



## Professional Emergency Manager Advisory Board Meeting

**Amway Grand Plaza Hotel**  
187 Monroe Avenue NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan  
49503  
**Gerald R. Ford Room**

### Minutes – May 6, 2024

The regular meeting of the Professional Emergency Manager (PEM) Advisory Board (AB) was held on Monday, May 6, 2024.

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by the chair, Capt. Kevin Sweeney, commander of the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD).

Roll call was taken, and the following Board members were present: Capt. Dave Oslund (Region 1), Ms. Donna Northern (Region 2), Ms. Sarah Whaley (Region 3), Mr. Jeff Parsons (Region 5), Mr. Gregg Bird (Region 7), Mr. Mike Kasper (Region 8), Ms. Jenifier Boyer Michigan Emergency Managers Association (MEMA), and Mr. Ryan Wilkinson Michigan Subject Matter Expert (MI-SME). Absence was Mr. Jerry Becker (Region 6). A quorum of the Board was present.

MSP/EMHSD members present were Ms. Danica Ewing and Ms. Kristy Brown.

#### **Opening Comments**

Captain Sweeney welcomed our newest board member, Ms. Sarah Whaley for Region 3. Five individuals put in for the Region 3 opening.

#### **Approval of Agenda**

Captain Oslund moved to approve the May 6, 2024, meeting agenda. Motion was supported by Mr. Kasper. Agenda was approved as presented.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

Captain Oslund moved to approve the February 21, 2024, minutes. Motion was supported by Ms. Boyer. Minutes were approved as presented.

#### **PEM Activities**

Ms. Ewing reported the fiscal year 2025 course schedule will be out in late July. There are two upcoming PEM exams on July 27, 2024, in Lansing and September 17, 2024, in Gaylord. For the March PEM exam, 25 students successfully passed.

#### **Upcoming Courses**

Ms. Ewing reported the following course are scheduled, G-191 on May 29, 2024, in Midland and August 23, 2024, in Petoskey. The L-105 will be held in Benton Harbor June 11-13, 2024. HSEEP will be held in Houghton July 18-19, 2024. MI-CEMKR will be held on August 28, 2024, virtually.

## **Roundtable**

Captain Sweeney discussed our next meeting that is planned for August 21, 2024, on Mackinaw Island in Region 8. Mr. Mike Kasper is checking for rooms in Mackinaw City and the meeting would be held on Mackinaw Island. Following the meeting we would do a tour of the island.

He reminded members that the PEM social is scheduled for May 7, 2024. The event gives us an opportunity to thank all our PEMs. He thanked everyone that volunteered to work the PEM booth. He also stated the State of Michigan received a cut to funding.

Captain Oslund stated that they have been working on a Tri-County AVI response planning. The goal is to have a support group and a plan for the next AVI incident in the Tri-County area. The concept may be pushed broader once they have a training and response plan developed.

Ms. Whaley stated that there are several exercises coming in Region 3. Plan updates are ongoing in several of the Region 3 countries. She is looking forward to being a part of the PEM AB and representing her region.

Mr. Parsons stated they just had their second annual Domestic Terrorist and Violent Extremist Conference; this was held at Crystal Mountain. They doubled the number of attendees and it's expected to keep growing. MSP and EMHSD provided some speakers. Kalamazoo County Emergency Management will be holding their Tri County Annual Airport Exercise on May 17, 2024.

Mr. Bird stated that the planning teams are well into event planning for the busy summer. Smaller and part time programs are concerned about the impact of the EMPG cuts. Grand Traverse County is issuing an RFP soon for the construction of a new 911 Center/Emergency Operations Center complex.

Mr. Kasper stated that the west side of the UP is struggling to try to figure out how to pay for the floods they had. The east side of the UP is business as usual. He stated he is getting a lot of calls for ICS classes and will start teaching them soon. There are 100 cruise ships scheduled to stop at Mackinac Island this summer.

Ms. Boyer stated MEMA has around 180 members this year. They have a membership meeting on Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. at the GLHS conference and will also have a booth there. The fall conference will be October 28-30 at Shanty Creek and they are looking for presenters for the conference.

Mr. Wilkinson stated he is going to get with Mr. Calhoun about some classes.

Ms. Northern was happy to announce they survived the draft, and she thanked all agencies for helping.

Captain Sweeney thanked all the board members.

## **Public Comment**

No public comments.

## **Alibis**

Captain Sweeney reported that Lt. Colonel Kelenske's contract was not renewed with the state, effective the end of May. Lt. Col. Ryan Pennell has started in the position, and we are excited to have him. Captain discussed the Disaster and Emergency Contingency Fund. The upper peninsula has requested five million from the spring snow melt and their total was 20 million. The lower Michigan storms with seven tornadoes and flooding also requested funding.

## **Adjournment**

Mr. Kasper moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Captain Oslund. Meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.