

**Northwest Central
Joint Emergency Management System
Board Meeting Minutes**



Minutes
March 16, 2023
200 E. Wood St, Palatine, IL 60067

1) Call to Order

Mr. Recklaus called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2) Roll Call

Randall Recklaus – Village of Arlington Heights
Scott Anderson – Village of Barrington
Dane Bragg – Village of Buffalo Grove
Matt Roan – Elk Grove Village
Eric Palm – Village of Hoffman Estates
Sam Trakas – Village of Inverness
Mike Eterno – Village of Mount Prospect
Reid Ottesen – Village of Palatine
Rob Sabo – City of Rolling Meadows
Brian Townsend – Village of Schaumburg
Sharon Caddigan – Village of Streamwood
Jon Sfondilis – Village of Wheeling
Mick Fleming – JEMS
John Ferraro – NWCDS

3) Public Comment

- No Public Comment

4) Consent Agenda

- January 19, 2023 Meeting Minutes
- January 2023 Financial Report
- February 2023 Financial Report
 - Motion to approve Consent Agenda by Mr. Bragg
 - Second by Ms. Caddigan
 - Voice vote:
 - All Ayes
 - Motion carries.

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5) Joint Emergency Management Director Update

The update was included in the meeting package. Mr. Fleming highlighted the following:

- Updated restricted fund balance is \$112,819.49 going into 2023. Prior year's balance was \$95,574.00, and we did not need to tap into reserve funds for the strategic plan as we thought might be necessary.
- Training and exercises: We've done two tabletop exercises so far this year, with a lot of time spent on exercise development for the upcoming functional exercises, which we are working on scheduling. Lots of training coming up this year, including ASIM and SSAVEIM classes. These are time-consuming as they require paper registration forms (not web-based), especially when attendees change during the registration period. We continue to work with IFSI, IEMA and other training partners to bring training to the area.

6) Old Business

A. IEMA Policy Changes

- There has been a lot of talk from IEMA about upcoming policy changes in EOP requirements. There was quite a bit of pushback from counties and municipalities on these requirements. IEMA sent out a letter (included in the meeting packet) explaining that they will be pushing plan submissions for accredited jurisdictions back to 2025. Mr. Fleming said he is not really comfortable leaving that amount of time between updates on the plans to be adopted by the jurisdictions. IEMA's intent is to have a significant change in their policy on EOPs written into the administrative code and go through the JCAR process by October, 2024. Their intent is to use a federal planning standard (which we try to follow as closely as possible already), but it is quite different from the current state code. This will require some significant revisions to our plans at that point. His recommendation is to finish the plan revisions for Palatine and Hoffman Estates (the accredited jurisdictions) and go ahead with revising the rest of the plans as well, so that all of them are up to date this year in accordance with our revision schedule. We will then make the significant revisions for 2025 to comply with the new standards. Discussion on requirements and timelines for accredited jurisdictions vs. everybody else; all the communities will need to meet the new standards.



7) New Business

A. 2022 Board Chair Recognition

- Mr. Fleming thanked Mr. Townsend for his work as Board Chair in 2022 and will be presenting him with a plaque at an upcoming meeting.

B. EOP Acceptance

- All of the EOPs, COOPs, and Recovery Plans submitted to Cook County in 2021-22 have been reviewed and accepted by the County. We will be submitting updates again this year. We have been working with Cook County as they develop a web platform to house and update plans, which will allow them to approve those revisions much more rapidly and efficiently.

C. Cook County Urban Area Security Initiative (USAI) Grant, 2023

- This grant program is available to Chicago and Cook County for homeland security programs. In the past, if Cook County hasn't completely spent the funds, they would open them up for specific projects in the communities. There have been no such funds made available to municipalities in the past 2 years. They now have a new director, who has a different take. He wants the communities within the County, and the region, to come up with a list of priority projects that they can either look to fund, or advocate for in the future. If we can come up with some regionally beneficial projects, rather than ones that benefit only one community, it will be more likely to be funded. Some ideas for such projects would be a regional Incident Management Assistance Team, a regional EOC, etc. Discussion on the opportunity for regional assets and projects. Suggestion to create a committee of chiefs to look into ideas for regional projects.

D. IEMMAS Agreements

- State is looking at updating the Emergency Management Mutual Aid agreements; these have not been touched in about 20 years. No details yet, but be aware of potential updates. Discussion on the potential of local (JEMS) mutual aid agreements for Emergency Management.

8) Other Business

- Mr. Trakas explained that this will be Chief Haas's last meeting as Police Chief for Inverness. He will be succeeded by Kyle Ingebritsen.
- Ms. Caddigan also noted that Streamwood Police Chief Syre would also be retiring and be succeeded by Shawn Taylor.

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- Mr. Fleming also noted that Elk Grove Police Chief Walsh was recognized at the Chiefs meeting on his imminent retirement, and expressed his appreciation and best wished to all of those retiring.

9) Adjournment

- Motion to Adjourn by Ms. Caddigan
- Second by Mr. Sabo
- Meeting Adjourned at 9:50 a.m.