



REM Meeting

June 9th, 2023

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

9:30AM-11:30AM: Meeting

**Texas Baptist Men
5351 Catron Drive, Dallas, TX 75227**

❖ Welcome and Introductions

- Samantha Pickett, REM Chair

❖ Presentations

- **CHEMPACK** - James Hacker, Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Coordinator, DSHS
 - The CHEMPACK program provides jurisdictions with nerve agent countermeasures/antidotes. CHEMPACKS can be permanently pre-positioned in jurisdictions or temporarily for high profile events
 - Request process: know the closest CHEMPACK to your jurisdiction and the contact information - Request access to the Sharepoint Drive through James Hacker
 - 5 D's of an SNS Response
 - Detect, Decide, Distribute, Dispense, Demobilize
 - Management and oversight of CHEMPACK is by ASPR (Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response)
 - This includes conducting inspections, monitoring, and restock of CHEMPACK assets
 - Two options for CHEMPACK containers - able to receive different assets based on your facility and treatment (i.e. first response vs. long term treatment)
 - Hospital container
 - EMS Container
 - To gain access to the regional sharepoint, email James!
 - [Training available at this link!](#)
 - Two documents attached with the minutes - Technical Guidance and Program Overview
- **BioWatch** - Thomas Hunt, Support Contractor, Department of Homeland Security
 - BioWatch is a FOUO - for official use only - program
 - BioWatch is an air monitoring program for select biological agents
 - Bottom Line for Emergency Managers: Time is critical, the longer we wait, the more difficult the response is. Early detection = early treatment = lives saved
 - BioWatch has 4 main areas - field operations, lab operations, preparedness, and jurisdictional coordination.
 - Falls under the CWMD (Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction) office



REM Meeting

within DHS

- 39 collectors in the region, but more available for deployment for high-profile events - reach out to Tom Hunt for more information on the request process
- There is a regional BioWatch Advisory Committee (BAC) - if you are interested in joining or attending the next meeting, contact Shawna Lemley or Tom Hunt. The next meeting will be August 7
- Agent Detection, Determination, and Declaration
 - Laboratory team does a full review of detection data
 - BioWatch Actionable Result (BAR) can be issued if the data is validated and verified.
 - Coordinated assessment after BAR to understand results and determine next steps if necessary
- **Texas Baptist Men** - Rupert Robbins, Texas Baptist Men
 - Thank you TBM for hosting and giving us a tour of your facility!
 - Connect with TBM if you would like to find out which volunteers are in your area - they are available and would love to work with you.

❖ Discussion

- Legislative Update - John Bodie, Frisco ISD
 - [Texas Administrative Code - §61.1031](#)
 - Commissioner's rules regarding school facilities
 - These policies are already outlined in the Texas Education Code
 - School systems must have fencing around all exterior entry points or entry resistant film (can be applied to glass doors and windows)
 - Details about Knox Box accessibility and public safety resources
 - Other regulations detailed in the link above
 - House Bill 3
 - States that all schools will be required to have an armed Peace Officer
 - ◆ Some exceptions are available for districts who cannot find peace officers for all schools - called a "Good Cause Exception" - allows for other programs to be implemented (Guardian or Marshal program)
 - Adds requirements for increased planning for special education students within the EOP
 - TEA will issue language and policies based on HB3 - more information will be coming out
 - Alyssa's Law - SB 838
 - Places silent panic alert devices in all K-12 classrooms

❖ Member Comments or Updates

- NCTCOG Updates
 - See full updates in the attached document!
- NWS Updates
 - NWS Chat 2.0 is coming soon!
 - Onboarding to Slack will take place in phases: Phase 1 will include city and county EMS, phase 2 will include Fire/EMS, Law Enforcement and



REM Meeting

- ISDs, and phase 3 will include other groups. NWS
- NWS Chat on Slack will not become the primary chat until all individuals are onboarded - continue using Chat 1.0 until August!
- Webinars and trainings are coming soon!
 - Hands on training will be given at the next REM meeting - bring your laptop!
- Application process for new accounts is changing - the address on your account will dictate which office your account is associated with. Net control for ARES should use the EOC address for their accounts.
- Official start in August!
- TDEM Updates
 - Please fill out the TEMC Attendee Survey at this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/theconference22attendee>
 - Certificates can be accessed in your TEEX portal
- University of North Texas
 - Thank you for everyone who attended the UNT booth and alumni event at the conference!
 - Leadership rotation has been approved to start in August - Dr. Laura Siebeneck will serve as Department Chair and Dr. Gary Webb will return to faculty.
 - 40th Anniversary celebration of the department will be April 25, 2024 at Apogee Stadium. Hope to see you there!

❖ Next Meeting:

- Friday, August 4th - DFW Airport