority Area
10. NSEDC – National Special Events Data Call
11. NSGP – Nonprofit Security Grant Program
12. OOG – Office of the Governor
13. RMOC – Regional Medical Operations Center
14. SAOEM – San Antonio Office of Emergency Management
15. SERI – Statewide Emergency Radio Infrastructure (grant)
16. SHSP – State Homeland Security Program
17. STEAR – State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry
18. STFC – South Texas Fusion Center
19. STRAC – Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council
20. TARC – Texas Association of Regional Councils
21. TEEX – Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service