



REM Meeting Minutes

April 7th, 2023

9:00AM-9:30AM: In Person Networking

9:30AM-11:30AM: Meeting

❖ Welcome and Introductions

- Samantha Pickett, REM Chair

❖ Presentations

- **Highway-Rail Grade Crossing for Public Safety** - Roland Glenister; Railroad Safety Inspector, Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)
 - Roland presented an overview of the FRA, the organization, and the mission of the agency
 - FRA Office of Railroad safety oversees:
 - Grade crossings
 - Hazardous materials
 - Motive power and equipment
 - Operating practices
 - Signal and train control
 - Tracks
 - Discussed Rail Safety 101
 - Introduction of raiisigns and their meanings
 - How to report accidents or track obstructions
 - Public safety response to rail incidents and safety protocols for personnel
- **Simulation Table Demonstration** - David Stender, Sam Houston State University (SHSU)
 - Two resource websites:
 - IHSonline.org - Institute for Homeland Security Online
 - ◆ Shares information on the program, mission statement, research papers/videos, opportunities for research proposals and funding, training, and other valuable information.
 - CJTexas.org
 - [Training Opportunities](#)
 - Offers online certificates in transportation, chemical & energy, or healthcare.
 - Simulation Table Demonstration
 - Simulation table is usually set up with sand and usable for exercises and trainings.
 - Discussed a scenario at SMU and how the Sim Table is used during an exercise.

❖ Discussion

- **Regional Transit Preparedness Group** - Chance Huxtable, Emergency



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Preparedness Specialist, Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART)

- Proposal for a Regional Transit Preparedness Group to support preparedness in transit
 - Most jurisdictions have a variety of transit and transportation partners, and building relationships with these partners has been hard in the past
 - DART/Chance can help broker relationships between other transportation partners that regional emergency managers do not have as well built relationships as with DART
- Proposal for meetings of all stakeholders (DART, freight, Greyhound, and other transit partners) and a communication channel for the group
- Preparedness group received support from REM and will move forward with formation.

❖ Member Comments or Updates

- NWS Updates
 - Amanda Schroeder, Senior Service Hydrologist
 - Service Hydrologist - program leader for regional hydrology
 - Shared important information about regional flooding
 - NWS River Flood Products
 - Flood products were updated (hazard simplification)
 - Flood Watch
 - 24 - 48 hours in advance of heavy rain
 - May expect flash flooding and river flooding
 - Flash Flood Wash
 - Now reserved to cover areas downstream of dam potential failures
 - Flood - overflow of water over dry land (longer term event)
 - Flash Flood - rapid inundation of water onto normally dry land (short term event)
 - River Flood Warning (FLW) - issued to show when/where flooding is expected
 - Flood Advisory - alerts public of "nuisance" flooding
 - Flash Flood Warnings with IBW tags
 - Flash Flood Warnings will now only activate WEA with an IBW tag attached
 - Contact Amanda if you are doing hydro-related tabletops or drills!
 - amanda.schroeder@noaa.gov
- NCTCOG Updates
 - Full updates in the attached document.
 - Highlights
 - Active Shooter Exercise Development course in April, and will be adding additional dates (stay tuned for registration links!)
 - The NCTCOG has created a new training and exercises dashboard with dates and registration links for all regional trainings. [Click here for the dashboard](#)
 - Make sure to check out the [Regional Emergency Management portal](#) on the COG Website! If you do not have your log in, email



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Amanda Everly

- Lots of information and resources are housed in the portal!

- TDEM Updates
 - DRTF Coordinator introduction - welcome Victor!
(victor.magana@tdem.texas.gov)
 - Contact Victor for DRTF Application process
 - TDEM Conference
 - Parking will be an issue - try to carpool or use public transit
 - [Downtown Parking Map](#)
 - Public Transit Options
 - TX Rail
 - Trinity Metro Rail
 - DART Station nearby
 - New Trainings are available - stay tuned for more information
 - Finance training
 - iSTAT/pSTAT training
 - PIV-I Badge printing will be ramping back up after the conference - looking for sites to host larger printing operations. More information to follow.
- University of North Texas
 - Happy 40th anniversary to the UNT EDAP!
 - Party will be in the spring of 2024, as well as many other celebratory activities!

❖ Next Meeting:

- Friday, June 9th - Texas Baptist Men, Dallas, TX