

Emergency Preparedness Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: February 12, 2026, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Attendees

Sisko, Megan (MNIT)
Wakefield, Sally (MNIT)
Douglas Gawtry
Britta Maddox
David Phillips
Carlson, Curtis L (MNIT)
Ryan Stovern
Ace Bonnema (Guest)
Morgan, Hope
Richter, Cory
Alexander Danielson
Rick Schute (External)
Lynn Boergerhoff
Eric Potvin
Matthew Goodman
David Yapel
Raghu's Notetaker (Otter.ai) (Unverified)
read.ai meeting notes (Unverified)
Sara Wilcox
Farole, Allison (DPS)
Contreras, Angela (DPS)
Randy Knippel (Unverified)
Bryan Gorman (TO)
Jill Amundson
Kassaye, Engdawork (She/Her/Hers) (DOT)
Kiley, Colleen A
Lamoreaux, Wayne (DPS)
Thurnau, Kory (MNIT)
Stacey Stark, UMN (Unverified)
Jonathan M (Shoreview) (Unverified)

Teresa Blader
Katers, Jeff (MNIT)
Coates, Carla (DPS)
Dan Ross (Unverified)
Tranby, Cindy (DNR)
Gabe Tweten
Bunch, Jeffrey J (DOT)
Thomas Krivanek
Jessica Fendos
Meier, Erin (DOT)

Quorum of GAC Members – Britta Maddox, Matt Goodman, Stacey Stark, Carla Coates, Rick Schute

Agenda Items

Sharepoint, the website, and eventually the Hub site -

Will have the presentation, transcription, and meeting notes. Any decisions will be documented with named votes and attendance at the meetings. Other notes will be minimal. Hub will be maintained by vice-chair Matt Goodman once it gets handed over to our committee after the original build.

Why?

- MnGeo provides Sharepoint space
- MnGeo and MNIT responsible for FOIA requests – must be stored so it is accessible to them should they get such a request

Recap of Committee Leadership Retreat

- Follow MNIT Policies and Standards
- Your role must not be used for personal or professional gain
- If you detect a real, potential, or perceived conflict of interest, bring this to MnGeo

Anyone can join a committee or subgroup but a roster of members must be maintained. This is why we asked everyone to fill out the interest form. This is active on the EPC webpage/Hub site.

If you are a leader of a subgroup, myself or Matt will be reaching out for updates prior to the next GAC meeting. If you need more people, help, etc. - let us know at that time so we can announce it.

Re: Open Meeting Law and transparency – decisions your group is making is in front of the public so they can understand what is occurring. Our meetings are all publicly listed well in advance and hosted by MnGeo so we meet Open Meeting Law requirements. Something to think about for your subgroups if decisions will be made. For the most part, I would suggest you publish your meeting dates if at all

possible. Most decisions will be brought from subgroups up to full EPC – which meets OML – and then brought up to the GAC.

Point out – 10 days advance notice for meetings so subgroups need to notify MnGeo ASAP of meetings so they can be posted to the hub

Alison is a GAC member, Megan and Sally are not – but Alison is not a member of the EPC, so doesn't count in our GAC quorum number.

Why our meetings are no longer recorded -

- Recording a meeting requires a Tennessee Warning written by MNIT Legal and MnGeo has to host the meeting
- Recording meetings is not recommended unless necessary

Critical Infrastructure Workgroup Update -

Updates for term work plan? - same as represented previously

- Addition of updating outreach materials

Meets about every 12 weeks, give or take

Always looking for new members

Primarily looking at statewide datasets that exist and critical infrastructure and state agency stewards HSEM Governor's Conference would have been this week but was canceled; would've had a table

- Director Farole (pronunciation: fa-roll-ee) because of SEOC activations related to ICE

Looking to have a table at AMEM Conference

Creating one-page flyer to explain who we are and what we do

US National Grid Workgroup Update -

Updates for term work plan? - completion of original priority; added new one for handoff

- Handing maps off from Dakota County to MnGeo
- Met last week and have a contact with MnGeo (Greg Kohler) to facilitate that work
- Randy is stuck – project package is over 30 mbps; biggest thing is large polygon dataset with attributes

- Solution: Use Sharepoint (EPC) to transfer data to MnGeo

USNGI – Randy will expand effort on his own to extend applicability to other states

Usngi.org and usngcenter.org

Need a US National Grid champion in the State of Minnesota ! - email me/Randy if you're interested

Education Workgroup Update -

Updates for the current term work plan -

HSEM has a resource that has had one piece of the puzzle and we have been holding the other and we have finally come together to finish the puzzle.

Deliverable – platform to sign-up as GIS volunteer with list of required skills, qualifications, etc. As part of EMAC through HSEM

NAPSG – set of resources and certifications that is part of what we can lean on with info from other states

History (from Cory) -

Education and the EPC, a high level summary (hopefully I get most of it correct):

Originally the group was created by Joella Givens and was designed to credential GIS professionals in MN with emergency management training and support. This was a multi-prong effort and had ties to P2CAT with Infragard and the FBI and some other folks. The GEMS (Geospatial Emergency Management Specialist) series was born.

Eventually with other efforts, we found instead that Education was starting to shift away from the formal certification to becoming a peer to peer learning and support. I had that effort going well for many years while I was at the City of Blaine and then that kind of sputtered with COVID and also me moving to Ramsey County.

In the meantime there have been efforts like what you all describe below (some of which is like the Geospatial Assistance Program that Brian Huberty ran for a time).

The next step and phase for Education was to retool and use the good things from our history and rebuild that peer to peer resource network for learning, as well as highlight the national programs that are well developed like National Alliance for Public Safety GIS (NAPSG) Foundation.

In theory I am supposed to be at the EPC meeting virtually this week and I have a brief break in the next couple of weeks while I finish reviewing contracts and scheduling projects to maybe answer an email faster than 6 days.

Hopefully that helps get some background and the direction that Education was going. I also have the hard copies of stuff that Steve sent so if someone wants those files, I can definitely ship them to you.

Curt Carlson shared updates regarding the NG911 Data Collection Efforts

New Priority Project assigned – Researching Options for a Fire Risk Assessment Tool

Update term work plan -

Subgroup charter is the same as the committee charter at the moment but that will change in the near future now that we have defined Committees, Subgroups, Workgroups specifically

- Create a workgroup
- Decide meeting cadence, review needs/goals, etc.
- How to assess "completion" of the priority project
- SFMO has the lead on this one

Presentation: How Data and Coordination Drives an Emergency – Colleen Kiley and Hope Morgan

Prepared by: Britta Maddox, bmaddox@coonrapidsmn.gov