

MEDINA COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & HOMELAND SECURITY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

August 20, 2025

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

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

Other individuals present: Ben Nau, Greg Bartoe, and Chuck Stiver.

Public Comment: None.

Minutes: Commissioner Hambley moved to approve the minutes from June 18, 2025. This motion was seconded by Mr. Swedyk. A voice vote showed the motion passing unanimously. There was not a quorum present to conduct an official meeting on July 19, 2025.

Resolutions:

- *Resolution 2025-09 Return of HazMat Flow Study Trailer.* A resolution to authorize the Medina County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) to return a HazMat Flow Study trailer to its manufacturer, Perceptics, Inc. This trailer was purchased for \$51,600.00, which was offset by a Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Grant from the State of Ohio Emergency Management Agency in the amount of \$41,280.00. EMA has been in contact with Perceptics regarding the trailer and they agreed to accept the return of the trailer and issue a refund. This resolution authorizes EMA to return the HazMat Flow Study Trailer to Perceptics, to seek a refund of the purchase price, to refund the State of Ohio Emergency Management Agency for the grant reimbursement, and to adjust the budget certification of EMA as appropriate to reflect the refund received from Perceptics as well as the amount paid to the State of Ohio. Commissioner Hambley moved to approve Resolution 2025-09. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dumperth. A voice vote showed Resolution 2025-09 passing unanimously.
- *Resolution 2025-10 – Return of Utility Trailer to York Township.* A resolution authorizing EMA to return a Cargo Pro utility trailer to York Township. This trailer was originally donated by York Township to EMA in 2022 to be used by the Fire Investigation team. However, it has been determined that the trailer will not be utilized for any EMA and/or All Hazards Team functions. The resolution authorizes the return of the trailer to York Township. Mr. DeForest moved to approve Resolution 2025-10. The motion was seconded by Chief Glauner. A voice vote showed Resolution 2025-10 passing unanimously.

Purchases: None

Old Business: None

New Business:

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- Resignation of EM Specialist Noah Eddy
 - Mr. DeForest reported that Noah Eddy's last day with EMA was on August 19, 2025, due to Mr. Eddy moving out of state. Mr. DeForest made a motion to accept Mr. Eddy's resignation and this motion was seconded by Commissioner Harrison. A voice vote showed this motion passing unanimously.
- Communications Tower Update
 - Director Nau reported that an unknown easement held by the Muskingum Water Conservancy District on the Hubbard Valley Communications Tower site was discovered. After surveying the construction area, it was decided to move the Tower approximately 20 feet to comply with the easement. The change order to effect this change will result in a small increase in the project's costs and minimal time delays.
- Fire Investigation Team Equipment Update
 - Of the 21 members of the Fire Investigation Team, approximately 10 of the team members have been fully outfitted with personal protection equipment. The goal is to outfit the remaining team members by the end of the year.
 - Director Nau reported that a grant application was recently submitted on behalf of the Fire Investigation Team to the Medina County Bluecoats for the purchase of personal protection equipment. That grant is pending.

Bills Report:

- Director Nau shared the bills report. Three invoices were over \$2,000.00. Two of those invoices were approved by a motion of the Executive Committee during previous meetings. One of the bills was quarterly bill from County Vehicle Maintenance and encompassed three separate invoices.

EMA activities:

- Director Nau noted that July was a busy month for the All-Hazards Teams.
 - In one of the incidents, the Water Team responded to the recovery of a deceased person from a pond in Lodi. Mr. Dumperth inquired if the deceased person was Amish. Mr. Stiver stated that the Lodi area water death was not Amish related, but there was an Amish related water death recently in Lorain County.
- Amish Safety Days
 - Mr. Stiver reported on the Amish Safety Day recently held in Medina County and answered questions on the same. The event featured interactive displays and safety education, including a water rescue demonstration with the Remote Operated Vehicle and a diver demonstration.
 - Mr. Stiver reported the event was well attended with approximately 60 individuals from various agencies providing services/information to the Amish population.
 - Mr. Dumperth inquired if the deceased person that the Water Team recently responded to in the Lodi area was Amish related. Mr. Stiver stated that the Lodi area water death was not Amish related, but there was an Amish related water death recently in Lorain County.

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- Upcoming Trainings:
 - August 27th – HazMat for Dispatchers
 - October 22nd – 24th – Public Information Basics
 - January 2026 – Continuity of Operations
- Medina County Mitigation Plan
 - The Medina County Mitigation Plan was updated by Mr. Eddy and has been approved by the State of Ohio. The plan is now pending approval from FEMA.
 - Director Nau stated that letters have been sent to all of the jurisdictions requesting resolutions approving the Mitigation Plan. These resolutions are required for the Plan to take effect.
- Fire Memorandum of Understanding
 - Director Nau reported that the Memorandum of Understanding for the Medina County Fire Departments is currently being updated. The previous Fire MOU was updated in 2015.
- Seven Springs Dam Project
 - Director Nau stated that the grant application for the Seven Springs Dam is being processed again by FEMA.
 - The Seven Springs Homeowners Association applied for a grant for the reimbursement of costs to repair the Seven Springs Dam, a privately owned Class 1 dam in Montville Township. The dam was inspected by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) and it was determined that the dam needs repairs to be in compliance with ODNR regulations.

Board Members: Nothing to Report

Hiring of a Public Employee

- At 8:51 AM, Mr. DeForest made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the hiring of a public employee. Commissioner Harrison seconded this motion. A voice vote showed the motion passing unanimously.
- At 9:01 AM, the Executive Committee came out of Executive Session with no decisions being made during the Executive Session.
- Mayor Hanwell then made a motion to hire Joshua Tiddey as an Emergency Management (EM) Specialist, which was seconded by Mr. Swedyk, with the following terms:
 - Starting salary of \$53,000.00 per year. This salary will increase to \$55,000.00 per year after six months of satisfactory performance.
 - The EM Specialist position is subject to a term of probation of one-year from the date of hire.
 - Mr. Tiddey must successfully complete a background investigation, drug screening, and psychological examination.
- The motion was passed unanimously via voice vote.

Mr. DeForest moved to adjourn the meeting; Sheriff Grice seconded the motion. By voice vote, the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:10am.