

MINUTES

Homeland Security Advisory Committee Monthly BVCOG (Region 13) Meeting

1330 May 26, 2021

Center for Regional Services Building: 3991 E. 29th St. Bryan, TX

Committee Chairman	Bryan Ruemke – Emergency Management Coordinator Washington County Office of Emergency Management		
Committee Vice Chair	Shelly Butts – Emergency Management Coordinator Madison County Office of Emergency Management		
Type of Meeting	Monthly HSAC Meeting Hybrid (Virtual due to COVID-19)		
BVCOG Staff Members in Attendance	Lauren Gutschlag – Homeland Security Planner; Roger Sheridan – Public Safety Manager		
HSAC Guests in Attendance	Mark Pennybacker – Washington County Citizen; Joe Fauth Grimes County Judge; Bruce Millman- CSPD; Dan Reilly – NOAA; Jason Ware – BC OEM; Shannon McLaughlin (Austin)		
Homeland Security Advisory Committee Members in Attendance			
Brazos County			
Eric Buske		Patrick Corley	
Jerry Henry	Present	Tradd Mills	Present
Peggi Goss	Present	Leslie Lutz	Present
Monica Martinez	Present	David Dibello	Present
Michele Meade	Present	Steve Aldrich	Present
Paul Martinez		Kenneth Utz	
Curtis Darby		James Arnold	Present
Rodney Sigler	Present	Scott Smith	
Santos Navarette	Present		
Burleson County			
Charles Barnes		Dennis Gaas	
Gene Hermes		Bill Perry	Present
Duane Strange	Present	Jake Sullivan	
Grimes County			
Katherine Dornak (Lee)	Present	Todd Greene	Present
Jason Katkoski		David Lilly	Present
Neal Wendele		Sinda Phelps	
Leon County			
Byron Ryder		Jerrold Jones	
Jim Carrigan	Present	Bobby Walters	Present
Linda Richardson	Present	Victor Smith	
Jim Scott		Jackie Morrow	Present
Kyle Workman		Jimmy Gifford	
Madison County			
Shelly Butts	Present	Richard Morris	
Bobby Adams		Steven Jeter	

KJ Armstrong			
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Robertson County			
Adam Gallagher	Present	Billy Houston	
Diana Ferrell		Karen Box	
Renda Bermudez		Jerry Stover	
Keith Rekieta		Gerald Yezak	
Erik Maiorano	Present		
Washington County			
Kirk Hanath		Kevin Deramus	
Dant Lange	Present	Larry Neveux	Present
John Chancellor	Present	Bryan Ruemke	
Jamie Woodall		Trey Holleway	

1. **Call to Order** – Ms. Butts called the meeting to order at 1331 hrs.
2. **Introductions** – Introductions were made by all members and staff present.
3. **Consider for Approval of April 28, 2021 HSAC Minutes** – It was noted that one change of spelling is needed for Mr. Neveux’s name in the minutes. Mr. Neveux made a motion to approve the April 28, 2021 minutes. Mr. Henry seconded; motion carried.
4. **National Weather Service: 2021 Hurricane Hazards & Seasonal Forecast Brief-** Mr. Dan Reilly shared a preview of the 2021 hurricane season along with a review of the history of numbers and locations of storms and some ways to be prepared. Hurricanes cause many weather concerns, and water hazards are the most severe for those experiencing a hurricane. Mr. Reilly showed the group several helpful models to monitor storms in the tropics, flood risk, and wind arrival times. Emergency managers and others in the emergency management community are encouraged to sign up at <https://hvs.hurrevac.com/hvs/> for access to detailed information on hurricanes.
5. **Texas Department of Public Safety: Domestic Terrorism Brief** – Ms. Layla McKinnon and Ms. Caylyn Maddux shared information on the 2021 Domestic Terrorism Intelligence Estimate. Some of the key takeaways are:
 - a. Domestic Terrorism poses a consistent and varied threat to the state of Texas. Groups are generally categorized into the following categories:
 - i. Racially or Ethnically Motivated Groups
 - ii. Anti-Government/Authoritarian Groups
 - iii. Single-Issue Extremists/Unaffiliated Extremists
 - b. Anti-Government extremists have become more of a concern and more active in 2020/2021 during the COVID pandemic.
 - c. Extremists are utilizing less monitored digital platforms to recruit and train.
 - d. Many domestic terrorism groups go after soft targets, but anti-government groups tend to go to hardened and secure targets.
 - e. Shifts in domestic terrorism activity can happen quickly, depending on what is happening in society.

6. Homeland Security Planner Updates- Lauren Gutschlag, BVCOG

- a. HSAC appointments for 2021-2023 – There is a list of HSAC appointees that were approved at the last BVCOG Board of Directors meeting in the packet. There is also a spreadsheet of contact information for HSAC members. Please reach out if any of this information changes.
- b. SHSP and LETPA Applications- Please make sure you are checking your applications regularly to ensure there are no changes requested to your grant or information that needs to be uploaded. The OOG gave BVCOG staff an anticipated award amount of \$466,338 for the regional projects. The OOG stressed the importance of submitting National Priority related projects moving forward.
- c. Community Resiliency Meetings- BVCOG Staff have had meetings in Burleson and Robertson County to review needs and strengths at each county. The Public Safety Planning department teamed up with the Economic Development department.
- d. HSAC Meetings – There will be no large HSAC Meeting in June and July. There will be mini-HSACs in each county over that time. The questions that will be discussed at these meetings are:
 - i. What accomplishments from the past year are you most proud of?
 - ii. What measures have been taken to address the capability gaps that exist in your agency or community?
 - iii. What keeps you up at night? (ex. Specific threats, resource gaps, planning blind spots, etc.)

7. Program Updates

- a. Criminal Justice- On June 1st, the funds roll into a first come first serve fund for training reimbursement. The training can happen September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021.
- b. Disaster Recovery- The GLO Community Development Block Grant awarded the BVCOG region \$35.6 million in mitigation funding. Please review information and continue developing projects for these funds.

8. Public Comments

- a. The Brazos Valley Mobile Action Team is available to do COVID Vaccinations at any event or county. Just contact the Health District to get your event scheduled (979) 361-4440.

9. Important Dates Review

- a. June 1st is when the Law Enforcement and Juvenile Justice Training Grants Allocations Roll into First Come First Serve Fund
- b. In June and July Mini-HSAC Meeting with Each County/No Regional HSAC Meeting
- c. August 25th is the next regional HSAC Meeting (although this didn't occur due to turnover)

10. Adjourn at 2:40 PM.

Mini-HSAC MINUTES

Brazos County 3PM, Tuesday, July 20, 2021

1. Attendance:
 - a. David Dibello- Senior Systems Administrator Brazos County 9-1-1 District
 - b. Michele Meade – Brazos County EMC
 - c. Patrick Corley – 9-1-1 Director Brazos County 9-1-1
 - d. Peggi Goss – Vice President United Way BV
 - e. Rodney Sigler- College Station Police Department
 - f. Santos Navarette – Director Brazos County Health District
 - g. Jason Ware – Brazos County Assistant EMC
 - h. Jerry Henry – City of Bryan EMC
 - i. Steve Aldrich – County Commissioner
 - j. Rob Santarsiero – Crime Analyst Brazos County Sheriff's Office
 - k. Bobby Kazmir – Public Security Planning Program Manager BVCOG
 - l. Lauren Gutschlag – Homeland Security Planner BVCOG
2. Agenda:
 - a. THIRA/SPR/IP Overview
 - b. Understanding the Why: Handout from DPS
 - c. Feedback Discussion
 - i. What accomplishments from the past year are you most proud of?
 - ii. What measures have been taken to address the capability gaps that exist in your agency or community?
 - iii. What keeps you up at night? (ex. Specific threats, resource gaps, planning blind spots, etc.)
 - d. Next Steps
 - e. Adjourn

Mini-HSAC MINUTES

Robertson County 11AM, Monday, July 19, 2021

1. Attendance:
 - a. Eric Maiorano – Robertson County EMC
 - b. Lauren Gutschlag – Homeland Security Planner BVCOG
2. Agenda:
 - a. THIRA/SPR/IP Overview
 - b. Understanding the Why: Handout from DPS
 - c. Feedback Discussion
 - i. What accomplishments from the past year are you most proud of?
 - ii. What measures have been taken to address the capability gaps that exist in your agency or community?
 - iii. What keeps you up at night? (ex. Specific threats, resource gaps, planning blind spots, etc.)

- d. Next Steps
- e. Adjourn

Mini-HSAC MINUTES

Madison County 2PM, Thursday, July 8, 2021

- 1. Attendance:
 - a. Shelly Butts – Madison County EMC
 - b. Richard Morris – Captain Madisonville PD
 - c. Bobby Adams- Sheriff Madison County Sheriff's Office
 - d. Michael Aramburu- EMS Supervisor St. Joseph's EMS
 - e. Billy Rice – Director St. Joseph's EMS
 - f. Debra Newkirk – City Secretary City of Midway
 - g. Rex Newkirk – Councilman City of Midway
 - h. Camilla Viata – City Manager City of Madisonville
 - i. Donna Cuevas – Assistant Emergency Management
 - j. Chris Dellinger – EMS Supervisor St. Joseph's EMS
 - k. Bo Mitchell – EMS EMT/FTC St. Joseph's EMS
 - l. Lynn Jeffries- Designated Representative Madison County
 - m. Lauren Gutschlag – Homeland Security Planner BVCOG
- 2. Agenda:
 - a. THIRA/SPR/IP Overview
 - b. Understanding the Why: Handout from DPS
 - c. Feedback Discussion
 - i. What accomplishments from the past year are you most proud of?
 - ii. What measures have been taken to address the capability gaps that exist in your agency or community?
 - iii. What keeps you up at night? (ex. Specific threats, resource gaps, planning blind spots, etc.)
 - d. Next Steps
 - e. Adjourn

Mini-HSAC Minutes

Leon County 10 AM, Thursday, July 1, 2021

- 1. Attendance:
 - a. Byron Ryder – County Judge Leon County
 - b. Linda Richardson- Assistant Auditor Leon County
 - c. Victor Smith – Chief Investigator Sheriff's Department
 - d. Jackie Morrow – Mayor City of Oakwood
 - e. Jimmy Gifford – Sheriff's Department

- f. Jim Carrigan – Leon County EMC
- g. Lauren Gutschlag – Homeland Security Planner BVCOG
- 2. Agenda:
 - a. THIRA/SPR/IP Overview
 - b. Understanding the Why: Handout from DPS
 - c. Feedback Discussion
 - i. What accomplishments from the past year are you most proud of?
 - ii. What measures have been taken to address the capability gaps that exist in your agency or community?
 - iii. What keeps you up at night? (ex. Specific threats, resource gaps, planning blind spots, etc.)
 - d. Next Steps
 - e. Adjourn

Mini-HSAC Minutes

Washington County 1 PM, Thursday, June 17, 2021

- 1. Attendance:
 - a. Kirk Hanath – Commissioner Precinct 3 Washington County
 - b. John Chancellor – Chief Blinn College PD
 - c. Kevin Deramus – EMS Director Washington County
 - d. Larry Neveux- Washington County COPS
 - e. Bryan Ruemke- EMC Washington County
 - f. Dant Lange – Captain Brenham PD
 - g. Trey Holleway – Constable Precinct 2 Washington County
 - h. Jamie Woodall- Director of Health & Safety Brenham ISD
 - i. Lauren Gutschlag – Homeland Security Planner BVCOG
- 2. Agenda:
 - a. THIRA/SPR/IP Overview
 - b. Understanding the Why: Handout from DPS
 - c. Feedback Discussion
 - i. What accomplishments from the past year are you most proud of?
 - ii. What measures have been taken to address the capability gaps that exist in your agency or community?
 - iii. What keeps you up at night? (ex. Specific threats, resource gaps, planning blind spots, etc.)
 - d. Next Steps
 - e. Adjourn

Mini-HSAC Minutes

Grimes County 3 PM, Wednesday, June 16, 2021

1. Attendance:
 - a. David Lilly – Grimes County EMC
 - b. Jason Katkoski- Fire Chief/EMC Navasota FD
 - c. Katherine Lee – 911 GIS/Environmental Coordinator Grimes County
 - d. Sinda Phelps- Assistant County Auditor Grimes County
 - e. Neal Wendele- City Manager City of Todd Mission
 - f. Lauren Gutschlag – Homeland Security Planner BVCOG
2. Agenda:
 - a. THIRA/SPR/IP Overview
 - b. Understanding the Why: Handout from DPS
 - c. Feedback Discussion
 - i. What accomplishments from the past year are you most proud of?
 - ii. What measures have been taken to address the capability gaps that exist in your agency or community?
 - iii. What keeps you up at night? (ex. Specific threats, resource gaps, planning blind spots, etc.)
 - d. Next Steps
 - e. Adjourn