



METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD EMS TECHNICAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

March 17, 2026, 12:00 P.M.

- 1) **Call to Order** –Chair, Brian Fisher

- 2) **Approval of Agenda** – Fisher

- 3) **Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting (Page 3)** – Fisher

- 4) **Presentation- NONE**

- 5) **Action Items**
 - a) Request for financial support for regional blood response program- Maplewood FD (**Page 6**)
 - b) Request for financial support for regional blood response program- Lakeview EMS (**Page 8**)

- 6) **Discussion Items**
 - a) Office of EMS Update
 - b) OEMS Labor and Emergency Medical Service Advisory Council- Vars
 - c) OEMS Emergency Medical Services Physician Advisory Council- Dr. Burnett
 - d) Workgroup updates
 - i) School Mapping- Rohret
 - e) EMS Regional Training
 - (1) FTEP Course REVIEW- Dakota County
 - (2) AHLS Course REVIEW- Lupkes
 - (3) EMS Leadership (Prouty Training) Part 1 and 2
 - f) EMS Grant Update
 - g) MRCC East & West Update
 - i) MNTRAC Update
 - h) EMS Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee – Lupkes
 - i) EMS Taskforce/ AST
 - ii) Incident Response Plan Training
 - i) Local EMS Updates
 - j) Other Updates

- 7) **Other Business**

- 8) **Adjourn**

2026 Next Meeting- June 16, 2026

EMS TOC Executive Committee-



**METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD
EMS TECHNICAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

March 17, 2026, 12:00 P.M.

TBD

EMS TOC (Full Committee)-

September 15, 2026

December 15, 2026

METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

EMS TECHNICAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

December 16, 2025

Committee Members Present:

Allina Health EMS – Kevin Miller
Burnsville Fire/EMS – **absent**
Centra Care – **absent**
Cottage Grove Fire/EMS – Jon Pritchard
Edina Fire/EMS – **absent**
Hastings Fire/EMS – Chris Paulson
Health Partners – Brian Fisher
Hennepin EMS – Tyler Lupkes
Lakes Region EMS – Jacob Kostecki
Lakeview EMS – Jon Muller
Lower St Croix Valley – Kevin Malecek
M Health Fairview – Nick Lesch
Mahtomedi Ambulance – Joel Schmidt
Maplewood EMS – **absent**
Mdewakanton Public Safety – Mark Weiberg
Minneapolis Fire – **absent**
North Memorial Ambulance – Eric Heuer
Northfield EMS – Brian Edwards
Oakdale Fire/EMS – Joe Carpentier

Ridgeview EMS – **absent**
South Metro Fire/EMS – **absent**
St Paul Fire – **absent**
University of Minnesota – Robert Ball
White Bear Lake – **absent**
Medical Director East – Dr. Aaron Burnett
Medical Director West – **absent**
West MRCC – **absent**
East MRCC – Alisha Vars
Metro Fire Chiefs – Aaron Johnston
Metro Local Public Health Association –
absent
Region Health Care Preparedness Coordinator
– **absent**
Anoka County – **absent**
Dakota County – Denise Yi
Hennepin County – Kristin Mellstrom
Sherburne County – Adam Boler
Washington County – Doug Berglund

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

Others Present: Nick Barratt, *Lakeview EMS*; Paul Botnen, *CentraCare*; Joey Duran, *Allina*; and Randi Prebil, *Anoka County*.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by the 2025 EMS TOC Chair, Brian Fisher.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Robert Ball, seconded by Brian Edwards to approve the December 2025 EMS TOC meeting agenda. Motion carried.

3. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Aaron Burnett asked for the record to reflect that he was present at the September 2025 EMS TOC meeting.

Motion made by Jon Muller, seconded by Robert Ball to approve the September 2025 EMS TOC meeting minutes with the mentioned change. Motion carried.

4. Presentation – None

5. Action Items

a. Vote for the 2026-2027 EMS TOC Chair and Vice Chair

Brian Fisher was nominated for 2026-2027 Chair of the EMS TOC by Ball and Jon Pritchard.

Motion made by Ball, seconded by Pritchard to elect Fisher as the 2026-2027 EMS TOC Chair. Motion carried.

METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

Nick Lesch was nominated for 2026-2027 Vice Chair of the EMS TOC by Pritchard and Ball.

Motion made by Pritchard, seconded by Ball to elect Lesch as the 2026-2027 EMS TOC Vice Chair. Motion carried.

6. Discussion Items

a. Office of EMS Update

Fisher said the 'earn while you learn' grant recipients are in the official Office of EMS press release. There are still remaining funds in the grant account so another round of applications and awards may move forward.

b. Workgroup Updates

i. School Mapping

Jill Rohret said the indoor school mapping project contract was awarded to Critical Resource Group, Inc. CRG will be reaching out to agencies for access to existing maps and floorplans. If you have any questions, please reach out to Rohret.

c. EMS Regional Training

1. FTEP Course – Dakota County

The Dakota County FTEP training course will take place on February 2 and run all the way through February 6 of 2026. There are two different options for the course; a 2-day and 3-day training will be available. The link to the training registration will be sent out later in December.

2. AHLS Course

The AHLS (hazmat) training course will be in early February 2026 and will be held in Burnsville. Please reach out for spots and availability as a portion of the training has already been filled.

d. EMS Grant Update

Hayes said there is still money available for spending in the EMS grants. Reach out to Hayes with ideas for training and courses.

e. MRCC East and West Update

Alisha Vars said the West Metro will go live on Beacon Mutual later in December of 2025. MnTRAC updates and improvements are ongoing.

f. EMS Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee

i. EMS Taskforce/AST

Lupkes and Hayes said the taskforce will be redefined to create a statewide initiative. More information will be provided as the process progresses.

ii. Incident Response Plan Training

Lupkes said the Accountability and Reunification sections continue to be developed and edited.

g. Local EMS Updates

Members of the EMS TOC gave local updates.

h. Other Updates – None

METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

7. Other Business – None

8. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:49 p.m.



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 information as needed.

Maplewood



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

Respectfully,

Michael Mondor
Fire Chief, Maplewood Fire Department

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Mondor".

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Haley R. Taormina, MD".

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Aaron Burnett MD".



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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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