



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, February 24, 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. The January Minutes will be approved at the March meeting.
7. Presentation by Debbie Mayberry from the Torrance County Extension Office:
 - Spoke on the benefits of the 4-H program for the youth and families of Torrance County.
 - There are 40,000 youth that benefit from 4-H in New Mexico.
 - They learn life and leadership skills
 - There are over 200 projects for the youth to choose from

Mrs. Mayberry also went over her experiences with natural disasters in California:

- Northridge Earthquake, January 17, 1994, Martin Luther King's Day
- When the earthquake hit the death toll was lower because of the time of day and the fact that it was a holiday.
- Debbie told her story about the earthquake experience with her family and the neighborhood.
- There was no electricity,
- There was extensive road damage

- Limited Communication
 - Limited food and water supplies
 - Limited resources
 - Because of the instability there was no housing or hospital resources for a time
 - People were living in their vehicles, tents, yards and parks
 - For a period, there was no access to contractors or repair experts
 - Theft and scams skyrocketed
 - People started getting sick with Valley Fever caused by a fungus in the dirt from the landslides.
- New Mexico does have earthquakes, tornados, floods and fires for natural disasters.

Mrs. Mayberry also spoke on

The Santa Susana Field Laboratory
 Nuclear Meltdown
 Monday, July 13, 1959
 Simi Valley, California

- America's worst nuclear disaster in history.
 - Major coverup by the company
 - Many documents were lost, destroyed or withheld from any investigation.
- Stephen Garrett said that there are 120 nuclear facilities in the United States currently and that 90 of them are operating below the "out of date" time and how we should prepare ourselves for a disaster.

8. Hazmat Horizon Newsletter:

Tessa Snyder spoke on the Tier 2 Reporting:

*Purpose is to inform communities of hazardous Materials

*Any company with hazardous chemicals is required to report to the state between January 1 and March 1 of every year.

*You can Google Tier 2 reporting to find the instructions for reporting hazardous chemicals to the state.

*In 2025 there were 42 facilities that reported in Torrance County.

9. Executive Committee Elections

*Chairperson and Information Coordinator elections will be held in March

10. Right to Know Act-Comprehensive Packet of what an LEPC is.

11. Recent Events:0

12. Agency Updates:

*March 5th, LEPC Workshop in the Commission Chambers in Estancia. Time to be determined. There has been talk about Moriarty hosting a workshop.

*March 28th Town of Estancia is doing a Cleanup Day sponsored by the library. No more dropping off ducks at the Estancia Pond.

*Roy Hubbard asked if there were any prescribed burns by the forest department going on. The answer was no.

13. Public Forum:

*David Dean thanked all of law enforcement and first responders that responded to the accident on i-40 yesterday.

*For future meetings Zoom information will be in a calendar invite.

*The Zoom link will be sent in the LEPC information as has been in the emails.

14. Next Meeting: March 24, 2026

15. Adjournment:

David Dean made a motion for Adjournment. Tom Carter Seconded it.
Adjourned