



Torrance County

Local Emergency Planning Committee

Chair: Stephen Garrett

Vice-Chair: David Dean

Secretary: Maria Martinez

Information Coordinator: Tracey Master

Emergency Manager: Samantha O'Dell

This meeting will be available via Zoom. The link may be found on the Torrance County website at torrancecountynm.org/calendar.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

FOR

Tuesday, August 26, 2025 @ 9:00am
205 S. Ninth Street, Estancia, NM 87016

1. Chairman Stephen Garrett called the meeting to order.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Welcome and Introductions.
4. A quorum was determined.
5. Approval of Agenda.
6. Approval of Minutes
 - a. April Minutes Approved.
 - b. May Minutes Approved.
 - c. June Minutes Approved.
7. Presentation
 - a. Robert Romero from the U.S. Department of Veteran's Affairs. He spoke on Community-Based Intervention for Suicide Prevention. The discussion was on how we can identify and engage the Veterans in our communities to be able to help them and point them in the direction of benefits.
8. Event Updates
 - a. Pinto Bean Fiesta – September 27, 2025
 - i. Parade setup @ 8:30am and starts @ 10:00am.
 - ii. Fiesta set up at 7:00am and goes from 10:00am to 2:00pm.
 - b. Punkin Chunkin – October 11, 2025
 - i. Parade starts at 10:00am and Chunkin starts afterwards.
 - ii. Vendors are \$100.00

9. Membership Cap Discussion

- a. Discuss membership to LEPC and do the members want to keep no limit on membership numbers. The current number of members is 23, meaning we need at least 12 members to make a quorum. There were 16 members in attendance today.

10. Agency Updates

- a. National Night Out – Samantha O’Dell.
 - i. There were 25 vendors for the event.
- b. Over 8,000 have signed up for the “Code Red Emergency Alert System”.
- c. Samantha O’Dell – New Emergency Management Specialist, Barbara Worley.
- d. New Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Hazardous Materials Coordinator, Tessa Snyder.
- e. Torrance County Fire Department, Chief Gary Smith, is starting training to bolster the volunteer numbers. Volunteers can make \$50.00 per call and \$75.00 per call if more than 12 hours. There are five full-time positions open.
- f. Estancia Fire Department is open to more volunteers.
- g. Estancia Police Department has two new positions open for certified officers. They are in the process of moving into their new building at 214 Hwy 41, Estancia.

11. Public Forum

- a. LEPC Vice-Chair, Mayor David Dean, expressed his excitement over the attendance at today’s meeting.
- b. Chief Tom Carter, possibly give a brief debrief to the LEPC on the Critical Incident Report for the Sunflower Festival.
- c. Selena Carroll, 911 Director, brought up that the road map that the school uses is incorrect. Lincoln Richey is going to get a hold of Transportation Director, Brandon Leinen.

12. Upcoming General Meetings

- a. Next Meeting – September 23, 2025, 9am

13. Meeting adjourned at 10:25am.