



# Bastrop County Local Emergency Planning Committee Meeting Minutes Thursday, August 14, 2025



The Meeting Notice / Agenda was posted on the website and on the front door at the Mike Fisher Building. This meeting was conducted in-person and virtually via Webex.

## **Members Present:**

Honorable Gregory Klaus (Bastrop County Judge)  
Chairperson Chief Josh Gill (Bastrop County Emergency Service District #2)  
Vice Chairperson James K. Altgelt (Bastrop County Office of Emergency Management)  
Secretary-Treasurer Hillary Long (Bastrop County Office of Emergency Management)  
Ms. Deena Thomas (Bastrop County Office of Emergency Management)  
Chief Chris Noble (City of Elgin Chief of Police / Emergency Management Coordinator)  
Mr. Eduardo Guerrero (Bastrop County Development Services Department)  
Ms. Lyndsey Schroeder (Bastrop County Judge's Office)  
Mr. Robert "Bobby" Stephens (Flint Hills Resources)

## **Member Virtual Attendance**

Mr. Robert Tamble (City of Smithville City Manager / Emergency Management Coordinator)  
Ms. Donna Nichols (Bastrop County Public Health Department)  
Chief Scot Bunch (Bastrop Independent School District [BISD] Police Department)  
Assistant City Manager Mr. Andres Rosales (City of Bastrop Interim Fire Chief / Emergency Management Coordinator)

## **Members Not Present:**

Chief Brandon Bancroft (Bastrop County Emergency Services District #1)  
Dr. Pompeyo Chavez (Bastrop County Health Authority)  
Ms. Diana Schulze (Texas Department of Transportation)  
Mr. Trey Franklin (CG Environmental Business Development Manager)  
Ms. Stevey Sugars (Assistant Terminal Coordinator / Law Enforcement Specialist)  
Chief Chris Stone (Bastrop Fire Department)  
Mr. Ted Coleman (Safety and Security Coordinator BISD)  
Chief Josh Lucas (Heart of Pines Volunteer Fire Department)  
Mr. Steven Long (Bastrop County Information Technology)

## **Visitors Present:**

Mr. Travis Ward (Heart of the Pines Volunteer Fire Department)  
Assistant Fire Chief Mark Wobus (Bastrop-Travis Counties Emergency Service District #1)  
Mr. Nick Lauf (Bastrop Fire Department)

## **Visitor Virtual Attendance**

Ms. Rhonda Morrison (Interested Citizen)  
Ms. Shirley Adams (Interested Citizen)  
Mr. K. Colton Sommers (EnviroServe)  
Mr. Wyatt Buckner (Bastrop County Geographic Information System [GIS])



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**A. Call to order.**

The August 14, 2025, 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. Review and approval of the minutes of the May 15, 2025, meeting.**

Judge Gregory Klaus made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Secretary-Treasurer Hillary Long seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the minutes of the May 15, 2025, meeting were approved.

**C. Citizens' comments.**

Mr. Colton Sommers introduced himself as a representative from EnviroServe (*Virtual Attendance*)

**D. Discuss and Take Action – Filling the Right-to-Know Committee Chairpersons Position.**

Mr. Altgelt made a motion to approve LEPC member Ms. Deena Thomas as Chairperson of the LEPC Right-to-Know Committee. Ms. Donna Nichols seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and Ms. Thomas assumed the role of Committee Chair for the LEPC Right-to-Know Committee.

**E. Receive updates and discuss upcoming activities / projects for the following Standing Committees:**

**1) Right-to-Know Committee**

Right-to-Know Committee Chairperson Deena Thomas reported that an educational awareness campaign for LEPC will begin in 2026.

**2) Public Education and Information Committee:**

Public Education and Information Committee Chairperson Ms. Lyndsey Schroeder reported that the LEPC website remains operational and continues to be updated with meeting minutes as well as the changes in membership.

**3) Hazardous Materials Facilities Liaison Committee:**

Mr. Altgelt spoke on behalf of the Hazardous Materials Liaison Committee Chairman Josh Lucas who was not present. He reported that the Heart of the Pines Volunteer Fire Department (HOPVFD) would receive two laptops funded by the 2025 Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) grant. The laptops will enable the HOPVFD to incorporate their TIER II reporting data systems into the Bastrop County Computer-Aided Dispatch System (CAD).



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**4) Emergency Response and Resource Committee:**

The Emergency Response and Resource Committee Chairperson Chief Chris Stone was not present. Chief Gill made a motion to remove Chief Stone as the Emergency Response and Resource Committee chairperson and remove him from the LEPC membership. Chief Chris Noble seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chief Gill has begun compiling a list of firefighting resources and shared it with the committee.

**F. Discuss and act regarding LEPC vacancies.**

Ms. Nichols and Secretary - Treasurer Long will be contacting Ascension Seton and AG Fertilizer to invite them to join LEPC.

**G. Discuss and take possible action regarding the Texas Commission on Environmental Equality (TCEQ) LEPC Grant that will be offered later in the year.**

Mr. Altgelt briefed the details of how the 2025 TCEQ Grant funds will be allocated. Ms. Long will send the Hotzone Conference Link to the fire chiefs. The deadline for fire chiefs to designate attendees for the Hotzone conference is September 2, 2025.

**H. Discuss the possibility of joining a regional LEPC.**

Mr. Altgelt reported that we are waiting on "next steps".


**I. Discuss potential training opportunities and / or requests for future LEPC Meetings.**

Union Pacific Railroad is offering training opportunities that are provided free of charge from the Hazmat and Public Safety Team regarding HAZMAT Response and operating safely around tracks. Mr. Altgelt and Chief Noble will contact representatives to get more information regarding the courses being offered

**K. Adjournment.**

Judge Klaus made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Chief Noble. The meeting was adjourned.

The Bastrop County Local Emergency Planning Committee Meeting Minutes for August 14, 2025, meeting will be approved on the 13th Day of November 2025.

  
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Hillary Long  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Bastrop County LEPC

  
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James K. Altgelt  
Vice Chairperson  
Bastrop County LEPC