

Polk County

Emergency Management Commission



Executive Committee Monthly Meeting

AGENDA

September 8, 2026

Meeting Time: **7:30am**

Location: **Polk County EOC, 1907 Carpenter Ave., Des Moines**

Zoom Recording: NA

Minutes Distributed On: NA

I. Call to Order -**II. Roll Call and Introductions -****A. Members - 2026 Appointments (E=Elected, A=Appointed, *Exec Comm Member)**

E	A	Jurisdiction
		Alleman
		Altoona (Chairperson)*
		Ankeny*
		Bondurant
		Clive
		Des Moines*
		Elkhart
		Grimes
		Johnston*

E	A	Jurisdiction
		Mitchellville
		Pleasant Hill
		Polk City
		Polk County BoS
		Polk Co Sheriff (Vice Chair)*
		Runnells
		Urbandale
		West Des Moines
		Windsor Heights

B. Staff - Bios

	Geisinger, Dutch
	Kacer, Laura
	McIntyre, Brett
	Mumm, A.J.

	Nordmeyer, Patty
	Stufflebeam, Cameron
	Tazzioli, Lynn

III. Approval of Agenda -**IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes - August 19, 2026 -****V. Presentations - None scheduled****VI. New Business and Action Items - None****VII. Unfinished Business**

A. The Authority - The Authority Workgroup completed its requested taskings from the Commission made and approved by the Commission in August of 2023. The EMA Director presented the workgroup's recommendations to the Executive Committee on August 11, 2026. The Executive Committee asked the Director to schedule a meeting of the Executive Committee and PSAP/ECC executive leaders for further discussion which occurred on August 18. City/County Managers/Administrators are contemplating "Exploratory Committee" membership and will provide recommendations back to the Executive Committee. The Exploratory Committee's primary tasks will be to consider governance models such as the 28E board as well as develop uniform legislative talking points going into the

2027 session. EMA Director was requested by City Managers to be an ex-officio member of Exploratory Committee for background and staff support.

VIII. Legislative Updates

- A. [SF 2472](#) - The recent property tax reform bill passed by the Iowa Legislature places a 3% cap on annual revenue growth for emergency management commission budgets. This applies only to the local property tax portion of the budget. Federal and state grants are not calculated as part of this cap. This is part of a broader effort to cap local government revenue growth, which is set at 2% for most cities and counties. Clarifying questions have been submitted to the Iowa HSEMD and the Iowa Dept of Management.

IX. Program Reports from Staff -

A. Administration and Finance

1. Personnel

- a) **Performance Evaluations** - available upon request

2. Bylaws - [Link](#) - No changes

3. Budget

- a) **FY2026** - Past - Tentative close out of FY2026: Beginning fund balance \$471,794. Revenue of \$1,122,505. Expenses of \$1,151,783. Revenue minus expenses of -\$29,278. Ending fund balance of \$442,516. Note: \$39,000 of federal EMPG grant not received during the fiscal year as expected due to federal and state programmatic delays.

- b) **FY2027** - Current - [Monthly balance report](#) as of 8/31/26

- c) **FY 2028** - Future - 3% cap applies to local property tax portion. Clarifying questions submitted to the state. Pending responses.

4. Grants

- a) **Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG)** - \$39,000 annually

- b) **State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP)** - Notice of Interest (NOI) were accepted and approved for 2 applications submitted by EMA. They include a counter-drone program scoping grant and a grant to purchase barrier gate system components for the Iowa State Fairgrounds. The video fusion project application was declined by HSEMD.

- c) **Hazard Mitigation Grants** - monitoring for NOI opportunities

- d) **Hazardous Materials Planning Grant** - Application submitted January 8, 2026.

B. Hazard Identification/Risk/Capability Assessment - [2024-2029 Version](#)

C. Resource Management

1. **Resource Typing** - 2026 update requests were initiated in May.

2. **EM Resource** - Pilot project underway among Metro Hospitals to enhance data sharing regarding capacities; PSAPs will have access to this as well

3. **Vehicle Barrier Systems** -

- a) Requests for several special events on the calendar

- b) Staff will develop training program to include videos to support the training and continue with train-the-trainer efforts

D. Planning

1. **Hazard Mitigation Plan** - Compliant 2024-2029. Annual review required. Can be updated as needed. Currently in discussion with Dallas County EMA to consider the viability of doing a multi-county/regional planning effort in 2028.
2. **Comprehensive Emergency Plan**
3. **Recovery Plan** -
 - a) **Disaster Recovery Fund (DRF)** - refreshing MOA and guidelines
 - b) **RSF Housing (2026)**
 - c) **RSF Health and Social Services (2026)**
4. **Strategic Planning** - Staff workshop occurred late December. Deputy Director currently drafting with ongoing comments from staff.
5. **Joint Event Action Planning (JEAP)**
 - a) **Beaverdale Fall Fest** - Beaverdale - September 18-19
 - b) **Pandafest** - Altoona - October 2-4
 - c) **Iowa Air Show: Fields of Thunder** - DSM Airport - May 8-9, 2027
 - d) **USA Triathlon** - Gray's Lake/Waterworks Park - August 6-8, 2027

E. Direction, Control and Coordination**F. Damage Assessment**

1. **Initial Damage and Impact Assessment** - Updated to integrate the [Community Lifelines](#) - survey to be developed and sent to jurisdictions to complete early in the disaster assessment process

G. Communications and Warning

1. **911 Service Board Updates**
 - a) **Full Service Board Meeting**: August 19, 2026 and November 18, 2026
 - b) **Governance Structure Considerations** - See Authority Discussion
2. **CAD-to-CAD Project**
 - a) **Authority** - see Unfinished Business
 - b) **Operations SubCommittee** - meeting weekly on call-type synchronization and testing to enable east and west pilot areas
 - c) **Technical SubCommittee** - meeting weekly for testing
 - d) **Policy and Budget SubCommittee** - draft budget created;
 - e) **PSAP Advisory Committee**
 - f) **Polk County / Alert Iowa** - program sync with Dallas County
3. **Metro Interop Committee**
 - a) **Regional Interoperable Communications Plan (RICP)** - on hold pending other priorities
 - b) **Planned Event Comms Plans (ICS 205s)** - See Planning - JEAPs
 - c) **CMED transition to IMED** - VHF to ISICS transition project with PSAPs, hospitals and EMS involved due to MCI communications needs
4. **Outdoor Warning Sirens** - Testing moved to the first Wednesday of the month at 11am beginning January 2027. A public education campaign will be launched in November.

H. Operations and Procedures

1. **Responses (2026)** - January - 10; February - 13; March - 8; April - 11; May - 12; June -7; July - 12. 2026 Total thru July: 74
2. **Recent Noteworthy Responses: July 2-3 Flash Flooding**
 - a) AAR
 - b) Presidential Declaration - Federal Declaration issued September 1, 2026 for Public Assistance (hazard mitigation declaration TBD). Applicant briefing TBD.
 - c) Unmet Needs Requests - none as of August 28
3. **Field Operations Guide (FOG)** - periodic updates as needed
4. **Active Threat Work Group (ATWG)** - functional training modules (staging, forward command, comms, MCI) are being developed to encourage uniform training across the Metro Area. Training and Exercise week occurred in Grimes with PCSO and JGMFD.
5. **Counter-Drone Capabilities** - emerging need for counter-drone technology. Includes needs related to policy/laws, technology, and training. EMA working with PLEXA small group members on grant applications under SHSGP.

I. Training

1. **Recent**
 - a) 191 ICS/EOC Interface - May 22
 - b) Active Threat Train-The-Trainer - June 15
 - c) FEMA Planning Section Chief June 16-19
 - d) EMPD Session #3 - July 30
 - e) PER 346 Surveillance Detection For Bombing Prevention - August 4-6
2. **Upcoming - Training Web Site**
 - a) ICS 300 (September 23-25)
 - b) ICS 400 (November 4-5)
 - c) AWR 167 Sport and Special Event Risk Management and Planning - Dec 9-10
 - d) MGT 304 Sport and Special Event Staff Training and Development - Jan 13-14
 - e) MGT 319 Medical Countermeasures Points Of Distribution Jan 27-28, 2027
 - f) MCI Trainer-The-Trainer (TBD)
 - g) TEEX MGT 346 EOC Operations and Planning for All-Hazards - (Wait List)
3. **Monthly Lunch and Learn Series**
 - a) JAN - Annual Partnership Mtg January 27 and 28
 - b) FEB - United Way 211
 - c) MAR - Storm Spotter Class - NWS
 - d) APR - Joint Event Action Planning
 - e) MAY - Insurance Gaps After Disaster
 - f) JUNE - Marshall County Legionnaires & Cooling Towers
 - g) JULY - Off
 - h) AUG -
 - i) SEPT - Lithium Ion Batter Hazards/Disposal
 - j) OCT - EOC Mini-Course
 - k) NOV - Damage Assessment (tentative)
4. **Other**

- a) **Comprehensive Training Program** - under development; updated Integrated Preparedness Plan scheduled early 2026
- b) **Iowa State University National Science Foundation** Grant for developing a first-person online game for first responder and emergency management training. Polk County EMA is providing significant guidance and direction for public safety and emergency management applications.

J. Exercises

1. Recent

- a) Ankeny PD In-Service TTX - February x5
- b) Clive Flood TTX - February 10
- c) Clive Damage Assessment - February 13
- d) Central Iowa Waterworks Regional Coordination Workshop - Feb 19
- e) Windsor Heights Flood TTX - March 3
- f) Iowa State Fair DOC - March 26
- g) Hospital Water Quality Preparedness Workshop - April 29
- h) Public Health Service Area 1A Surge Tabletop Exercise - April 30
- i) Central Iowa Healthcare Coalition TTX - May 21
- j) PCSO + JGFD Active Threat - July 27-31

2. Upcoming

- a) DSM Airport TTX August 23
- b) ESF 8 Epi TTX (TBD)
- c) MCI mini-scenarios (TBD)

3. Other

K. Public Education and Outreach

1. Recent

- a) Annual Partnership Mtgs- January 27 & 28 - 143 attendees
- b) Crisis Communications Panel - DSM Partnership - Feb 2
- c) Building Owners and Managers Association of Iowa - Feb 17
- d) AHEPA Senior Living Apartment Severe Weather Safety - March 29
- e) Arbordale Senior Living Apartment Severe Weather Safety - April 17
- f) Ankeny Public Safety Picnic - May 14
- g) Preparedness Kit Contents - MyABC5 - May 16
- h) Iowa Barnstormers First Responder Night- June 13
- i) PCSO National Night Out - Aug 4

2. Upcoming

- a) DSM Partnership Leadership Development Panel (Sep 17)
- b) Bondurant Library Winter Preparedness (Oct)
- c) Bondurant Library Severe Weather (Mar '27)

3. Regular Attendance by Staff Members

- a) Central Iowa EMS Directors (CIEMSD)
- b) Polk County Fire Chiefs Association (PCFCA)
- c) Polk County Law Enforcement Executives Association (PLEXA)
- d) Metro Media Council
- e) Polk County Public Works and Building Officials

L. Homeland Security

1. [FEMA Review Council](#) - Released on May 7, 2026, the FEMA Review Council's final report proposes sweeping changes to shift disaster responsibility from federal to state/local levels. Key recommendations include raising disaster declaration thresholds by 50%, replacing reimbursement systems with faster direct payments to states, limiting housing aid to uninhabitable homes, and strengthening the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) through private market transitions. Implementation processes and timelines are unknown at this time. [Report Link](#)
- X. Open Discussion -**
- XI. Public Comments** - members of the public may share their opinions, concerns or questions directly with the Commission.
- XII. Upcoming Meeting Schedule**
- A. Full Commission** (start time 2:00pm)
1. [February 18, 2026](#)
 2. [May 20, 2026](#)
 3. [August 19, 2026](#)
 4. November 18, 2026
- B. Executive Committee** (start time 7:30am)
1. [January 13, 2026](#)
 2. [February 10, 2026](#)
 3. [March 17, 2026](#)
 4. [April 7, 2026](#)
 5. [May 12, 2026](#)
 6. [June 9, 2026](#)
 7. [August 11, 2026](#)
 8. September 8, 2026
 9. November 10, 2026
 10. December 8, 2026
- XIII. Adjournment -**