



# Bastrop County Local Emergency Planning Committee Meeting Minutes Thursday, September 26, 2024



**A. Call to order.**

The September 26, 2024, special meeting of the Bastrop County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) was called to order at 10:00 A.M. by LEPC Chairperson Chief Josh Gill. Chief Gill confirmed the presence of a quorum.

**B. Citizens' comments.**

There were no citizens comments during this meeting.

**C. Discuss and take action regarding the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) LEPC Grant that is due on October 11, 2024.**

**1) Training Needs:**

The LEPC Committee identified HOTZONE Training as a training need for firefighters in Bastrop County and will request funding for training and associated costs in the 2024 LEPC grant cycle. The goal of HOTZONE Training is to equip local, state, and federal responders for safe, coordinated, and efficient response to releases of hazardous materials that threaten public health and the environment. The committee identified six fire departments that would benefit from the training. The six fire departments are Bastrop County Emergency Services District #1 (ESD1), Bastrop County Emergency Services District #2 (ESD2), North Bastrop County Fire Rescue (Bastrop / Travis County Emergency Services District #1), City of Bastrop Fire, Smithville Volunteer Fire Department, and Heart of Pine Volunteer Fire Department. Each department will select five firefighters, by selection committee, to send to the training. The funds requested for training would cover the cost of registration fees, travel, lodging, and per diem.

Chief Chris Stone will research total costs and report a financial breakdown to the Bastrop County Office of Emergency Management by close of business on October 7, 2024.

After collaborative consideration, Mr. Steven Long made a motion to send five firefighters from each of six identified county fire departments to HOTZONE Training. Chief Josh Gill seconded the motion. The LEPC committee members present voted unanimously to request HOTZONE Training in the TCEQ Grant.

**2) Equipment Needs - Laptops:**

Laptops were identified by the LEPC committee as an equipment need for two fire departments in Bastrop County (The Smithville Volunteer Fire Department and the Heart of Pines Volunteer Fire Department). Funds for two Panasonic Toughbooks with a Microsoft software package, software security, an additional screen will be



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requested in the grant application. Each of the two fire departments will have two laptops - one laptop designated for the fire station and a second laptop designated for the command vehicle.

Mr. Altgelt will get an estimated cost of the two Toughbooks including Microsoft Operating software and security software from the Bastrop County IT (Information Technology) department. The estimate for the laptops will be ready for review by the Bastrop County Office of Emergency Management by close of business on October 7, 2024.

After collaborative consideration, Mr. Altgelt made a motion to request funds for two laptops, Chief Gill seconded the motion. The LEPC Committee members present voted unanimously to request funding for laptops in the TCEQ Grant.

### 3) **Equipment Needs – Geiger Counters:**

Geiger Counters were identified by the LEPC Committee as an equipment need for ESD1, ESD2, City of Bastrop Fire Department, North Bastrop County Fire and Rescue, Smithville Volunteer Fire Department and Heart of Pines Volunteer Fire Department.

Mr. Long agreed to get an estimate for Geiger Counters and provide the estimate to the Bastrop County Office of Emergency Management for review by the close of business on October 7, 2024.

After collaborative consideration, Mr. Long made a motion to request funds for Geiger Counters in the TCEQ grant. Mr. Altgelt seconded the motion. The LEPC members present voted unanimously to request funds for six Geiger Counters in the TCEQ Grant.

### 4) **Prioritization and Ranking of Training and Equipment Needs:**

Mr. Long made a motion to prioritize each need and rank them accordingly. Chief Gill seconded the motion and the LEPC members present voted unanimously to rank each need in order of priority. The results of the prioritization and ranking are as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Priority – HOTZONE Training
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Priority – Laptops
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Priority – Geiger Counters



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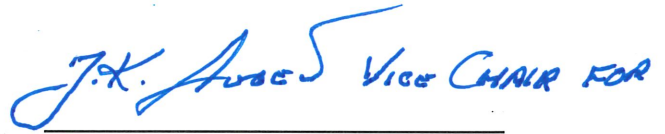
**D. Tire Disposal Discussion:**

A discussion took place among LEPC members present regarding the need for a tire disposal program. Mr. Eduardo Guerrero informed the group that there is an existing grant program for tire disposal so there was not a need for a tire disposal program.

**E. Adjournment.**

Chief Gill made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Mr. Altgelt. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting ended at 10:29 A.M.

  
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Hillary Long  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Bastrop County LEPC

 Vice CHAIR FOR  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Josh Gill  
Chairperson  
Bastrop County LEPC