

Texas State Disaster Coalition 7/17/2014 Meeting Notes

Melissa Hield welcomed the group. Scott Helmcamp gave an update on the 2014 Tropical Storm outlook. Experts Dr. Gray and Dr. Klotzbach, Colorado State University, still predict a below average number of storms and below average probability of a major hurricane. They predict 10 named storms, four hurricanes, and one major hurricane. The Atlantic remains cooler than normal and an El Nino is developing. Next forecast will be issued on July 31.

At the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service Summer Institute for emergency managers, Jack Evins gave a presentation on TDI and TSDC activities during the recovery phase of a disaster. The Institute participants saw demonstrations of drones and other new technologies being used during disaster response. Jack also participated in the annual hurricane preparedness exercise at the Texas Division of Emergency Management State Operations Center. TDI has asked TDEM to include space for insurer representatives to co-locate with TDI as TDEM is planning for disaster recovery centers.

The Critical Infrastructure Financial Services sector banking and insurance subcommittee continues to meet. One goal of the project is to inventory assets, and the group is considering how to develop an inventory of banking and insurer operations facilities in Texas.

Companies have submitted their responses to the TDI annual disaster plan survey; the next survey will be done in 2018. TDI will follow up with the companies that reported they have no disaster response or business continuity plans.

Cybersecurity will be a topic for the next TSDC meeting on October 16, 2014, at 1:30 p.m. Central time via conference call. A reminder will be sent to TSDC.