

Rapides Parish Louisiana Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

December 2, 2025

The Rapides Parish Local Emergency Planning Committee, hereafter referred to as LEPC, comprised of representation by and from the following disciplines:

Mr. Jeff Michiels, Rapides OEP/ LEPC Chairman; Ms. Sherry Ledington, Emergency Management - Rapides OEP; Captain Greg Timberlake, RPSO Hazmat; Sr. Tech - James Rougeou, LSP Hazmat; Mr. Dylan Derbonne, Fire Communications Chief (AFD); Parish President – Mr. Craig Smith, Parish Elected Official; Council Women - Lizzie Felter, City Elected Official; Ms. Jessica Trichel, Emergency Medical Services(Pafford EMS); Ms. Mary Tarver, Hospital Official (Christus St. Francis Cabrini); Ms. Patricia White, Public Health- (La. DHH/OPH Official); Mr. Steven Blackwell, Private Facility Representative(P&G); Mr. Joey Montalvo, Assistant District Administrator LA DOTD (Transportation); Ms. Destinee Kirkland, Community Group (ARC); Mr. Joe Hamner – Town of Ball; Mr. Roy Rachal, Rapides Parish School Board; Ms. Michele Keys, Private Facility Representative – (Hexion); Mr. Brian Johnson, Private Facility Representative (Boardwalk Pipelines) Mr. Ryan Spiller, Fire Representative(Office of the State Fire Marshall); Barrett Dezendorf, City of Alexandria Water; Tripp Dungan, Private Facility Representative (Cleco); Bobby Byrd, Private Facility Representative (Roy O Martin)

The above members met at the Rapides Parish LEPC, (Rapides Parish Communication District/Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness), 4216 Ellis St Alexandria, La. on Tuesday, December 2, 2025, at 11:00 a.m., for the transaction of business.

Mr. Michiels called the meeting to order and asked for roll call:

Present: Callie Bates, Steven Blackwell, Bobby Byrd, Dylan Derbonne, Lizzie Felter, Joe Hamner, Brian Johnson, Michele Keys, Destini Kirland, Sherry Ledington, Jeff Michiels, James Rougeou, Ryan Spiller, Patricia White,

Absent: Barrett Dezendorf, Tripp Dungan, Nick Mikulas, Joey Montalvo, Roy Rachel, Craig Smith, Mary Tarver, Greg Timberlake

Also present: Emily Coutee, Rapides 911, Teresa Basco, GOHSEP – Region 6, Doug Cramer, NWS- Lake Charles, Rebecca Beeman, Public Health (La. DHH/OPH Official)
Kendal Perkins, RPSB,

Mr. Michiels began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Michiels continued with the agenda starting with Old Business.

- Mr. Michiels asked for a motion to approve September 9th, 2025, LEPC meeting minutes.
 - o ***Motion made by Mr. Spiller and seconded by Mr. Hamner to adopt and approve the minutes of the September 9th, 2025, LEPC Meeting. Members were provided with a copy prior to the meeting.***
- Reports:
 - o Mr. Michiels provided the Committee with a Tier II Facility Report update for the 2024 reporting year.
Mr. Michiels advised that 498 facilities have reported with 1 non-reporting facility from Rapides Parish to Rapides Parish LEPC. This number is based on the number of facilities that report to the State in Rapides Parish.
- Mr. Michiels briefed the committee on any notable incidents reported by LSP within Rapides Parish since the last LEPC Meeting. Notable incidents are as follows.
 - 2-inch gas line leak near 200 Claiborne St. This resulted in 2 residences on Henry St being evacuated briefly on 9/16/25
 - Gas Main struck by construction crew near 212 Edgewood Dr, Pineville. resulting in 3 nearby residences being evacuated on 11/6/25
 - 2-inch gas main that was struck by a contractor that was at Military Hwy and Tudor St working resulting in the roadway being closed for approx. 30 minutes
- Presentation:
 - o Chairman Michiels recognized Mr. Doug Cramer of NWS Lake Charles, La. He provided briefing the committee 2025-2026 Winter Weather Predictions from the NWS.
 - o Chairman Michiels briefed the committee on the recent Hazmat Drill that occurred on 10/28/25 at Arkema, located at 7591 Esler Field Rd. A PowerPoint with pictures were shown to the committee for demonstration purposes.

- Presentation: (Continued)
 - Chairman Michiels recognized Mr. Steven Blackwell with Proctor & Gamble. He briefed the committee on the CAER (Community Awareness Emergency Response) drill that was held at the plant on 11/21/25.
Mr. Blackwell gave a slide presentation of the drill with pictures.
 - ❖ Discussion was held on any planned activities/drills in 2026.
 - 1st Quarter of 2026 the Health Unit will be hosting and MCE – Medical Counter Measure Exercise.
 - 4th Quarter of 2026, Arkema and P&G Annual Drills
 - Possible Tornado Drill hosted by NWS on a date TBD.
 - ❖ Public Comments/Discussion
 - No Comments/Discussion

No Further Business,

- Mr. Michiels asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. Rougeou, seconded by Mr. Byrd to adjourn meeting.



Jeff Michiels, Chairman
Rapides Parish LEPC



Greg Timberlake, Vice-Chairman
Rapides Parish LEPC