



Chairperson: Ben Klinger, Winona County
Vice Chairperson: Matt Maas, Dodge County
Recorder: Kristen Sailer, Steele County
Fiscal Agent: Interim Ben Klinger, Winona County

Location: Steele County
October 3, 2025

Official meeting called to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Ben Klinger at 10 am.

Approve Agenda:

Ben Klinger requested approval of the agenda:

- Motion to approve by Rice County.
- Second by Goodhue County.
- Motion passed.

Approve prior Meeting Minutes:

Ben Klinger requested approval of minutes from the September meetings:

- Motion to approve by Le Sueur County.
- Second by Faribault County.
- Motion passed.

Financials and Grants:

Fiscal Agent Report: Ben sent out the Income and Expenses for the year - Account balances were provided for the 1st quarter \$109,169.14, 2nd quarter \$102,452.22, and 3rd quarter \$100,984.84. One note that Faribault County paid twice and was refunded.

- Motion to approve by Goodhue County.
- Second by Rice County.
- Motion passed.

SHSP Grant Update: will get a quote for the new camera trailer to bring back.

Bills: no pending bills or other expenses.

Insurance Update: no updates.

Fiscal Agent Update: no updates, still pending, hopeful to have news soon.

Old Business:

Mutual Aid Agreement/ Joint Powers Board Agreement:

- Joint Powers Board Agreement- send signed agreements to Klinger – Mower still missing, no update. Will have to get a new quote for MCIT for insurance.

2025 School Safety Summit Committee:

- October 7 & 8, 2025 - Tammy provided an update; 70 people registered per day. Name tags are printed and ready. All rooms will have AV. Assigning duties today and will get out to everyone. Contacting Dr. Huff for the final presentation. They did have a request for interpreters and signed a contract for services. POST will have certificates available for self-reporting. Door prizes and the Grand prize will be given each day. Breakouts will have 4 rotations per day.

New Business:

Mass Fatality plans: Rich Droog attended the mass fatality training and asked what all the counties have for plans. Share if you have any. Rich contacted the Ramsey County Medical Examiner's Office, and they have morgue capacity for 50 people, plus additional space in trailers for 25 to 50 people. If we have a local Coroner, Ramsey County will not come out to the counties unless you have an agreement. Rice uses Anoka County. Eric has plan templates he can share. Rich will send the guide. We could post to the website under shared documents.

Updates:

SEMNDHC - Sailer/Flanaghan: They received funding and held an advisory meeting yesterday, reviewing continuity planning and cybersecurity. The next meeting is scheduled for October 21.

SC MN Healthcare Coalition – Weller: They have full funding. Named off upcoming training.

HSEM Update:

Mike provided updates: funding doesn't affect current grants. HSEM operations are still normal. Federal grants for 2025 were received and are under legal review. EMPG performance review for one year. The UASI grant was cut to \$3 million in total.

Shared information comes from the State Fire Marshal's Office PEAK system for EPCRA and the E-plan tool for exercise and planning. Emergency Managers will be the user administrators of the system and will need to give access to Fire Chiefs and fire staff.

E-plan data runs about a year and a half behind.

The State Disaster funding announcements should be coming soon.

AMEM - Bramwell: fill out surveys from the conference

AMEM Professional Development Committee - Sailer: Breakfast with EMs is continuing on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. The next session is on October 8; the link to register was emailed out.

Chris Muller from Beltrami County will be discussing the initial opening and operation of their EOC after the massive and extremely destructive June storms.

Erin Hughes from Stearns County will be discussing the use of a Disaster Response Action Team (DRAT) and Rave for notifications before, during, and in response to an incident that may result in opening an EOC.

<https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/f9349382-19de-4fc5-a414-06a7ededca66@3a573c9f-610e-4237-9520-c8291dad5888>

November 12: Please use the link below to register for our November Breakfast with EM's webinar. For the final EOC topic in our series Dan Johnson-Powers, Emergency Management Coordinator for Brooklyn Park, will be talking through the recent activation of their EOC in response to the assassinations of Melissa and Mark Hortman.

[Breakfast with EM's | Meeting-Join | Microsoft Teams](#)

Legislative Committee - Klinger: No updates. The bills are still active through May 2026 on local EM funding SF 2119 and HF 2099.

HERT Training Maas/Klinger: Received a request for a class on January 10 in Rice County.

Surveillance Camera Trailer Updates Maas/Klinger:

- Camera trailers are back home for storage. Received permission by consensus to conduct yearly maintenance.

County/City/Tribe Updates:

Houston County: Fire in Caledonia on Monday morning, 22 people displaced, along with pets. ARC responded with financial assistance. They were back in the building in a couple of days. The bike race went well, one ambulance was dispatched, very small amount of injuries.

Mower County: working with issues of cybersecurity incident.

Le Sueur County: Mower County will be talking to their Department Head meeting about their Cybersecurity event and response.

Fillmore County: nothing to report.

HSEM: WebEOC Nexus migration information will be coming out. Mike will be sharing as he learns more. The new e-grants system is still in the works, and no date for rollout.

Goodhue County: School mapping agreements sent out. The contract will be signed next week. SE and SC counties will be sitting very well in the state.

Rice County: preplanning for churches and places of worship got a planning template he will share.

Olmsted County: nothing to report

Freeborn County: Fire departments are transitioning to NEARIS (National Emergency Response Information System) for high-quality real-time fire service data starting Jan 1. Dispatch centers will be getting information from the State Fire Marshal's Office. Training is underway throughout the state for the transition. Contact the SFM for information. Working on election planning and running exercise with the detention center. MCIT said it is better to work with shelter agreements through the ARC.

PIIC- nothing to report

Waseca County: working on HMP 2nd meeting next month
Southeast Minnesota Region 1 HSEM Joint Powers Board

Faribault County: had to respond to a bus versus car crash in Keister

Steele County: working on presenting the EOP for adoption by the cities and the county board

National Guard: continue to work without pay during the government shutdown, helping with the marathon. 500 soldiers are being trained for civil disturbance.

Nicollet County: working on school and HMP. One home buyout was selected for funding.

Blue Earth County: HMP will be going to the board for approval. Working on 7 buyouts from the 2024 disaster.

City of Rochester: holding tabletop exercises with private and public schools. Running an active shooter drill, with EOC activation, and reunification in the summer of 2026.

City of Faribault: working with Joe on HMP and car crash exercise coming up.

Wabasha County: nothing to report

Winona County: working with bold planning on the COOP plan. HMP plan update, and City of Winona mitigation project to improve the levee system with the USACE.

Walk-ins: none

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting:

- Motion to approve by Nicollet County.
- Second by Le Sueur County.
- Motion passed.

Meeting Attendees			
Name	Agency	Name	Agency
Eric Weller	Blue Earth County	Joe Johnson	Rice County
Sue Jahnke	Faribault County	John Bolster	Rice County
Jason Harmening	Fillmore County	Kristen Sailer	Steele County
Adam Hamberg	Freeborn County	Megan Ringhofer	Steele County
Earl Merchlewitz	Goodhue County	Brenda Tomlinson	Wabasha County
Mark Olson	Houston County	Denise Wright	Waseca County
Tammy Stewig	Le Sueur County	Ben Klinger	Winona County
Rich Droog	Le Sueur County	Bart Berven	City of Albert Lea
Dave Pike	Mower County	Dusty Dienst	City of Faribault
Justin Block	Nicollet County	Tim Martin	National Guard
Nick Jacobson	Olmsted County	Grant Eckoff	City of Rochester
Kim Flanagan	PIIC	Mike Peterson	HSEM

Next Meeting Date and Location:

Date	Host	Address
November 7	City of Rochester EOC	2185 Wheelock Dr NE Rochester