WASHTENAW AREA MUTUAL AID ASSOCIATION

United to Protect Life and Property from Fire

WAMAA Membership Meeting - Minutes

October 7, 2025 - 9:00AM

Hosted by Van Buren Twp Fire Dept

1. Meeting Called to Order (Rachwal) – Meeting called to order at 9:00AM. Pledge of Allegiance followed.
2. Correspondence / Public Comment
3. Adoption/Changes of Agenda – N/A
4. Treasurer Report (Houde) –
   Chase Bank account balances, as of October 1, 2025:
   Checking $81,475.73
   Savings $37,305.94
   Unanimous approval of today's finance report.
5. Medical Control Report (Henderson) – No report, as Henderson was unable to attend.
6. Training Report (Nicholai) – report was sent electronically. Nicholai said the committee will be scheduling a meeting in the near future to plan for next year. Rachwal reminded everyone of the new website, as well as challenges with SMOKE site. Discussion followed.
7. HazMat Report (Girbach) –Rachwal provided details of the recent incident in Scio (potential chemical suicide). Concert at Michigan stadium.
8. TRT Report (Chevrette)- report was sent electronically. Rachwal provided details of recent & upcoming training schedule. Email was sent re: Swiftwater Rescue Team inviting this group to provide input via Teams. Rachwal provided details, but no decisions have been made. More to come.
9. MABAS Report (Rachwal) – Exercise deployment scheduled for Oct 27th at 9AM, focusing on the Fire Disaster Task Force. Email was sent asking you to confirm your participation. He provided the overall expectations of the event. Details will be sent as event gets closer. More to come.
10. HVA Dispatch Report (Torres) – UM concert went well. There's lots of training happening. Mentioned ProQA & need for reps on Review Committee. Anticipate an upgrade by end of this month.
11. HVA Operations (Rock) – Scott provided update: Paramedic class is about ready to graduate. Purchased power load cots, offering training on this new lift equipment. BLS units getting new AEDs. May see HVA mentioned in media re: state budget. Discussion followed on new technology.
12. Washtenaw County 800 MHz Consortium Report (Swenson) – Craig provided report. He emphasized how nothing seems to be moving forward, which is very frustrating. Rachwal shared that our organization will do whatever is necessary to move forward. Craig also mentioned that we consider putting together a consortium of the big players in Washtenaw County.
13. Officers Committee Report (Nicholai) – report sent electronically for reference. Finalizing MABAS deployment procedure.
14. Blue Card (Nicholai) – report was sent electronically. Making very good progress. Nicholai provided statistics of trained individuals.
15. HART Report (Simpson) – September was quiet month.
16. WAMAC (Kennedy) – N/A

17. Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office (Pinette) – Detailed report included feedback from the two summer exercises - annual disaster tabletop and PSAP / Mass casualty incidents. Hiring new staff member to help with administrative. Rachwal mentioned the policy for the rescue task force, which remains our official. Also, hoping to have a rep during the PSAP meetings.
18. DNR (Crawford, Beachnau) – discussion followed on Red card
19. Food Truck Inspections (Densmore) – Update provided, as process is going very well.
20. Old Business –
    a. Air bottles refilling equipment / trailer
    b. Air packs
    c. air tagging new fit tester
21. New Business –
22. Good of the Order –
    a. Questions about notification of FEMA grant awards
    b. Hughes reported: Our firehouse to yours – Belfor's annual trip to the UP. Very successful.
23. Next Meeting – November 4th – Ypsilanti Twp

    Remaining 2025 Meeting Schedule (1st Tues, 9:00AM)
    Dec 2 – Salem Twp
24. Adjournment – 9:47AM