Washtenaw Area Mutual Aid Council (WAMAC)
Membership Meeting - Minutes
May 5, 2026 - 9:00AM

Ann Arbor – Kennedy
Ann Arbor Twp – Nicholai
Augusta Twp – Music, Witt
Belleville – N/A
Chelsea – Arbini
Clinton – N/A
Dexter Area – Armstrong
Green Oak Twp – N/A
Hamburg Twp – N/A
Manchester Twp – N/A
Milan Area – Carpus
Northfield Twp –Bishop
Pittsfield Twp – Chevrette, Foulke, Olson, Girbach
Salem Twp – Rachwal
Saline Area – Sperle
Scio Twp – Houde
Sumpter Twp – Goode
Superior Twp – Kimball
Van Buren Twp – N/A
Ypsilanti – Hobbs
Ypsilanti Twp – Densmore, Wallgren

Associates: HART (Simpson), HVA (Torres, Rock, Youngblood), MCA (Henderson), 1-800BoardUp/Belfor (Hughes) MJ White (Teena), County Radios (Swenson)

1. Meeting Called to Order (Rachwal) – President Rachwal called today's meeting to order at 9:00AM.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Approval of the agenda – unanimous approval
5. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes – Motion by Densmore, seconded by Music. Carried.
6. Public comment
7. Call to the Public
    a. Medical Control Report (Henderson)
        i. PRO starting refusal review, may take a few months to implement fully
        ii. BLS Med Pack – awaiting state's approval to contain nitro
        iii. MCA starting recognition program for responders & providers within the two counties
        iv. State revised many protocols due to typos & grammatical errors.
    b. HazMat Report (Girbach) – report was sent electronically prior to today's meeting.
        i. Reviewed training schedules
        ii. Deployment to Scio – possible mercury exposure, ended up not hazardous
        iii. Couple drone callouts – details provided
        iv. Hazmat Authority Board – need to fill spot vacated by V. Chevrette's retirement. Next meeting is August. If anyone is interested in filling this position, please let Rachwal know.
    c. HVA Dispatch Report (Torres)
        i. Inhouse policy review, ensuring they support the fire service. Need rep to sit on this Dispatch Steering committee. Steve Densmore offered to rep this committee. Unanimous approval.
        ii. Approved for AI component Prepared Software to transcribe radio traffic. Many thanks to Craig Swenson for getting this approved. Swenson offered further insight. Everyone is very excited about this new technology.
        iii. Will pull all recent structure fires for review, as they've had a very busy couple of months
    d. HVA Operations (Rock)
        i. Bariatric stretcher now in-service & available (700+lbs). Note: this is not a power stretcher.
        ii. Updated radio template last weekend.
        iii. WAMAC policy reminder: if going to a medical, you can call that crew up directly instead of going through dispatch to give updates. Torres provided further clarification.
    e. HART Report (Simpson) – no callouts in April.
    f. Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office (Pinette) – N/A

g. Washtenaw County 800 MHz Consortium Report (Swenson) – provided further information related to the decision to invest in AI software. Requested that we appoint a rep to attend these meetings. Kennedy reminded that we're moving away from CLEMIS. New CAD purchase in the very near future will affect all of us, therefore it is extremely important that we have a Fire Rep voicing our concerns. Motion by Kennedy to appoint Chief Andy Houde to be our POC representative, seconded by Densmore. Carried unanimously. Brief discussion followed on radio codes and language.

h. DNR (Crawford, Beachnau) – N/A

8. Correspondence (M. Chevrette) – Nothing to report.
9. Treasurer Report (Houde) –
    a. Bank Account balances reconciled as of May 1, 2026
        i. WAMAC Checking - $89,803.25
        ii. WAMAC Savings - $37,307.63
        iii. WAMAA Checking $36,728.90
    b. Tax returns – being prepared by CPA

    Today's financial report was accepted unanimously
10. Training Report (Nicholai) – report sent electronically for reference. Nicholai summarized the report and highlighted the upcoming schedule. Blue card trainings scheduled this fall.
11. Officers Committee Report (Nicholai) – report sent electronically for reference. He summarized.
12. Blue Card (Nicholai) – report was sent electronically. Will continue to offer trainings in the future.
13. TRT Report (Olson)- report sent electronically for reference. He summarized upcoming training schedule. Pricing out purchasing a vehicle and related research has been completed. Olson explained and lead discussion on replacing a vehicle. Motion to purchase new vehicle for $150,000 by Olson, seconded by Houde. Carried unanimously.
14. MABAS Report (Rachwal) – Thank you to AC Reynolds for his help with the checklist, and task force leader training session.
    a. MABAS Agreements –
        i. after review, Rachwal encouraged everyone to update their box cards as it seems we're short in some areas. More to come.
        ii. If you haven't turned in your agreement, Rachwal will reach out to you.
    b. Youngblood mentioned that there is a Strike team class – June 1st in Macomb County
15. Food Truck Inspections (Densmore) – Wallgren reported. May 13th is the next rally scheduled. Wallgren provided very positive feedback to this process, and the popularity continues to build.
16. Old Business –
    a. Funding request to Washtenaw 100 (Kennedy) – Kennedy will bring official request for $70k to the Washtenaw 100 board tomorrow. More to come.
    b. Purchase of a TRT vehicle – discussed earlier in today's meeting. Motion passed unanimously to move forward with the $150,000 purchase of new truck.
17. New Business –
    a. State of Michigan announced grant funding
    b. Presentation to Nicholai – recognized for his dedication and work (blue card, training, policies, etc.). Many thanks to Mark for all his time dedicated to moving this organization forward.
    c. Dispatch orientation – Foulke asked if he could move forward with coordinating tours of dispatch, to see how it runs and what happens there. He will work with Becky Torres to schedule these visits. Everyone agreed this is a great initiative, and approved Jeff to move forward.

d. Girbach & Schulz both appointed to run the committee – POC representatives between all organizations.
e. Densmore provided feedback on language to use on the fireground.

18. Good of the Order
    a. Hughes mentioned that Belfor's annual Firehouse to Yours (Asset reallocation initiative) is now up & running. Wed, Oct 7th.
    b. WAMAC window decals available – see Nicholai
    c. Ypsilanti received ISO rating of 2
19. Next Meeting – June 2nd at 9:00AM

    2026 Location Remains Consistent – Michigan Works! Southeast (1201 E. Ellsworth in Ann Arbor)

    No Meetings July & Aug
    Sept 1
    Oct 6
    Nov 3
    Dec 1

20. Adjournment – 10:06AM.