

Rapides Parish Louisiana Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

June 30, 2026

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, June 30, 2026, at 1:30 p.m., for the transaction of business.

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

Present: Steven Blackwell, Bobby Byrd, Tripp Dungan, Lizzie Felter, Michiele Keys, Sherry Ledington, Nick Mikulas, Roy Rachel, James Rougeou, Mary Tarver.

Absent: Callie Bates, Dylan Derbonne, Barrett Dezendorf, Joe Hamner, Brian Johnson, Destini Kirkland, Joey Montalvo, Craig Smith, Ryan Spiller, Greg Timberlake.

Also present: Teresa Basco, GOHSEP – Region 6, Rebecca Beaman - Public Health (La. DHH/OPH Official) Thai Bryan - City of Alexandria Water, Matt Foster - TC Energy, Amanda Noles - Region 6 Healthcare Coalition/Cabrini. Evan Saucier - LADOTD, Jessica Trichel - Pafford EMS.

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 March 19th, 2026, LEPC meeting minutes.
 - ***Motion made by Ms. Felter and seconded by Mr. Rougeou to adopt and approve the minutes of the March 19th, 2026, LEPC Meeting. Members were provided with a copy prior to the meeting.***
- Reports:
 - Mr. Michiels provided the Committee with a Tier II Facility Report update for the 2025 reporting year.
Mr. Michiels advised that of the 500 reporting facilities in Rapides Parish, 493 have reported to Rapides Parish LEPC. Mr. Michiels is still working to obtain the Facility Reports for the remaining 7 sites. The total number of facilities are based on the number of facilities that report to the State in Rapides Parish.
- Mr. Michiels briefed the committee on incidents reported by LSP within Rapides Parish since the last LEPC Meeting. Notable incidents are as follows.
 - 12 Notifications from LSP since the last LEPC Meeting.
 - 5 Notable Incidents
 - Mr. Michiels briefed the committee on the Notable Incidents, referring to Sr. Tech. James Rougeou when discussing the notable reported Hazmat Incidents or situations since the last LEPC meeting on March 19th, 2026.
- New Business - Presentation:
 - Chairman Michiels recognized Mr. Nick Mikulas of Cenla Weather.
 - Mr. Mikulas presented the committee with updated scan of the drought map for the state including Rapides Parish, and how the recent heavy rainfall events in Rapides Parish have impacted that.
 - Presentation, including a recap of the NWS Hurricane predictions for Hurricane Season 2026.

- Past Activities – Presentation:

- Chairman Michiels recognized Mr. Matt Foster TC Energy.
 - Mr. Foster presented the committee with some slides followed by a brief discussion of the TC Energy Tabletop Exercise that was held on Friday, June 26th at their Alexandria Compressor Facility located at 7666 Hickory Grove Loop in Deville. Mr. Foster advised the committee that he plans to work with Rapides LEPC in the future on planning another Tabletop, or full exercise at their facility.

- Current Activities Planned:

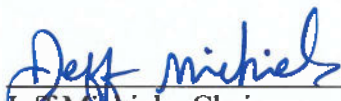
- Chairman Michiels advised the committee about the upcoming Sunoco Anhydrous Ammonia Pipeline Tabletop Exercise to be held at the Deville Fire Dept Training Center on Monday, July 20th

- Public Comments/Discussion

- Mr. Michiels recognized guest(s) Thai Bryan with the Alexandria Water Department who will be replacing Mr. Barrett Dezendorf on the Committee, and Ms. Rebecca Beaman with OPH that will be replacing Ms. Patricia White on the Committee.
- Chairman Michiels recognized Mrs. Mary Tarver on the committee who advised that she would like to know more about how and when the Rapides EOC would activate if an excessive rainfall/flooding event that occurred in Avoyelles Parish were to occur in Rapides. She suggested a meeting to discuss further and invite the agencies that might be involved in the EOC if an activation were to occur.
- Chairman Michiels recognized Ms. Rebecca Beaman on the committee who asked for some clarity on the LSP Right to Know Notifications on reported hazmat events. Mr. Michiels deferred the questions to Sr. Tech - James Rougeou, LSP Hazmat.
- Chairman Michiels called upon guest Evan Saucier with LADOTD to address the committee on the recent flooding event that occurred at the Hwy 165/Hwy 167 intersection in the Kingsville area on how that is being addressed to prevent recurring in the future considering this area was part of a major LADOTD construction upgrade in late 2025 that was partly aimed at preventing this type of issue from occurring.

- Public Comments/Discussion – Continued:
 - Chairman Michiels mentioned to the committee to keep any additional training opportunities in mind that may occur at any of their facilities so that Rapides LEPC can participate in to help provide agencies that are on the committee as well as First Responders in those areas opportunities to train in those events.
- No Further Business,
- ❖ Mr. Michiels asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mrs. Tarver made motion, to adjourn meeting.



Jeff Michiels, Chairman
Rapides Parish LEPC



Greg Timberlake, Vice-Chairman
Rapides Parish LEPC