



METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

April 8, 2026, 10:00 a.m.

Hybrid Meeting Option:

[Webex Meeting](#)

Phone Number: (408) 418-9388

Meeting Number: 2552 318 4136

Password: rKbNYSmP523 (75269767 when dialing from a phone or video system)

1. **Call to Order** – Council President Payne, 2026 Board Chair
2. **Approval of Agenda** – Council President Payne
3. **Approval of August 13, 2025 Executive Committee Minutes (page 3)**
4. **Radio Items** – Tracey Fredrick, Radio Services Coordinator
 - A. Approval of Amendment to LifeLink iii's ARMER Participation Plan (**page 7**)
 - B. Approval of Amendment to Sherburne County's ARMER Participation Plan (**page 11**)
5. **9-1-1 Items** – Frank Jarman, 9-1-1 Services Manager – None
6. **EMS Items** – Greg Hayes, EMS Coordinator
 - A. Approval of Funding Request for Regional Whole Blood Program (**page 15**)
7. **Administrative Items** – Jill Rohret, Executive Director
 - A. Discussion: 2027 Budget (**page 21**)
 - i. New MESB Deputy/Assistant Director Position
 - ii. Employee Position & Classification Review
 - iii. Change to IT services
8. **Old Business**
 - A. Update: School Mapping Project – Rohret
9. **New Business** – None
10. **Adjourn**



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Metropolitan Emergency Services Board Members

Anoka County

Commissioner Mike Gamache* (2026 Treasurer)
Commissioner Mandy Meisner

Carver County

Commissioner Tom Workman*

Chisago County

Commissioner Rick Greene*

City of Minneapolis

Council Member Elliott Payne* (2026 Chair)

Dakota County

Commissioner Joe Atkins
Commissioner Bill Droste*

Hennepin County

Commissioner Kevin Anderson
Commissioner Irene Fernando*

Isanti County

Commissioner Alan Duff*

Ramsey County

Commissioner Garrison McMurtrey
Commissioner Kelly Miller* (2026 Secretary)

Scott County

Commissioner Dave Beer
Commissioner Tom Wolf* (2026 Vice Chair)

Sherburne County

Commissioner Gregg Felber*

Washington County

Commissioner Michelle Clasen
Commissioner Fran Miron*

*Denotes Executive Committee member

METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 13, 2025

Commissioners Present:

Joe Atkins, Dakota County	Mike Gamache, Anoka County
Todd Christensen, Isanti County - absent	Richard Greene, Chisago County
John P. Fahey, Carver County	Kelly Miller, Ramsey County
Gregg Felber, Sherburne County	Fran Miron, Washington County - late arrival
Irene Fernando, Hennepin County - absent	Elliott Payne, City of Minneapolis - absent
	Tom Wolf, Scott County - absent

Staff Present: Tracey Fredrick; Greg Hayes; Jacob Kallenbach; and Jill Rohret.

Others Present: Michelle Clasen, *Washington County (Online)*; Nancy Haas, *Poul Haas*; Courtney Jasper, *Poul Haas*; Julia Page, *Larkin Hoffman*; and Margaret Vesel, *Larkin Hoffman*.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by the 2025 MESB Chair, Commissioner John P. Fahey.

2. Approval of Agenda

MESB Executive Director Jill Rohret asked for discussion items titled ‘8B: ARMER Maintenance Contract’ and ‘8C: September 2025 MESB Meeting Date’ to be added to the August 13, 2025 meeting agenda.

Motion made by Commissioner Kelly Miller, seconded by Commissioner Joe Atkins to approve the August 13, 2025 MESB Executive Committee meeting agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Roll call for Approval of Agenda

Name	County/City	Yes	No
Joe Atkins	Dakota County	X	
Todd Christensen	Isanti County		
John P. Fahey	Carver County	X	
Gregg Felber	Sherburne County	X	
Irene Fernando	Hennepin County		
Mike Gamache	Anoka County	X	
Rick Greene	Chisago County	X	
Kelly Miller	Ramsey County	X	
Michelle Clasen (alternate)	Washington County	X	
Elliott Payne	City of Minneapolis		
Tom Wolf	Scott County		

Yea: 7 Nay: 0 Motion passed

3. Approval of June 11, 2025 Executive Committee Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Rick Greene, seconded by Commissioner Miller to approve the June 11, 2025 MESB Executive Committee meeting minutes. Motion carried.

METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

Roll call for Approval of June 11, 2025 MESB Executive Committee Minutes

Name	County/City	Yes	No
Joe Atkins	Dakota County	X	
Todd Christensen	Isanti County		
John P. Fahey	Carver County	X	
Gregg Felber	Sherburne County	X	
Irene Fernando	Hennepin County		
Mike Gamache	Anoka County	X	
Rick Greene	Chisago County	X	
Kelly Miller	Ramsey County	X	
Michelle Clasen (alternate)	Washington County	X	
Elliot Payne	City of Minneapolis		
Tom Wolf	Scott County		

Yea: 7 Nay: 0 Motion passed

4. Radio Items – None

5. 9-1-1 Items – None

6. EMS Items – None

7. Administrative Items – None

8. Old Business

A. Update on School Mapping Grant

Rohret said the MESB posted the Request for Proposal (RFP) on July 7, 2025. The RFP received seven responses and closed on August 1, 2025. The evaluation committee is reviewing submissions and will have a recommendation to the board at its September meeting.

B. ARMER Maintenance Contract

Rohret stated that ARMER stakeholders continue to meet to discuss the ARMER maintenance contract. At the last meeting, there was discussion regarding paring the contract back to three essential items and removing upgrades. Local system managers were asked if they would have difficulty in regaining budget funds should the maintenance contract increase in the future; system managers responded yes. The group then discussed the possibility of the state or regions continuing to bill counties at their current levels and creating ARMER savings/upgrade funds with the overage, so the funds could remain in budgets and be saved to be put towards future ARMER projects. The item is discussion only and are being mentioned today for awareness.

C. September 2025 MESB Meeting Date

Rohret said the board is split between September 3 or September 17 for a replacement meeting date. A quorum will be needed as the recommendation for a school mapping provider will be

METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

presented and voted upon. Rohret suggested the possibility of hosting the meeting on Friday, September 19, 2025 with a 9:00 a.m. start time.

Members of the MESB Executive Committee prefer the Friday, September 19, 2025 meeting date. Rohret will reach out to committee members with the finalized replacement date in the coming week.

9. New Business

A. Interviews of Respondents to Lobbying Services RFP

The MESB Executive Committee heard presentations from and asked questions of the two respondents to the MESB’s RFP for lobbying services, Larkin Hoffman and Poul Haas. Once the presentations and questions were concluded, the respondents left the meeting, and the Committee discussed preferences for awarding the RFP.

Motion made by Commissioner Gregg Felber, seconded by Commissioner Mike Gamache to recommend approval to award the RFP for lobbying services to one of the two respondents. Motion carried.

Roll call for Agenda Item 9A

Name	County/City	Yes	No
Joe Atkins	Dakota County	X	
Todd Christensen	Isanti County		
John P. Fahey	Carver County	X	
Gregg Felber	Sherburne County	X	
Irene Fernando	Hennepin County		
Mike Gamache	Anoka County	X	
Rick Greene	Chisago County		X
Kelly Miller	Ramsey County	X	
Fren Miron	Washington County		X
Elliot Payne	City of Minneapolis		
Tom Wolf	Scott County		

Yea: 5 Nay: 2 Motion passed

10. Adjourn

Motion made by Commissioner Gamache, seconded by Commissioner Fran Miron to adjourn the August 13, 2025 MESB Executive Committee meeting. Motion carried.

Roll call for Adjournment

Name	County/City	Yes	No
Joe Atkins	Dakota County	X	
Todd Christensen	Isanti County		
John P. Fahey	Carver County	X	

METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

Gregg Felber	Sherburne County	X	
Irene Fernando	Hennepin County		
Mike Gamache	Anoka County	X	
Rick Greene	Chisago County	X	
Kelly Miller	Ramsey County	X	
Fren Miron	Washington County	X	
Elliot Payne	City of Minneapolis		
Tom Wolf	Scott County		

Yea: 7 Nay: 0 Motion passed

The meeting adjourned at 11:43 a.m.



METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

Meeting Date: April 8, 2026
Agenda Item: 4A. Approval of Amendment to
Life Link iii ARMER Participation Plan
Presenter: Fredrick

RECOMMENDATION

The Radio Technical Operations Committee (TOC) recommends the Executive Committee recommend approval of amendments to LifeLink iii's ARMER Participation Plan.

BACKGROUND

LifeLink iii has been a user on the regional ARMER system since 2004 and became a full ARMER participant in 2023.

ISSUES & CONCERNS

LifeLink iii is undergoing an expansion of operations. As such, it has run out of radio IDs in its current range; it needs additional IDs and an additional range. To cover current and future needs, LifeLink iii requests an additional 35 IDs, to bring its full count to 150.

Additionally, LifeLink iii seeks a waiver to SECB Standards IOP-26 and IOP-33 to not need to hold all regional and statewide interoperability talkgroups, as some subscribers are used for very specific purposes. The Radio TOC supports LifeLink iii in seeking a waiver to these SECB standards.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None to the MESB

MOTION BY:
SECONDED BY:
MOTION:

PASS/FAIL



February 4, 2026

Chairperson Jake Thompson
Radio Technical Operations Committee
Metropolitan Emergency Services Board

Re: Life Link III ARMER Participation Plan Amendment

Life Link III seeks approval for the following amendments to our Full Participation plan.

1. New radio ID range 176020 – 176269
2. Authorize additional future expansion radio IDs from 115 to 150 (35 additional).
3. Waiver from IOP-33 (ATAC Interoperability Talkgroups) and IOP-26 (800 MHz Statewide Uniform Interoperability Radio Zones) for radios within our fleet which serve a specific purpose (e.g. base alerting, control station consoles, etc.).

Background

1. Previously, Life Link III was assigned to a pooled radio ID range 106900-107499. This pooled range has run out of available IDs and will not support our needed expansion. After discussion with ARMER System Administrator Nick Schatz, he created a new radio ID range specifically for our agency (176020 – 176269). We seek authorization to use this range, and we will migrate the fleet through our in-progress fleetwide reprogramming and abandon IDs within the former pooled range.
2. Our organization is currently approved for 115 radio IDs. We seek authorization to expand to 150 to accommodate anticipated future expansion.



3. At Life Link III we have several base/control station subscribers which are used for a specific purpose. Whether alerting a base for a call for service or connecting to our radio console to be steered to the most appropriate talkgroup/channel for a mission, these radios are programmed to serve a function. We seek a waiver from IOP-33 (ATAC Interoperability Talkgroups) and IOP-26 (800 MHz Statewide Uniform Interoperability Radio Zones) for radios meeting these criteria. Radios in our fleet which are used for general response operations with clinicians and aviation to interoperate with hospitals and responders will continue to meet IOP-33 and IOP-26 to afford them the ability for interoperability.

Thank you for your consideration regarding this request.

Brandon Larson
Local System Administrator
Communication Systems Manager | Life Link III
320-828-6685 | bclarson@lifelinkiii.com



METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

Meeting Date: April 8, 2026
Agenda Item: 4B. Approval of Amendment to
Sherburne County ARMER Participation Plan
Presenter: Fredrick

RECOMMENDATION

The Radio TOC recommends the Executive Committee recommend approval of an amendment to the Sherburne County ARMER participation plan.

BACKGROUND

Sherburne County utilizes a full ARMER participation plan with DPS-ECN. Sherburne County became part of the Metro Region in 2019.

ISSUES & CONCERNS

Sherburne County seeks to make updates to its simulcast paging system. The County purchased a new Motorola GTR 8000 to replace the current T1-based system. The new system requires greater microwave capacity, thus Sherburne County requests additional ethernet capacity between the Enfield tower and Zimmerman tower.

MnDOT has reviewed and approved the plan.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None to the MESB

MOTION BY:
SECONDED BY:
MOTION:

PASS/FAIL



Sherburne County Sheriff's Office

"Commitment to Service with Integrity and Pride"

Sheriff Joel Brott

METRO TOC and LMR Committees

Re: Sherburne County Simulcast MNDOT Microwave Excess capacity add

Sherburne County presently has a T1 based VHF Simulcast system. Sherburne county has purchased GTR 8000/ GRV VHF Simulcast Fire paging system.

Connectivity:

Sherburne county is requesting excess capacity VLAN Ethernet between Enfield, and Zimmerman controlled by MNDOT Microwave (see attached drawing).

Ownership/ Monitoring/ Maintenance:

Sherburne county will be contracting with DSC Communications to install Simulcast system, and will be responsible for connection to onsite equipment.

Paging control:

This Simulcast will be controlled by a Motorola GRV8000 that will be located at the Sherburne County LEC site in Elk River, and controlled VIA CCGW at the LEC. Sherburne county has Microwave connectivity between Elk River LEC dispatch, and the Zimmerman MNDOT tower site.

Request is submitted by Sherburne County Sheriff's Office representative Kyle Breffle.

Technical questions should be directed to John Brinkman, DSC Communications, 320.252.1887
JBrinkman@DSCCOMMUNICATIONS.COM



Sherburne Sheriff's Office

03/10/2026

Date Signed

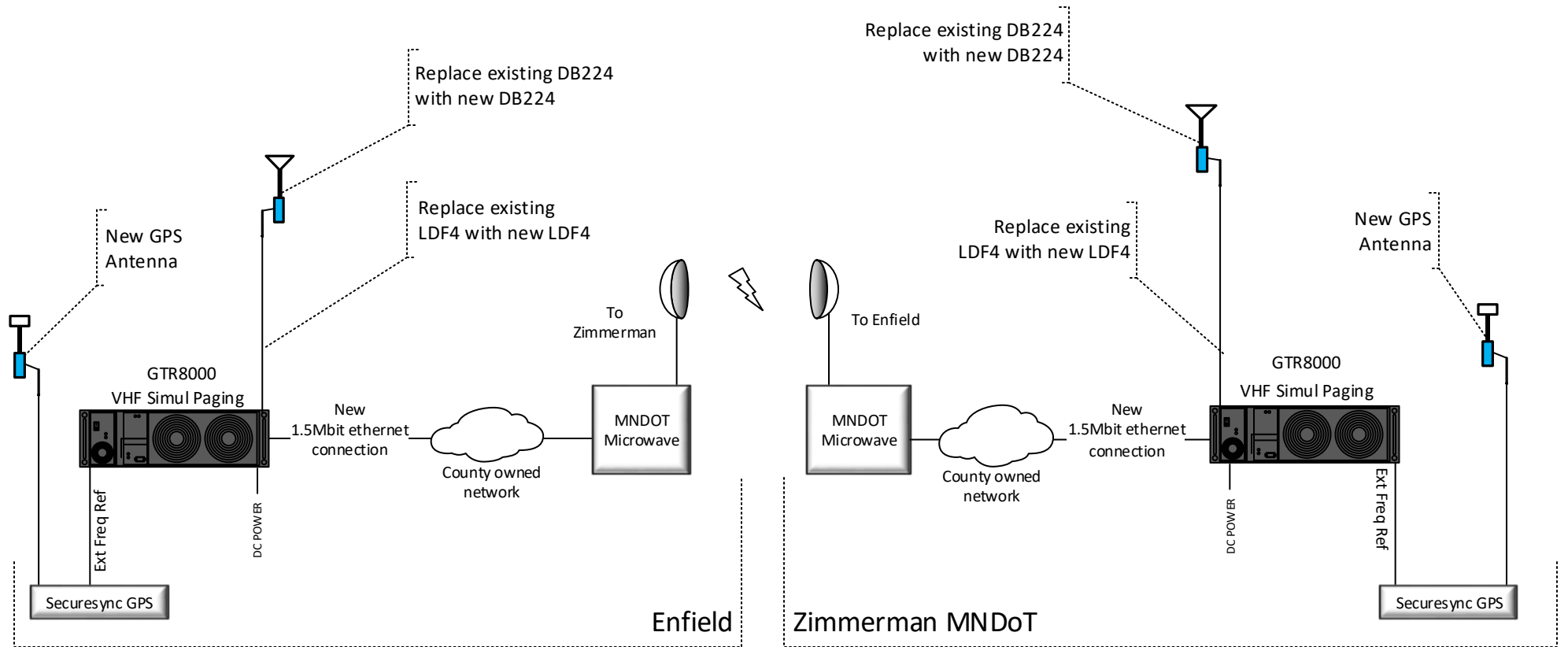


Note:

All new/replacement equipment will be installed into existing rack.

The Enfield location will be converted to a transmit-only site, and the LEC will assume the role of the system headend. This configuration maintains transmission capability in the event that the console site enters console-site trunking.

Existing T1 line to Zimmerman to be removed within 90 days of new system install and confirmed operations.



Request:

1. New GPS Antenna
2. Replace Antenna & line with new
3. New 1.5Mbit ethernet link Enfield - Zimmerman

DSC COMMUNICATIONS		Overview
CUSTOMER NO. 0454		Sherburne County Sheriff



METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

Meeting Date: April 8, 2026
Agenda Item: 6A. Approval of Regional Whole Blood Program
Presenter: Hayes

RECOMMENDATION

The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) TOC recommends the Executive Committee recommend approval to allocate \$40,000 for two regional whole blood requests to reimburse Maplewood Fire/EMS and Lakeview EMS.

BACKGROUND

Across the country, emergency medical services are confronting a growing challenge: patients suffering severe blood loss often face long transport times before they can receive lifesaving transfusions. Uncontrolled hemorrhage remains one of the leading causes of preventable death in trauma. The EMS Whole Blood Response Program is designed to close this critical gap by equipping frontline responders with the ability to administer low-titer O-positive whole blood directly in the field.

The Minnesota Office of EMS (formerly the Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board) provides a grant to each of the eight (8) EMS regions on a bi-annual basis, the EMS Fund Grant. The regional EMS grants are authorized in Minnesota Statutes 144E.50. For fiscal years 2026-2027, the grant period is July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027. For the current biennium, the award was \$328,937.50, however \$259,468.75 must be spent by June 30, 2026.

ISSUES & CONCERNS

By bringing whole blood regionally within the EMS systems to an incident, communities can significantly increase the chances of survival for victims of motor vehicle crashes, industrial accidents, rural trauma, and mass-casualty events.

Currently, Burnsville Fire & Ambulance, Hennepin EMS, and Lakeview EMS provide whole blood services. With the addition of Maplewood Fire/EMS, there is another service providing whole blood in the east metro. The four services now sufficiently cover both the east and west metro service areas with whole blood.

The EMS TOC recommend using grant dollars to reimburse Lakeview EMS and Maplewood Fire for their start-up costs for providing this service, in the amount of \$20,000.00 for each service.

MOTION BY:
SECONDED BY:
MOTION:

PASS/FAIL



METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

Meeting Date:

April 8, 2026

Agenda Item:

**6A. Approval of Regional
Whole Blood Program**

Presenter:

Hayes

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are sufficient funds in the OEMS EMS Fund Grant to cover this request which must be spent by June 30, 2026.

MOTION BY:
SECONDED BY:
MOTION:

PASS/FAIL



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Lakeview Hospital



Emergency Medical Services

To: Members of the Metro Emergency Services Board

From: Jon Muller, EMS Director

Date: January 15, 2026

Subject: Request for MESB Regional Grant Funding – Joint Prehospital Whole Blood Program

Dear Members of the Metro Emergency Services Board,

I am writing on behalf of **Lakeview EMS** to respectfully request **\$20,000 in regional grant funding** through the MESB to support the **start-up of a joint, multijurisdictional prehospital whole blood program** serving Lakeview's service area and our mutual aid partners.

Background and Need

Severe hemorrhage is a **leading cause of preventable trauma death**, and the **pre-hospital administration of whole blood** has been shown to significantly improve survival by replacing lost blood volume *prior* to hospital arrival. National EMS authorities recognize prehospital blood administration as a lifesaving intervention that enhances EMS capabilities and outcomes for trauma patients.

Currently, only a small percentage of EMS agencies nationwide carry whole blood in the field, largely due to the **logistical and financial barriers** associated with purchasing, storing, monitoring, and deploying blood products.

Regional Nature of the Resource

Lakeview EMS routinely responds across jurisdictional boundaries and regularly provides care on mutual aid calls. Internal data demonstrate that **approximately 50% of blood administrations have occurred on mutual aid incidents**, clearly illustrating that prehospital blood is a **regional resource**—not agency-specific—and beneficial to all jurisdictions within the metro region.

Proposed Use of Funds

Lakeview EMS requests **\$20,000** in MESB funding to cover essential **one-time start-up costs**, including:

- **Blood storage coolers and temperature monitoring systems** to maintain appropriate 1-6 °C storage in accordance with best practices, ensuring product viability and safety.
- **Deployment equipment** (e.g., transport containers, warming devices) necessary for field ready-to-use capability.

These investments will create a **coordinated, interoperable regional blood response capability** available to patients and EMS providers regardless of jurisdictional boundaries.



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Lakeview Hospital



Emergency Medical Services

Program Governance

The proposed whole blood program has been developed with the **full support of Lakeview EMS medical leadership**. The Lakeview EMS **Medical Director** will oversee clinical governance, including:

- Clinical protocols and indications for use
- Provider education and competency training
- Quality assurance and performance monitoring

This oversight framework will **ensure safe, evidence-based implementation** and high standards of clinical care.

Alignment with MESB Regional Goals

This proposal supports the MESB’s mission to enhance regional EMS capabilities, improve resource utilization, and implement **innovative interventions that improve prehospital care outcomes**. The regional EMS governance structure encourages collaborative projects that benefit multiple jurisdictions and strengthen coordinated response capacity.

We would appreciate the opportunity to provide additional details or respond to any questions from the Board.

Thank you for your leadership and continued support of regional emergency services.

Respectfully,

Jon Muller, Lakeview EMS Director

Supported By:

Kari Haley, MD, FAEMS
Regions Hospital Emergency Medicine Core Faculty
Program Director Regions Hospital EMS Fellowship
Assistant Professor Emergency Medicine, University of Minnesota
Assistant Medical Director, Regions Emergency Medical Services

Aaron Burnett MD, FACEP
Medical Director St. Paul Fire Department & Regions Hospital EMS
Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine
University of Minnesota
Medical Director, Lakeview EMS



To: Members of the Metro Emergency Services Board
From: Michael Mondor, Fire and EMS Chief
Haley Taormina, MD Medical Director
Aaron Burnett, MD Medical Director

Date: January 5, 2026

Subject: Request for MESB Regional Grant Funding – Prehospital Whole Blood Program Start-Up

Dear Members of the Metro Emergency Services Board,

On behalf of the Maplewood Fire Department, I respectfully submit this request for Metro Emergency Services Board (MESB) grant funding to support the start-up of a regional prehospital whole blood program. This program is scheduled to launch in 2026 and designed to benefit Maplewood and the surrounding communities we serve through mutual aid.

Uncontrolled bleeding remains one of the leading causes of preventable death in trauma. The early administration of whole blood in the prehospital setting has been shown to significantly improve survival for patients suffering from severe traumatic bleeding, particularly when transport times are prolonged or injuries are life-threatening. While blood administration was once limited to hospitals, fire-based EMS agencies across the country are now safely delivering blood in the field with measurable life-saving impact.

Maplewood Fire Department is preparing to implement a prehospital blood program that will be available not only to our residents, but also to patients encountered during mutual aid and regional response incidents. Once operational, this program will serve as a shared regional resource, supporting neighboring jurisdictions during large-scale incidents, cross-border responses, and high-acuity trauma calls.

We are requesting \$20,000 in MESB regional grant funding to support the initial start-up costs of this program. These funds would be used for required equipment such as validated blood storage coolers, temperature monitoring systems, and associated logistical infrastructure necessary to safely deploy blood in the field. These are one-time costs that create a sustainable, long-term regional capability.

This request is submitted with the full support of the Maplewood Fire Department's Medical Director, who will oversee all clinical governance, protocols, and quality assurance related to the program.

We respectfully request MESB's consideration of this proposal and welcome the opportunity to provide additional information¹⁹ as needed.



Thank you for your continued commitment to advancing regional emergency care.

Respectfully,

Michael Mondor
Fire Chief, Maplewood Fire Department

Supported by:
Haley Taormina, MD
Medical Dir Haley Taormina, MD

Aaron Burnett, MD
East Metro Medical Director Representative
MESB Technical Operations Committee
MN Office of EMS, MESB Physician Representative



METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

Meeting Date: April 8, 2026
Agenda Item: 7A. Discussion: 2027 Operational Budget
Presenter: Rohret

RECOMMENDATION

None – this is a discussion item only.

BACKGROUND

The Metropolitan Emergency Services Board staff are preparing the 2027 operational budget. There are a couple of items related to the budget for which staff seek input from the Executive Committee.

ISSUES & CONCERNS

There has been an open position since a former employee retired in late 2024; that position does not need to be replaced as it was when that person retired. The Executive Director waited to determine what to do with the position until the 9-1-1 Services Manager position was filled; should the position be reimagined into another/different 9-1-1 position or should it be used and changed into a Deputy or Assistant Director position. After discussion with 9-1-1 Services Manager, the recommendation is to transition the position into a Deputy or Assistant Director of the MESB (exact title to be determined).

This position would provide multiple benefits to organization. First, it would take some administrative task burden away from the Executive Director, allowing her to focus on broader initiatives. Having a Deputy/Assistant Director will also provide continuity of operations to the organization where none previously existed when there was turnover in the Executive Director role.

The open position has remained in the budget at a 109-grade level. While the Executive Director has started the creation of the position description of the new position, the classification has not yet been determined; it is estimated to be a 111-grade at this time. This will influence the budget.

Note: MESB staff are currently undergoing a position description and classification study with David Drown Associates. This is the first staff-wide study since late 2015/early 2016.

The second item is a change in internet plans for the MESB; the MESB's internet is transitioning to fiber to provide better service, connectivity, and reliability for staff when working in the St. Paul office. However, the price dramatically increases and will affect both the MESB's 2026 budget and 2027 budget.

MOTION BY:
SECONDED BY:
MOTION:

PASS/FAIL



METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

Meeting Date: April 8, 2026
Agenda Item: 7A. Discussion: 2027 Operational Budget
Presenter: Rohret

For both items, staff will do its best to minimize any effects MESB budget increases will have on assessments. Staff would like to discuss with the Executive Committee different strategies for such minimizations.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

See issues discussed in Issues and Concerns.

MOTION BY:
SECONDED BY:
MOTION:

PASS/FAIL