

MEDINA COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & HOMELAND SECURITY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

September 17, 2025

Chairman Carl DeForest called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

Roll Call showed the following members present: Joe Canestraro, Carol Carter, Dan Chafin, Carl DeForest, Greg Glauner, Steve Hambley, Dennis Hanwell, Aaron Harrison, Jack Swedyk, and Larry Walters.

Other individuals present: Ben Nau and Greg Bartoe

Public Comment: None.

Minutes: Commissioner Hambley moved to approve the minutes from August 20, 2025. This motion was seconded by Mr. Swedyk. A voice vote showed the motion passing unanimously.

Resolution:

- Resolution 2025-11 – Declaring Medina County Emergency Management Agency Property as Excess Property. A resolution declaring a surplus U.S. Army generator trailer currently possessed by EMA as excess property because it is no longer needed for public use. The resolution further authorizes the sale of the generator trailer to the public via GovDeals. Mr. DeForest moved to approve Resolution 2025-11. The motion was seconded by Chief Glauner. A voice vote showed Resolution 2025-11 passing unanimously.

Purchases:

- Director Nau stated the current All-Hazards Rope Team trailer was purchased from the Medina Fire Department and it still has Medina Fire Department markings on it. Director Nau requested a purchase of \$3,000.00 to have the trailer re-marked with the All-Hazards Rope Team logo and/or design. Director Nau also noted this expense was included in the 2025 budget. Mr. DeForest made a motion to approve the purchase to re-mark the Rope Team trailer. The motion was seconded by Mayor Hanwell. A voice vote showed this motion passing unanimously.

Old Business:

- Director Nau and Mr. Bartoe previously noted that they applied for a grant from the Bluecoats of Medina County to purchase equipment for the Fire Investigation Unit. Director Nau and Mr. Bartoe stated that they were recently notified that the Fire Investigation Unit did not receive the grant.
- Director Nau said the Mitigation Plan has been approved by FEMA. In order to finalize the Mitigation Plan, EMA must receive resolutions approving the plan from all jurisdictions in Medina County. EMA is still waiting on a few jurisdictions to approve such resolutions.

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New Business: None

Bills Report:

- Mr. Bartoe shared the bills report and noted the invoice from the Cleveland Clinic was over \$2,000.00. This invoice consisted of six separate HazMat physicals that were lumped together on one invoice. To comply with EMA resolutions, Commissioner Harrison suggested the Executive Committee vote to approve this invoice. Commissioner Harrison then made a motion to retroactively approve the payment of this invoice. This motion was seconded by Chairman DeForest. A voice vote showed this motion passing unanimously.

EMA activities:

- Director Nau noted that August continued high activity levels for the All-Hazards Teams.
 - Director Nau noted the Fire Investigation Unit has been especially busy with numerous fires, including a large commercial fire in Wadsworth.
 - Of note, the Rope Rescue Team assisted in another horse rescue. This was the fourth horse rescue callout for the Rope Rescue Team this year.
 - Director Nau stated there have been 52 year-to-date callouts of the All-Hazard Teams. Director Nau reported that total team callouts for 2023 were 44 and for 2024 were 56. Thus, the All-Hazards Teams are on pace to shatter the number of callouts for previous years.
 - Director Nau stated the team membership remains consistent.
- Communications Radio Tower
 - Director Nau reported that construction is well underway, and the tower is expected to be completed near the end of October.
- HazMat Flow Study Report
 - Director Nau said the HazMat Flow Study was conducted throughout the county and the final report was recently submitted to the Ohio Emergency Management Agency
- Seven Springs Dam Project
 - Director Nau reported that FEMA is once again processing grant applications for dam repairs after a delay earlier in the year. This grant process includes one submitted by the Seven Springs Homeowners Association for repairs to the Seven Springs Dam.
- Upcoming Trainings:
 - September 25th – Rail Emergencies by Wheeling & Lake Erie RR at Medina FD
 - October 22nd – 24th – Public Information Basics
 - January 2026 – Continuity of Operations
- New Employee
 - Director Nau said Joshua Tidey will be starting employment with EMA as an Emergency Specialist starting on Monday September 22, 2025.

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Board Members:

- Director Chafin noted Wadsworth has had several large fires in the past few weeks and thanked everyone for their support during these incidents.
- Chief Glauner asked about the Tunnel to Towers race event recently held in Medina. Chief Walters said the race had a record turnout for participants.
- Commissioner Hambley thanked all the departments involved with the Medina County Solid Waste District's initiative for disposal of lithium-ion batteries. This initiative seeks to reduce the risk of fire caused by lithium-ion batteries.

Mr. DeForest moved to adjourn the meeting; Chief Walters seconded the motion. By voice vote, the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:47 am.