

**Mutual Aid Box Alarm
System MABAS Division-1
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2026**



President	Vice President	Treasurer	Secretary
Chief Michael Meyer	Chief Alan Wax	Chief William Gabrenya	Chief Pete Sutter
Streamwood F.D.	Hoffman Estates F.D.	Bartlett F.P.D.	Rolling Meadows F.D.
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**A. MABAS Division-1
Membership**

The following individuals were present at this meeting:

Arlington Heights FD	Lance Harris Ross Chapman	Northwest Central	Jeb Lyons Erin Eaton
Barrington FD	John Christian	Palatine FD	Scott Mackeben Anthony LaVacchi Rob Kluzek Matt Buzzard
Barrington-Countryside FPD		Rolling Meadows FD	Pete Sutter
Bartlett FPD	William Gabrenya	Schaumburg FD	Fabio Puccini
Buffalo Grove FD	Lawrence Kane	Streamwood FD	Mike Meyer
Des Plaines FD		Wheeling FD	Scott Salela
Elk Grove Village FD	Richard Mikel Davis Hoppe	Special Guests	Michael Ryan HTES
Hoffman Estates FD	Jeff Northrup	Northwest Community EMS System	
Inverness FPD	Rich Kurka	MABAS-Illinois	Spencer Kimura Al Vrshek
Mount Prospect FD	Tom Wang Bill Eckert		

I. CALL TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT Meyer

Arlington Heights Fire Station 2

1331 hours –September 9th, 2026

President Meyer declared there to be a quorum present

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by President Meyer

III. RECOGNITION OF MEMBERS – D/C Jeff Northrup HEFD, D/C David Hoppe EGVFD

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT or PRESENTATION

Alliance Disaster Kleanup – Ariel Doheny and Dan Weber provided a presentation on their services which includes: Board up and after fire care for the owner/occupant and security of the scene.

V. GUESTS – No outside guest present

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Meyer presented the minutes from the May 13th 2026 meeting. A motion to approve the minutes from the May 13th 2026 meeting was made by Schaumburg and seconded by Hoffman Estates. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote (13-0).

VII. TREASURER'S REPORT – Treasurer Gabrenya

Financial Report

- A.** As of August 31st, 2026, the checking account balance was \$10,494.95 and the money market balance was \$265,896.79 - for a total balance in accounts of \$276,391.74.
- B.** For January 1 through August 31st, 2026, on an accrual basis, Total Revenues & Credits were \$1,305.36 and Total Expenditures were \$41,940.78, for a total balance of -\$40,635.42.
- C.** A motion to approve the Financial Report was made by Elk Grove Village and seconded by Schaumburg. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote (13-0).
- D.** The 2025 CBRN cartridge purchase refund from Toner Quest was not successful. Complaints were filed with the proper authorities. Update – Federal investigations will look into this issue.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. MABAS Division 1 Executive Board - President Meyer.

- A.** Division 1 Boat Pack and TRT search camera MOUs were completed.
- B.** Pride Parade standby from June 28th 2026 had no interest and not fulfilled.
- C.** NWCEMSS PHBT Pilot Program received a \$40,000 grant to continue moving the program forward. A total of \$65,000 has been award to this initiative.
- D.** MABAS Division 1 has received approval from MABAS- Illinois to provide water rescue training any outside divisions wanting to join our training classes.

2. MABAS Illinois Executive Board –

- A.** IL Water Rescue Update – The future of the IL-Water Rescue team is in jeopardy due to lack of funding. Grant funds are down significantly and without a remedy the team will disband at the end of the year.

- B. Other MABAS News** – MABAS News articles will be featuring an article from Division 1 water team. All insurance cards for MABAS assets have been completed. Lessons learned from previous deployments regarding travel, mechanics to travel with the teams in the future. Drone committee has spots available. IL-TF-1 has received its EMAP Certification.
 - C. Next MABAS** – IL Executive Board meeting October 14th, 2026 @ multiple locations.
- 3. Fire Investigations Team – Bill Eckert**
 - A. Incidents** – None reported.
 - B. Training** – ATF/OSFM completed an update to LODD fire investigations. When completing LODD and fire investigation, have two separate investigations take place.
 - C. FF Critical Injury/LODD fire investigation** OGPS coming. Will include a new policy and check lists for LODD events.
- 4. Communications / Box Alarms – No new box alarms.**

NWCD is looking to add new box alarm procedures by building out the Tablet Command features and out of town companies.
- 5. Training Committee – Div/C Rob Kluzek**
 - A. Leadership Seminar** – A discussion on what type of seminar the group would like to host next. Possibly a tactical focused presenter would be a good change to our leadership seminars.
 - B. Fire Simulator** not working and will not be repaired. A motion to decommission this equipment was made by Hoffman Estates and seconded by Palatine. Motion passed (13-0).
 - C. NWCD** has been at several training events and would like to continue to play a role in our trainings if possible.
 - D. OSFM Updates** – The portal will be changing soon. Pearson VUE testing will be discontinued. AdFO and CoFo will be updated to align with NFPA 1020 objectives. Inspector I and II programs will be reviewed and updated. Any Members with unfinished certifications should complete them as soon as possible.
- 6. Water Rescue Team - D/C Joe Markowski**
 - A. Training** – Training has been going well with multiple different objectives for each drill.
 - B. Incidents** – 11 call outs for Division 1 Water Rescue from April 1-June 30. Very busy during that time. Twin Lakes drowning, Elgin drowning, Wheeling drowning, body in EGV, bodies in Schaumburg.

- C. Equipment** – The side scan sonar is currently OOS and out for repairs.
 - D.** Side Scan sonar class was a great learning experience. Regan Lipinski from Marine Sonic came and put on the free 2-day class. Classroom on day 1 to learn about the sonar. Day 2 was at Twin Lakes in Palatine - found the van, mannequin, milk crates, sunken canoe and sunken paddleboat. 23 new side scan techs for Division 1.
 - E.** 5 deployment team members attended Flood Boat Class in August. Will go to Swift Boat Class in Spring.
 - F.** MABAS-IL Water Rescue Deployment Survey completed. Waiting for final approval, but with our assets and team member certs, we should move to a Level A deployment team. State is currently trying to build out Level A and Level B teams.
 - G.** Swift Water Rescue Drill in EGV hosted by RM in September.
- 7. Technical Rescue Team – B/C Chapman**
- A. Incidents** – There have been 5 requests for the team to respond to incidents throughout the division year to date.
 - B. Personnel** - Roster updates continue. Currently there are 37 deployable members and 10 members in training.
 - C. Equipment** – New search camera received and more equipment to follow.
 - D. Training** – SWFD to host next drill September 23, 2026
 - E. Budget** – No update.
- 8. Hazardous Materials Team – B/C Matt Buzzard**
- A. Notable Incidents** - None
 - B. Administration** –
 - 1. Coordinator meeting on June 1st
 - 2. Training Committee meeting on August 10th
 - C. Equipment** - Level A suits were purchased as part of the 2026 budgeted items. The purchase was made through HazMat Resources Inc. The total price was just under \$9,400 (\$600 under budget).
 - D. Training** –
 - 1. 3rd-quarter drills are being held at Air Gas in Elk Grove.
 - 2. Streamwood and Bartlett will host the 4th-quarter drills, covering Refrigerant
 - 3. Ammonia Systems at Rana Pasta in Bartlett.
 - 4. Response drill at Northrop Grumman in Rolling Meadows in early November
 - 5. Working with MWRD to present some training in 2027.

E. MABAS – Division 1 took part in a deployment/skills evaluation in Calumet City back in late May. Skills evaluated included radiological & unknown ID and sampling; leak mitigation of liquids and pressurized cylinders. Our team received very positive feedback from drill proctors for our readiness and preparation.

9. MABAS Division 1 Logistics – Chief Scott Mackeben

Unidentified Equipment Audit, all issues with MABAS trailers has been resolved.

10. Health & Safety Committee – B/C Hoppe

Please let the Health and Safety committee know of any injuries that happen within the division whether its at training or an incident.

11. Operational Guidelines / Policy Statements – D/C Anthony LaVacchi

A. OGPS Final submission – None

B. Initial submission - #530 Multiple Patient Management & #690 Mobile Command Center.

IX. OLD BUSINESS - None

X. NEW BUSINESS - All special teams are to present items for the 2027 budget.

XI. FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

- 1. Next Chiefs' Breakfast Meeting** – Wednesday, October 7th, at 7:30 am. Located in Barrington.
- 2. IFCA Annual conference** will be held on October 11-14, 2026.
- 3.** Buffalo Grove Fire Station 25 is reopened.
- 4.** D/C Mella WFD to retire November 6th.
- 5.** Elk Grove Village has extra ambulance in storage if needed.

XII. NEXT MEETING - Wednesday, November 4th, 2026 at Elk Grove Village Fire Station #8
– 13:30 hours

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Arlington Heights and seconded by Palatine. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote (13-0) and the meeting was adjourned at 14:35 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Pete Sutter

Secretary Pete Sutter