WASHTENAW AREA MUTUAL AID ASSOCIATION

United to Protect Life and Property from Fire

WAMAA Membership Meeting - Minutes

April 1, 2025 - 9:00AM

Hosted by Northfield Twp Fire Dept

Ann Arbor – Kennedy
Ann Arbor Twp – Nicholai
Augusta Twp – N/A
Belleville – N/A
Chelsea – Arbini
Clinton – N/A
Dexter Area – Armstrong
Green Oak Twp – N/A
Hamburg Twp – N/A
Manchester Twp – Scully, Kouba
Milan Area – Stevens, Carpus
Northfield Twp – Bishop
Pittsfield Twp – Girbach, M. Chevrette
Putnam Twp – N/A
Salem Twp – Rachwal
Saline Area – Sperle
Scio Twp – Houde, Sears
Sumpter Twp – Brown
Superior Twp – V. Chevrette
Van Buren Twp – N/A
Ypsilanti – Hobbs
Ypsilanti Twp – Kimball

Associates: HART (Simpson), HVA (Torres, Rock), MCA (Henderson), Washtenaw County (N/A), Emergency Management (Pinette), MJ White & Son (Neal), DNR

1. Meeting Called to Order (Rachwal) – President Rachwal called today's meeting to order at 9:00AM. Pledge of Allegiance followed.
2. Correspondence / Public Comment
   a. HIEBA – Erik Youngblood gave a brief presentation on box card system & its capabilities.
   b. Hazmat Golf Outing coming up this fall - flyer available
3. Adoption/Changes of Agenda – add Sheriff's Office to the agenda
4. Treasurer Report (Houde) – provided the following report
   a. Chase Bank account balances, as of March 30, 2025:
      Checking $105,272.06
      Savings $37,303.80

   Motion to approve by Hobbs, support by V. Chevrette. Carried.

5. Medical Control Report (Henderson) –
   a. MCI protocol approved by the State. He asked if anyone uses something other than START or SALT.
   b. Safe transport of children
   c. Reminder of expired items on required list for all levels
   d. CPR workgroup in the development stages
6. Training Report (Nicholai) – report sent electronically for reference. Nicholai provided highlights. Reminder to complete the form with your training needs by May 1st. He reviewed recent training courses as well as upcoming classes.
7. HazMat Report (Girbach) – report was sent electronically for reference. Team responded to Ypsilanti City for a Mercury "find". He also provided details on the recent diesel spill in Scio. He provided information on recent trainings, as well as plan for the future. Rachwal thanked Dr. Hunt during the attempted suicide by chemical incident (off-gas cyanide) that was discussed.
   Hazmat Golf Outing Annual Donation - $2,000 motion by Rachwal, second by Arbini. Carried.
8. TRT Report (Chevrette)- report sent electronically. MABAS revalidation occurred yesterday. More disciplines throughout the year. He highlighted upcoming trainings. Rachwal mentioned UASI funds and anticipated loss of funding. More to come as we research further on how to move forward in the event the funding dries up.

9. MABAS Report (Rachwal) – deployment exercise coming, which will be announced in advance.
10. HVA Dispatch Report (Torres) – ProQA update happening today. Rachwal mentioned the recent dispatch meeting and topic of emerging technology.
    Rachwal & Nicholai provided information on Vehicle Status Board technology available throughout the county. Handout distributed and much discussion followed. Compatible with Logus & Active911. Awaiting quote. More to come.
11. HVA Operations (Rock) – mentioned new night shift supervisor. Available to show capabilities of ACRs. Rock provided staffing and run stats.
12. Washtenaw County 800 MHz Consortium Report (Swenson) – V. Chevrette did report that they had their radios programmed and discovered an issue.
13. Officers Committee Report (Nicholai) – report sent electronically. Still working on SOP revision.
14. Blue Card (Nicholai) – report sent electronically. Several departments are very close to 100%. Schedule of training classes was highlighted.
15. HART Report (Simpson) – Roger provided brief report.
16. WAMAC (Kennedy) – all appropriate paperwork is with the AG, though it appears stagnant at this time due to other priorities.
17. Sheriff's Office –
    a. Pinette reported on recent Skyward Spotter training, as severe weather season is upon us. Siren policy reviewed: severe thunderstorms with high velocity winds does trigger sirens. Tomorrow's threat of elevated risk of severe weather. Two notification types: Advisory List and a Warning List. Nothing further to mention re: grants. Ann Arbor full scale exercise. Looking towards having a formalized type of comms plan for significant incidents towards the end of the year.
    b. Undersheriff Harshberger is looking forward to collaboration with WAMAA. Reach out with suggestions. Looking to setup a workgroup related to fire dispatch services in 2026/27. Rachwal commended the efforts of the Sheriff's Office and looks forward to the partnership. More to come as we work through the challenges due to reduced funding.
18. DNR (Crawford, Beachnau) – Rep had to leave early, therefore no report.
19. Food Truck Inspections – Sears & Kimball provided an update on the progress. He sent around a sample QR code that will be on a food truck in your jurisdiction. Food truck rally was held recently in Scio Twp, utilizing the IROL system. Next rally April 17th being held in Ypsilanti Twp.
20. Old Business – N/A
21. New Business –
    a. Chief Scully Manchester FD – retirement open house April 13th.
22. Good of the Order –
    a. Kennedy –
        i. Washtenaw 100 Annual Chiefs Reception – TH, April 17th 5PM at Weber's
        ii. April 29th Medical Examiner training session 1:00PM
        iii. Coast Guard was deployed to the recent Brighton incident – Currently there are seven sky cranes in Ann Arbor. Call direct if you need their expertise (helicopter) 800.321.4400
23. Next Meeting – May 6 hosted by Ypsilanti City (Firehouse Museum)

    Remaining 2025 Meeting Schedule (1st Tues, 9:00AM)
    June 3 – Ypsilanti City/Firehouse Museum
    No Meetings July & August
    Sept 2 - Ann Arbor FD
    Oct 7 - TBA
    Nov 4 – Ypsilanti Twp
    Dec 2 – Salem
24. Adjournment – 10:24AM