

MEDINA COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & HOMELAND SECURITY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

January 21, 2026

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

Roll Call was conducted. The following Committee members were present: Carol Carter, Dan Chafin, Carl DeForest, Rick Dumperth, Terry Grice, Steve Hambley, Aaron Harrison, Robin Laubaugh, Jim Shields, and Larry Walters.

Other individuals present: Ben Nau, Greg Bartoe, and Josh Tidey.

Public Comment: None.

Minutes: Mr. Dumperth made a motion to approve the minutes from November 19, 2025. The motion was seconded by Sheriff Grice. The motion passed unanimously via voice vote. Mayor Shields abstained from voting.

Resolutions:

- *Resolution 2026-01 – LEPC/EMA Contract for Services.* A resolution for Medina County Emergency Management Agency (MCEMA) to enter a contract with the Medina County Local Emergency Planning Committee (MCLEPC) to provide the most efficient and productive method for fulfilling the State Emergency Response Commission’s regulations and statutory requirements. Chief Walters moved to approve Resolution 2026-01. The motion was seconded by Mayor Carter. Resolution 2026-01 passed unanimously via voice vote.
- *Resolution 2026-02 – Annual Cash Transfers.* A resolution to approve the transfer of cash between accounts within MCEMA’s approved budget. Commissioner Hambley moved to approve Resolution 2026-02. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dumperth. Resolution 2026-02 passed unanimously via voice vote.
- *Resolution 2026-03 – Budget Modification.* A resolution to adjust the approved MCEMA 2026 budget to reflect actual carryover balances. Mr. DeForest moved to approve Resolution 2026-03. The motion was seconded by Sheriff Grice. Resolution 2026-03 passed unanimously via voice vote.
- *Resolution 2026-04 – Resolution Declaring Medina County Emergency Management Agency Property as Excess Property.* A resolution to declare two decontamination tents with heaters as excess property and transfer the items to Lafayette Township Fire and Rescue. Mr. DeForest moved to approve Resolution 2026-04. The motion was seconded by Mr. Chafin. Resolution 2026-04 passed unanimously via voice vote.

Purchases:

- EM1 – EM1 Technologies, Inc. - \$2,000

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- Mr. DeForest made a motion to approve the \$2,000 purchase of an eight month software service that leverages automated intelligence (AI) to evaluate MCEMA's plans and provide detailed feedback to streamline and improve them. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Harrison and passed unanimously contingent on the contract's approval after a review by legal.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

- 2026 Executive Committee Appointments – Commissioner Harrison made a motion to approve the appointments of Chief Glauner and Mr. Chafin to the Committee. Commissioner Harrison recommended waiting until the MCEMA Advisory Group meeting on January 28th to nominate someone for the last open position. The motion was seconded by Mayor Laubaugh and passed unanimously. Mr. Chafin abstained from voting.
- All-Hazards Team Coordinator – Director Nau informed the committee that the All-Hazards Team Coordinator will be on a leave of absence for approximately four to six weeks.
- Incident and LEPC Spill Dashboards – Director Nau briefed the committee regarding the availability of the incident and LEPC Spill dashboards. He noted that these visual tools, primarily the LEPC Spill dashboard, enable the LEPC to meet public availability requirements.
- 2025 Annual Report – Director Nau briefed the content of the 2025 Annual Report. There were no questions about the information contained in the report. To reduce waste Director Nau will be emailing the report to the advisory group in preparation for the January 28th meeting.

Bills Report: Mr. Bartoe shared the bills report.

EMA activities:

- Director Nau briefed training updates. Of note, spill response training will be held on March 9th and SKYWARN training will be held on April 9th. The SKYWARN training is open to the public and will be held at the Brunswick Fire Department.
- Director Nau briefed that plan updates continue. The priority now is the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) plan since it is required to gain access to the missing and endangered person IPAWS code.
- Director Nau briefed that EMA received exercise credit for the hazmat incident on I-271 involving the overturned semi-truck and subsequent ethanol leak.

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- Director Nau briefed that the FY2025 Emergency Management Performance Grant amount remains unknown at this time due to pending litigation between the federal government and other states.

Board Members:

- Chief Walters thanked Mr. Chafin, Director Nau, and others for the extended power outage discussion. Many lessons and ideas were gleaned from Wadsworth's recent power outage. Chief passed that a product is being created to share the findings from the meeting.
- Mayor Carter expressed thanks and feedback regarding the new radio tower. She highlighted the lack of coverage without the tower and the drastic improvement it has made since being completed.
- Commissioner Harrison passed that he has received eight RSVPs for the EMA Advisory Group meeting so far and is working to get more, or at least a quorum. Mayor Carter added that she is working to increase Village attendance and is awaiting responses.
- Mr. Chafin informed the committee that Wadsworth is planning to build another MARCS tower. Bid and design documents are anticipated to be available in April 2026.
- Mr. DeForest informed the committee members that he would not be present at the February 2026 meeting.
- Mayor Shields introduced himself to the committee and shared that he is looking forward to being part of the committee.

Mr. DeForest made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dumperth and passed unanimously via voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:57 am.