

## LEPC Meeting Minutes

July 10, 2018

### 12:00 pm Walters State Community College – Foundation Room

The meeting was called to order by LEPC Chairman Eric Powell. The invocation was led by Lt. Billy Gulley. The pledge of allegiance was led by Mr. Clarence Thompson.

For old business, Dr. Powell reminded the LEPC about liking the LEPC Facebook page.

EMA Director Chris Bell introduced Lt. Billy Gulley (MPD), Hugh Clement (Hamblen County Schools), Jenny Holden (District II Homeland Security), and Wanda Roberts (East TN Health Coalition) to discuss the assessment for school safety. \$25 million non-recurring dollars and \$10 million recurring dollars will be awarded for school safety in Tennessee. To receive monies, assessments of school safety had to be conducted to reveal vulnerabilities. The focus was on public safety and criminal activity. A Facility Security Level Maintenance Document was created to rate each school on five factors. Each factor had a point value of 1 – 4 with 1 and 2 being a low level threat and 3 and 4 being high. The total of these points created a preliminary rating.

The five factors are: mission criticality, attractiveness of location for criminal activity, population, size, and if there are controversial people/events that have taken place or are in the vicinity. Many of these criteria also included surrounding locations.

Jenny Holden of District II Homeland Security then spoke about the program they are implementing that will help prepare teachers and educators to be prepared in the event of an active shooter. They have developed curriculum with school educators, which she said was a great help in determining how to make the curriculum relevant to schools. District II is providing “Stop Bleed” Train the trainer classes so that local agencies will be able to train teachers and others in education how to handle a “stop bleed” situation. They are partnering with the East TN Health Coalition to provide stop bleed kits for all schools in Hamblen County. Wanda Roberts showed a sample stop bleed kit and discussed how critical it is that educators be trained so they can potentially save lives prior to EMS arriving on scene.

After this announcement, Dr. Eric Powell introduced Lt. Col Matt Hayes, Commander of the 45<sup>th</sup> CST. The 45<sup>th</sup> CST is located in Smyrna, TN. The CST consists of 22 army and air force members who each have specific areas of expertise. They are available 34/7, 365 days a year. They are federally funded so that when they are called out on missions, states are not billed as with some other response agencies. The purpose of the 45<sup>th</sup> SCT is to augment what resources are already on scene. The 45<sup>th</sup> are self-sufficient and do not need any outside resources to perform their duties. They function primarily on the ground and utilize wheeled vehicles and are able to be dispatched within 90 minutes of the initial call. Their location in Smyrna allows them to be in the middle of the state, giving them a strategic advantage to answer calls from anywhere in the state.

The 45<sup>th</sup> CST is available to assist with departmental or agency training on a variety of HAZMAT equipment, proper sample collection, decontamination techniques, and other emergency related subjects.

They also can assist with events, depending on the level of threat (if any), the significance of the event, and if it surpasses local response capabilities.

The 45<sup>th</sup> is also authorized by Congress to handle Weapons of Mass Destruction duties without requiring reimbursement.

All daily operations are federally funded, and unlike other operations, they do not have to wait for a State of Emergency to be enacted for them to be requested.

The 45<sup>th</sup> CST are requested by TEMA at the request of local agencies (i.e. EMA).

Director Bell then thanked Lt. Col Hayes and his company, and recognized several members of the LEPC for their hard work and behind the scenes dedication to keeping Hamblen County safe. He then welcomed Commissioner David Purkey for closing remarks. Commissioner Purkey thanked the LEPC for inviting him and spoke about some of the efforts being made to continue to keep Hamblen County Schools safe through the use of the grant money being awarded by Governor Haslam, including the vulnerability assessment, emphasis on SRO's, as well as an app that is being developed to allow anyone to report 24/7 threats, attempted suicides, or any other risk that might impact the schools. The reports will most likely be monitored by TEMA's Watchpoint.

Director Bell thanked Commissioner Purkey, then reminded new members to fill out the new member application. The meeting was then adjourned.

The Morristown LEPC would like to thank Walmart for providing lunch!

**Our next scheduled meeting is the October 9, 2018 Tabletop**  
*Invite a friend!*