

Final Minutes

REVISED AGENDA

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council Homeland Security Advisory Committee

Chairman: James Harris * Vice Chairman: George Garrett

510 South Pleasantview, Weslaco, Tx

2.2.2012 @ 10:00 a.m.

I. Call to order at 10:00 am.

- II. **Roll call-** Wendy Smith (Proxy for Pilar Rodriguez), Chief Jaime Guzman, Chief Ricardo Saldana, Chief Cirilo Rodriguez (Proxy for Chief Michael Rinaldi), George Garrett, Chief Lenny Perez (Proxy for Jeff Johnston), Lt. Gabriel Castaneda (Proxy for Sheriff Lupe Trevino), Humberto Barrera, Frank Torres, Hector Flores, Asst. Chief Javier Garza, Ubaldo Perez (Proxy for Chief Shawn Snider), Chief Uvaldo Zamora, Selene Moreno (Proxy for Chief James Harris).

Absent:

Quorum was met.

III. Regional Status Reports (02:44)

- a. Cameron County Health Department- Victor Rivera was present, but no status report was provided.
- b. Hidalgo County Health Department- Status report was provided by Nancy Trevino.
- c. TRAC V Regional Administrator- No report given.
- d. MMRS Chairman-Status report provided by Manuel Cruz, MMRS meeting at 1 pm, will provide updates on 2012 projects and pharmaceutical caches.
- e. Rio Grande Valley Communications Group-Status report was provided by Randy Ashley. For the Regional Radio System, we negotiated with Motorola to come in and do preventative maintenance on all the regional radio sites at no charge, which will include all the tower clients to check all of the jumpers and connections to the tops of the towers, due to some issues in the Raymondville area. On a side note, if you are VHF, and have not made preparations to go narrowband, December 31, 2012 is the deadline. If not, you will be in violation of the FCC regulations. The RGVCG recommends to the HSAC that they must begin addressing the VHF radios and the NPSPAC systems. Those operating on TXLaw 2 through TXFire 3 are all going to be subject to the narrowbanding mandate. By the end of the year, convert all repeaters over to Vcall, Vfire, Vtac, Vlaw frequencies. The agencies that hold the licenses on the NPSPAC repeaters will need to change those to narrowband and if you have a VHF license, you need to add narrowband to your VHF license. DPS has come on board as a subscriber on the Regional Radio System, and we are also working on a contract with TABC. Claudia Wood- Update on PM contributions, as of date \$1445 has been collected for 2012. For 2011, we have collected \$14,763. Also,

there is a RICP/SOP status provided for cities who have not submitted their resolutions.

- f. Rio Grande Regional Response Association- Vice Chair Lenny Perez present, no updates at this time.
- g. Criminal Justice Program- Status report provided by Claudia Wood.
- h. TX Dept of Public Safety- Status report was provided by District Coordinator Jorge Jalomo. Upcoming Events include an Incident Management Team meeting, 2/9/12 from 9am-12pm, at the DPS facility. Juan Martinez, Fire Marshall for Hidalgo County is hosting the meeting for current members or if you're interested in becoming a member. Planning Process on the Evac Hub taking place on 2/10/12 from 8am-5pm, at the McAllen Convention Center. You will be able to shadow an IMT member, learn how to setup a hub and what will be needed. The Fire Marshall sent notices to IMT team members only. Chief Lenny Perez recommends that the Fire Marshall send notices to Fire/Police Chiefs so they know what's going on. G-288, Donations Management Course, 2/22/12-2/23/12 at the Pharr Conference Room. L-146, Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Course, 3/5/12-3/7/12, at the DPS Facility.
- i. National Weather Service-Status report was provided by Barry Goldsmith.
- j. LRGVDC 911 Program-No Report given. George Garrett recommends to Manuel that someone be present from 911 at the meetings because of the communications and the changing environment of 911.
- k. LRGVDC Police Academy-No report given, a flyer is provided regarding a TCLEOSE Regional meeting 2/22/12, 9am-Noon, at the McAllen Convention Center.

IV. Approval of minutes from January 5, 2012 (01:11)

---VOTE ON ACTION ITEM---

A motion was put forth by Chief Saldana to approve the minutes. Chief Guzman seconded the motion. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

V. Actions Items

- a) **Ratification of HSAC Committee action taken on December 12, 2011 regarding Linn San Manuel Volunteer Fire Department (25:35)**

---VOTE ON ACTION ITEM---

A motion was put forth by Chief Saldana to remove the item from the table. Chief Guzman seconded the motion. The motion passed with no dissenting votes. A second motion was put forth by Chief Saldana to continue the process of awarding the LSMVFD the 2010 leftover funding pending them providing us a list of equipment needed, also an agreement that Hidalgo County is going to submit for these funds on behalf of the LSMVFD, and the equipment must be selected from the three approved categories (Interop, Regional Response, and CIKR). Chief Guzman seconded the motion. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

b) Discussion and possible action regarding review of the NPSPAC PM report (32:09)

A full report and a NPSPAC summary were provided for all members. Besides reviewing the summaries, Randy Ashley offered a few recommendations for some of the sites. Edinburg-Move the equipment into a building external to the base of the tower. Move the duplexers off the floor and complete cleaning of the switches. Raymondville-Get radios out of the building and to a vendor for rehab. Port Mansfield- Get it all fixed, repair cooling fans, what is required to clean or replace the programming port on the radio. Every site has a battery backup; the batteries are so old they failed the test on the battery backup. The batteries need to be replaced so they don't leak and cause corrosion, new batteries need to be put in and the charging circuits need to be changed. Chief Lenny Perez asked if Brownsville's Battery needed to be replaced. Randy said he would follow up with Chief Perez. (On 2/2/12, Randy did follow up with an email regarding the battery backups and which were defective). Chief Jaime Guzman asked if the PM include cleaning the repeaters. Randy said the PM is supposed to be to clean the repeaters, but he's just reporting on what the vendor found. The HSAC Board can request Randy to ask the vendor why building was not cleaned at the same time as the PM, Randy can address with the vendor. Chief Guzman said yes (address with the vendor).

---VOTE ON ACTION ITEM---

A motion was put forth by Chief Guzman to complete the emergency repairs for the sites, remove equipment from the Raymondville site and repair, and solicit proposals prior to repairs to correct the deficiencies. Chief Saldana seconded the motion. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

Chief Guzman recommends putting together a committee to review options for a possible PM schedule (every 6 months/year?) or maybe put that authority to the RGVCG. Chief Saldana asked Manuel Cruz to identify who the responsible parties are for the tower locations for the next meeting. Manuel-The NPSPAC and PSIC sites will be easy to identify, but the local sites have equipment that was purchased by the individual cities. Randy-NPSPAC system has equipment that was purchased under grant funding and equipment that was purchased by the local jurisdictions without grant money. Chief Saldana-McCook Tower was grant funded through Hidalgo County, separate from our grant money. Claudia-RICP 2 has photos of everybody's interop, so she will cross-reference that. Randy-A lot of these sites have been re-located, and after they are re-located, the agencies that held the licenses did not change the location of the sites on their licenses. The Olmito site used to be located in Los Fresnos Water Tower, and is still licensed there. Chief Saldana-How did we license them? Manuel-The ones bought in 2007 with DOJ funds were licensed under the COG. Chief Saldana-We need to update and look at the locations. Mission needs to be changed from the Madero site. Chief Saldana- Identify with the County how many sites they bought with the separate grant

they got, Border Interoperability Project (BIP). Where were they placed? McCook, La Joya? Randy-Once identified, put on paper.

c) Discussion and possible action on the development of a template for the purpose of programming and standardizing regional mobile communications equipment (ACU-1000) (01:16:34)

Randy Ashley provided a copy of the template and ACU recommendations, on behalf of the RGVCG.

---VOTE ON ACTION ITEM---

A motion was put forth by Chief Guzman to approve the recommended template provided by Randy. Wendy Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

d) Discussion and possible action on acquiring an RFQ for maintenance and upkeep of the mobile communications equipment (ACU-1000) (1:28:22)

George Garrett-Until the NPSPAC system is situated, find out how much money is left over, and take the process incrementally. Randy-ACUs are infrastructure, can we use HSGP funds?

---VOTE ON ACTION ITEM---

A motion was put forth by Chief Saldana to get the ball rolling with the Raymondville ACU 1000 (get it up and running), have the COG write up RFQs for the care and maintenance of the ACU 1000s and reprogramming of the radios and computers. Vendor must have knowledge of the Raytheon system in their scope of work. Randy- Having one vendor is preferred, programming must be standardized. Frank Torres seconded the motion. The motion passed with no dissenting votes. Chief Saldana- If the deal with LSMVFD falls through, can that money be used for this? Claudia will get clearance from the SAA regarding SHSP funds used on DOJ and PSIC equipment because the funds cannot be co-mingled. Repairs could be allowed if purchased with grant funds. (Claudia followed up with an email regarding this option on 2/3/12.)

e) Discussion and possible action regarding FY 2011 Regional Response Team change requests (01:34:28)

1. City of South Padre Island
2. City of Pharr
3. City of San Juan- No action Needed

---VOTE ON ACTION ITEM---

A motion was put forth by Chief Saldana to approve the FY 2011 RRT change requests for South Padre Island and Pharr. Chief Garza seconded the motion. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

- f) **Discussion and action regarding appointment of subcommittee to review, revise and develop FY 2012 Investment Justifications/ Risk Analysis summary under the Homeland Security Grant Program (1:34:28)**

---VOTE ON ACTION ITEM---

A motion was put forth by Chief Guzman to accept the list of subcommittee members that were used in the past with a few changes. Those persons will include George Garrett, Chief Ubaldo Perez, Jeff Johnston or Chief Lenny Perez, Chief Juan Gonzalez, Pilar Rodriguez, Carla Rodriguez, Humberto Barrera, Chief Rick Saldana, and Oscar Montoya. Frank Torres seconded the motion. The motion passed with no dissenting votes. The IJ's should be complete by March 31st.

- g) **Discussion and possible action regarding selected FY 2012 Investment Justification and Percentages (1:43:32)**

1. Interoperability
2. Regional Response Team
3. Critical Infrastructure

George recommends focusing on two projects (Interop and RRT), instead of the three approved projects (Interop, RRT, CIKR). Chief Guzman recommends leaving CIKR on the list, but leave it un-funded if necessary. Manuel Cruz-Leave CIKR on the list, but when IJ is submitted, CIKR will be subject to funding availability. Chief Saldana-Interop and RRT will be priority. Wendy Smith-In relation to the Interop Project, RGVCG recommends funding Mobiles and Portable radios, along with Infrastructure.

---VOTE ON ACTION ITEM---

A motion was put forth by Chief Guzman to approve the recommended projects and have Interop and RRT as priority. Chief Saldana seconded the motion. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

- h) **Discussion and possible action regarding appointment of members for the FY 2012 HSGP Grant Review Committee (1:46:10)**

George Garrett recommends tabling the item until the IJ is complete.

---VOTE ON ACTION ITEM---

A motion was put forth by Frank Torres to table the item. Humberto Barrera seconded the motion. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

i) Discussion and possible action regarding FY 2012 HSGP grant application open and close dates (1:46:30)

When applications are solicited, they will be based on last year's eligibility list. No extensions allowed on applications. Prioritization will be subject to availability and funding. The recommended Application Open Date is: April 1, 2012; Close Date: May 7, 2012. Also, IJ's should be complete by March 20, 2012 (Originally the date to have IJ's complete was March 31st).

---VOTE ON ACTION ITEM---

A motion was put forth by Humberto Barrera to approve the recommended dates. Chief Guzman seconded the motion. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

VI. Updates (1:52:40)-

Manuel Cruz- The Hazard Mitigation Action Plan expires at the end of 2013. A notice of interest was submitted by the COG. We received a "Likely" that we would receive funding, but funding will be very limited. Based on the state's parameters, we can only take on 2 counties at a time. We requested on the notice of interest that an exception be to include the 3rd county in the plan. The HMAP is required, especially after a disaster, it must be in place to receive reimbursement, 75% or 100% of the cost that jurisdictions incur because of the disaster. If we do receive the \$50,000 for the plan, there will be a 25% match associated with that. We will be reaching out to cities/counties to establish funding that will be contributed to the development of the plan.

Old/New business

VII. Adjournment

There was no other business to come before the HSAC, the meeting adjourned at 12:05 pm.