

MEDINA COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & HOMELAND SECURITY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

March 18, 2026

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

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

Other individuals present: Matthew Springer, Michael Lyons, Halle Dreibelbis, Ben Nau, Greg Bartoe, and Josh Tidey.

Public Comment: None.

Minutes: Mayor Shields made a motion to approve the minutes from February 18, 2026. The motion was seconded by Chief Glauner. The motion passed unanimously via voice vote.

Resolutions:

- *Resolution 2026-05: Budget Modification to Match Certificate of Estimated Resources.* A resolution to reduce the EMA budget to be within the amount available on the Certificate of Estimated Resources as of January 1, 2026. The discrepancy occurred due to delays in receiving State Homeland Security Grant funds caused by the late 2025 partial federal government shutdown.
- *Resolution 2026-06: Budget Modification.* A resolution to restore the EMA budget to the amount approved for 2026 following the receipt of State Homeland Security Program grant funds.
- Mr. DeForest made motions to approve Resolutions 2026-05 and 2026-06. The motions were seconded by Mr. Chafin. The motions passed unanimously via voice vote.
- *Resolution 2026-07: Adoption of the Mass Notification Systems Plan.* A resolution to adopt recently drafted Mass Notification Systems Plan. This new plan established protocols and procedures used to disseminate emergency alerts, warnings, and notifications to the public. Chairman DeForest tabled the resolution until the April 2026 Board meeting to give members additional time to review and provide feedback on the plan.

Purchases: Nothing significant to report.

Old Business:

- Office Area Remodeling Project: No significant updates.

New Business:

- County IT and Building Maintenance Discussion

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- A lengthy discussion was held involving the County Administrator and County Prosecutor's office regarding the County's statutory obligation to EMA. Mr. Lyons highlighted that EMA is unique under the statutes because it has a separate budget, and by agreement that budget is funded by the political subdivisions in the county. Mr. Lyons also informed the Board that his office's research concluded that the County has an obligation to provide services to EMA like other County departments even though EMA is by agreement managed by a the Executive Board, but there is work to be done to determine how the various pieces fit together.
- Commissioner Harrison highlighted the two priorities: 1) continued compliance with statutory compliance, and 2) maintaining current operations to the extent possible that does not require a major overhaul of agreements already in place.
- Mass Notification System Discussion
 - Director Nau briefed the Board that the current contract with WENS for mass notification ends in late 2026 and EMA, as well as the Sheriff's Office, Medina Police, and Wadsworth Police, have received several demonstrations from vendors. There is a meeting scheduled with participants to determine which of the vendors are preferred by everyone. There was discussion amongst many Board members about cost allocation formulas and options for funding the new system.
 - Sheriff Grice inquired if geofencing messages is possible in the systems being considered, including WENS. It was confirmed that geofencing is available to target messages to end users in a specific area.

Bills Report: Deputy Director Bartoe shared the bills report.

EMA activities:

- Director Nau briefed that EMA and All-Hazards Teams have seen a noticeable increase in responses compared to the same timeframe in 2025. Currently there have been 22 responses to date in 2026 compared to 10 in 2025.
- Director Nau informed the Board that Ohio EMA is looking to potentially seek FEMA reimbursement for damage sustained during the recent weather events. Based on current policy, a minimum of \$886,000 in expenses would have needed to be incurred to meet the threshold for reimbursement.

Board Members:

- Mr. Dumperth informed the Board that Leadership Medina County is accepting applications for their programs.

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- Chief Walters requested that Mass Notifications Systems be included on the agenda EMA 101 brief being provided by EMA. Director Nau confirmed that this topic is on the agenda.

Mr. DeForest made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Chafin and passed unanimously via voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:19 am.