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## **Heart of Texas Council of Governments**

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Executive Director

### **Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee Meeting 9:30 AM, Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024 HOTCOG – 1514 S. New Road, Waco, Texas**

#### **I. Welcome and Introductions**

##### **A. Guest Recognition –**

- *Chris Myers (HOTRAC)*
- *Chris Jackson (Hill County)*
- *Jennifer Goff (TDEM)*
- *Martin Widtfeldt (TDEM)*
- *Briana Pizarro (CATRAC)*
- *Wayne Stovall (HOTCOG)*
- *Harold Ferguson (HOTCOG)*
- *Andy Davis (HOTCOG)*
- *Robert Levy (Aware Systems)*
- *Dane Williams (Safeware)*
- *Guy Dugas (FirstNet)*
- *Gerald Taylor (FirstNet)*

##### **B. Member introductions –**

- *Alicia Wilson*
- *Buffy Waldie*
- *Chris Cary*
- *Danny Guerra*
- *Jeff Watkins*
- *Matt Groveton*
- *Michael Graham*
- *Nancy Cross*
- *Robert LaFoy*
- *Ryan Dirker*
- *Terry Townley*
- *Tom Hemrick*
- *Trace Hendricks*

#### **II. Determination of Quorum**

Andy Davis confirmed a quorum was present.

#### **III. Proof of Posting**

Tom Hemrick determined proof of posting.

#### **IV. Public Comment**

FirstNet AT&T representatives introduced themselves and explained what radio communications projects they are working on in the region. They are willing to help additional jurisdictions learn about or use FirstNet technology.

#### **V. Sub-Committee Reports**

HOTCOG Staff is actively working to schedule a Communications Sub-Committee meeting in December or January with the intent of inviting Texas SWIC or CISA.

#### **VI. Chair's Report**

None

#### **VII. HOTCOG Staff Reports**

##### **A. SERI Award Announcement**

- Wayne Stovall gave a brief announcement on the State Emergency Radio Infrastructure Grant that awarded HOTCOG with \$1.4 million for radio infrastructure improvements over the next two years.

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- Andy Davis also gave an announcement on when the opening and closing dates of the SHSP grant fund will be.
- Additionally, a discussion was held between HOTCOG Staff and EPAC members on the potential of changing Emergency Notification System providers in the future to enhance public alerting capabilities. Ultimately the decision of upgrading or changing to a new provider like *Civic Plus* would need to be heavily discussed before the committee.

#### **VIII. New Business - Consideration of and/or Action On**

- A. Review, Discuss, and Approval of September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 - EPAC Meeting Minutes
  - Buffy Waldie motioned to approve, Trace Hendricks seconded the motion, no other discussion and the motion carried.
- B. Vote on Proposed Amendments to the SHSP Scoring Sheet
  - Buffy Waldie motioned to approve, Chris Cary seconded the motion, no other discussion and the motion carried.
- C. Presentation from Flood Monitoring Vendor
  - Dane Williams with *Safeware* gave a brief presentation on their services for emergency management and HazMat personnel. Safeware provides contractual services for competitive procurement of emergency management-related services and products.
  - Robert Levy with *Aware Monitoring Systems* gave an in-depth PowerPoint presentation on the monitoring systems they offer for weather and flood monitoring. *Aware* is one of the companies where *Safeware* competitively procures through contractual services.

#### **IX. Announcements or Future Business Items**

- Ryan Dirker mentioned that the City of Waco will host G-300 and G-400 ICS classes in early December.

#### **X. Next EPAC Meeting**

- Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 9:30 AM at the HOTCOG

#### **XI. Adjournment**

- Tom Hemrick adjourned the meeting at 10:29 AM.