



Chairperson: Matt Maas, Dodge County
Vice Chairperson: Joe Johnson, Rice County
Recorder: Tammy Stewig, Le Sueur County
Fiscal Agent: Interim Ben Kilinger, Winona County

**Meeting Minutes – April 10, 2026
 Steele County**

Official meeting called to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Matt Maas at 10:00am

Roll Call/Introductions:

Sign-In Sheet was available for everyone to sign-in.

Approve Agenda:

Matt Maas requested approval of the agenda.

- Motion to approve by PIIC
- Second by Houston County
- Motion passed

Approve prior Meeting Minutes:

Matt Maas requested approval of the minutes from the March 6, 2026 meeting.

- Motion to approve by Rice County
- Second by Olmsted County
- Motion passed

Special Guests: None present.

Financials and Grants:

Bills on going AT&T bill for camera trailers.

SHSP Grant Update nothing to report

Fiscal Agent Report nothing to report

Old Business:

2026 Dues invoices emailed. Let Tammy Stewig know if you did not receive yours and she will email you another one. Also, please make sure checks are mailed to the correct location. Le Sueur County has received a few, they will get them to Ben Klinger or Matt Maas.

Fiscal Agent Update no update.

SE MN Disaster Health Coalition Representations: No voting can be done without an Emergency Management representative. Kim Flanagan volunteered to stay on for a short time so voting can happen. Rochester fire emailed and said they would be willing to be on the coalition.

- Motion by Steele County to have Brett Knapp (primary) and Grant Eckhoff (secondary) represent Emergency Management on the SE MN Disaster Health Coalition.
- Second by PIIC
- Motion passed

HERT Program: The instructor group met to review training and improvements for future training. It was discussed to do 1, no more than 2 training courses a year. Possibly send out pre-course learning materials to limit classroom time. Matt Maas did bring up that more instructors are needed at the RAC meeting. If anyone knows of someone interested in becoming an instructor let Matt Maas, Ben Klinger or Earl Merchlewitz know.

Camera Trailer Schedule: Matt Maas has the schedule on one calendar and will get it into WebEOC. There are some conflicts with scheduling, it is asked if your agency has a conflict with another agency to please start conversations with that entity to see if you can locally resolve the conflict. Matt will email the calendar out for review.

Hopefully the third camera trailer will be ready to use and conflicts can be resolved that way. Matt will contact the company Monday if he doesn't hear anything to check on the status.

Indoor Mapping Project: tabletop exercises have been scheduled for the SE schools, SC would like information on the dates and location to come observe.

New Business:

School Safety Summit: Denise Wright and Tammy Stewig are willing to be on the committee, but would like to know what do people want?

Possible topics:

- Reunification review
- Breakout sessions
- Open sessions

Discussion:

- Dates after MEA
2 days, day 2 repeat of day 1
- Location
Owatonna area, keep in Rochester, or have day 1 in location A, and day 2 in location B
- Budget
\$25,000

- MN School Safety Center partner with Region 1 JPB
Threat Assessment session
Denise and Tammy are attending the MN SSC Conference, they will see if they can meet with Connie or Kasey.

If you would like to be on the committee let Denise or Tammy know. Matt Maas offered to be on the committee. After the meeting, Kristen Sailer, Megan Ringhofer and Mike Peterson offered to help.

UP Rail Exercise:

Kristen Sailer, Joe Johnson and Adam Hamberg will meet with UP. There will be a tabletop exercise soon (April-June) and then a full-scale exercise.

SHSP Grant:

Application is due in June. Matt Maas will work on it. Kristen Sailer offered to help.

Updates:

SEMNDHC: Was activated for a gas leak in Cannon Falls by a nursing home. It was possible that approx. 300 people would need to be evacuated, leak was contained and no evacuation needed. It was about a 15 minute activation.

SC MN Healthcare Coalition: May 15th a H5N1 workshop and functional exercise in Mankato. Working on cybersecurity workshop for small facilities (clinics and nursing homes). ICS trainings in the future.

HSEM Update from Mike Peterson:

EMPG

100 % of Region 1 had their EMPG application submitted on time. THANK YOU!

Mike Made some remodifications for everyone. The top box and box 6 should be the same.

April 30th quarter 1 is due and the quarter 2 progress report be sure to put Severe Weather Awareness week.

Blue Earth County asked what the turn around from the state will be getting back to us. Mike will ask that question at his HSEM meeting.

Waseca County requested a cheat sheet sent like in the past. All grant recipients agreed. Mike will get something sent out.

HSEM Staff

There has been a Deputy Director added. Kevin Reed is also Deputy Director.

Connie Foster is the new Director of the School Safety Center.

Tony Houser was hired for the Recovery Bureau

Mike will be at the MN School Safety Conference Tuesday and Wednesday.

WebEOC

Spot reports should be in the body and as attachments

Activity log needs status. Mike sees an issue and is wondering what our option is. It was discussed that the most current event should be on the top and searching is an issue.

Cybersecurity

Winona County had another attack. All data was stolen this time, computers and servers were compromised.

Mike pointed out some learning points:

- Wifi outside the county is good to have
- Dispatch should understand how to do their job without the CAD system
- Request the C3 team with the National Guard, they support the incident not take over

Other

Steele County asked about an update on disaster funding, how far back are they? Status update on approved disaster? Mike will check into it.

AMEM: no report available

AMEM Professional Development Committee:

Working on the Region 6 FAC exercise. Proposing a Sunday exercise with a Monday tabletop.

Legislative Committee: no report available

HERT Training: discussed in old business

Surveillance Camera Trailer Updates: discussed in old business

County/City/Tibe Updates:

Rice County

- Radio updates
- Working on tabletop exercises

Freeborn County

- 911 has been fully restored
- Skywarn training – April 26, 2026
- First Arriving Officer Training – June 23, 2026
- CN RR Derailment exercise is being planned
- CRG exercise – April 22, 2026

Steele County

- Cyber tabletop exercise with CISA – May 20, 2026
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Faribault County

- Everbridge has been implemented
- Mock Crash for Prom – April 22, 2026
- Skywarn training – April 15, 2026 at Blue Earth Fire Department
- Public Health workshop with tornado scenario - April 24, 2026

PIIC

- Skywarn training – April 14, 2026
- ICS training – May 7th and 8th, 2026
- Hazard Mitigation Plan meeting – May 11, 2026
- CPKC Hazmat exercise – June 17th and 18th, 2026
- Safety Summit – June 19th and 20th, 2026
- Rockfest in June
- Pow Wow in July

Waseca County

- CERT training – April 17-19, 2026
- Mower County did a cybersecurity talk
- Dodge County coming in May to talk about Active Shooter/Assailant
- Regroup Notification has been implemented

Le Sueur County

- Skywarn training was March 30, 2026 with approx. 50 people
- Cybersecurity plan in process
- Impact Speaker at schools during prom

Blue Earth County

- DHS home buyouts
- Siren Assessment Project (48 sirens) starting April 20, 2026. Using West Shore Services (\$675/siren)

Nicollet County

- Not going to ReGroup, going back to Everbridge
- Hazard Mitigation Plan resolutions returned

Olmsted County

- Full scale exercise with City of Rochester – August 3rd and 4th, 2026
- County Fire going from VHF pagers to 800MHz paging

Dodge County

- Indoor mapping
- PASP Conference
- Seatbelt Challenge
- CAD System update

Walk-ins: none

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:30am.

- Motion to approve by Olmsted County
- Second by Waseca County
- Motion passed

Meeting Attendees			
Name	Agency	Name	Agency
Jonathan Jacobson	Olmsted County	Nick Jacobson	Olmsted County
Kim Flanagan	PIIC	Joe Johnson	Rice County
Kristen Sailer	Steele County	Megan Ringhofer	Steele County
Denise Wright	Waseca County	Mike Peterson	HSEM RPC
Eric Weller	Blue Earth County	Matt Maas	Dodge County
Sue Jahnke	Faribault County	Jason Harmening	Fillmore County
Adam Hamberg	Freeborn County	Mark Olson	Houston County
Rich Droog	Le Sueur County	Tammy Stewig	Le Sueur County
Justin Block	Nicollet County		

Next Meeting Date and Location:

Date	Host	Address
May 1, 2026	City of Rochester EOC	2185 Wheelock Dr NE, Rochester

Wabasha County in charge of the treats.