



## **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*

#### **GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

#### **FOR**

**Tuesday, January 27, 2026 @ 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 established.
5. David Dean made a Motion for approval of the agenda. Seconded by Phil Terry-Smith. The agenda was approved.
6. Tom Carter made a Motion for approval of the Minutes for the December 23, 2025, LEPC meeting. Seconded by Amy May. The Minutes were approved.
7. Samantha O'Dell, Torrance County Emergency Manager, did a 2025 review of the LEPC.
8. Presentation by Rachel G. of VOAD:
  - \*VOAD = Voluntary Organizations Active Disasters, State Level
  - \*In 70 Nations
  - \*Established July 15, 1970, after Hurricane Camille, Mississippi on the Gulf Coast
  - \*1995, Oklahoma City bombing
  - \*2005, Hurricane Katrina
  - \*2010, Earthquake in Haiti
  - \*2010, BP oil spill
  - \*2020, Covid 19 Pandemic
  - \*2024, Hurricane Helena, Samaritan's Purse
  - \*2025, California's wildfires
  - \*2025, Louisville, Kentucky flooding

\*Local:

Trout Fire, Ruidoso

Lincoln and Dona Ana Counties, Flooding

\*Who are members?

Affiliates

Non-Affiliated Volunteers

Non-Profit or Volunteer Organizations

\*NMVOAD-

EOC-Virtual or in person

ESF 6-Health Care Authority

ESF 14-Long term Recovery

ESF 15-Tribal

\*COAD=Community Organization Active Disaster, Local Level

\*LTRG=Long Term Recovery Group

\*The 4 C's-Corporation, Communication, Coordination and Commitment

\*Blue Sky-Planning, Coordinating, Identifying Opportunities, Risk Mitigation and assessment.

\*Why have VOAD?

\*To help with multiple disasters at one time.

\*Organize, Communicate and Support

"We Live In An Amplified World"-meaning that we must be careful to not lend to the problems but stay calm and make good decisions.

Plan, Organize, Communicate, Coordinate and Commit.

\*2026 Goals for VOAD?

\*Gather Subject Matter Experts, Volunteer & Donation Management

\*Increase Communication, Long-term Recovery & Resiliency

How do they get to their goals?

\*The 4 C's

Contact Information for Rachel G.:

NMVOAD

Rachel.giarratano@rrfb.org

nmvoad@nmvoad.com

Rachel will be at the February 19<sup>th</sup> LEPC Volunteer Group meeting @ 5:30pm.

9. Recent Events:

\*The snowstorm, non-event

\*The power outage affected 231 people for 4 1/2 hours in Tajique and Cedarville

- \*The Geomagnetic Storm, Level 5 going on 5. Tenduscus Event?
- \*A fire at the Hills and Valley Transfer Station in Edgewood. Torrance County Fire Department responded. Investigation underway.
- \*Estancia Fire Department is getting a big backup generator.

#### 10. Agency Update:

- \*Forrest prescribed burns, the news did announce it.
- \*Estancia Police Department was Tri-Commissioned with Mountainair and Edgewood Police Departments.
- \*Mountainair Police Department will be doing a Crime Town Hall meeting with Torrance County Sheriff's Office this Thursday.
- \*In March the Torrance County OMI Office will have another Officer. Also, Torrance County OMI offers free tuition and one year employment.

#### 11. Emergency Management Update:

- \*Radio upgrade, PO for dispatch, Motorola's
- \*Danielle Clary and Tony Wilson from the DOD spoke on some testing that the Department of Defense is doing in the area.
- \*There's going to be a rapid hire event for 911 dispatch Saturday January 31, 2026, from 10 to 3

#### 12. Public Forum:

- \*Amy May and Phil Terry-Smith complimented Tessa Snyder on the Hazmat Newsletter.
- \*Davis Dean Thanked everyone for their commitment to their communities.

#### 13. Adjournment:

Tom Cater made a motion for adjournment. Amy May seconded it.  
Adjourned at 10:30am