

# Region 6 Homeland Security Planning Board

## “Community Preparedness through Regional Collaboration”

**Abby Watkins, Board Chairperson**

Newaygo County Emergency Services, 306 S. North St., White Cloud, Michigan 49349, 231.689.7354, [abbym@co.newaygo.mi.us](mailto:abbym@co.newaygo.mi.us)

**Lou Hunt, Board Vice Chairperson**

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**Allison Farole, Board Secretary**

City of Grand Rapids, Emergency Management Administrator, 38 LaGrave Avenue SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503, [afarole@grand-rapids.mi.us](mailto:afarole@grand-rapids.mi.us), [hsregion6@gmail.com](mailto:hsregion6@gmail.com)

**Leah Delano, Chair R6 Sub-Committees**

**Scott Corbin, Chair R6 Planning Committee**

### Region 6 Homeland Security Planning Board Meeting Minutes

February 26, 2024

**9:30 AM in person at the**

**Mecosta County Services Building**

**14485 Northland Dr, Big Rapids, MI 49307**

*Available via Teams for Non-Voting Members*

#### I. Partner Reports

- A. **Region 6 Healthcare Coalition, Luke Aurner** – The Coalition recently participated in an exercise for medical response & search; discovered some issues with the coalition center’s phone capabilities and working to resolve. Will be participating in a functional exercise focused on decontamination for EMS/first responders at Gerber Hospital on May 13; ADLS Class scheduled for May; contact Luke if interested in either of these events.
- B. **Muskegon Public Health Dept, Dori Peters** – Flu rates have been increasing since December, Covid rates have plateaued, RSV rates are decreasing. Cases of measles have been recently found in Oakland County. There will be a national stockpile exercise on March 21. Dori will be attending the National Preparedness Summit from March 25 – 28 in Cleveland. There will be an Integrated Preparedness Workshop on April 17<sup>th</sup> from 10am-12pm at the Kent Co Health Department, contact Dori if interested in more information.
- C. **National Weather Service, Jim Maczko** – Severe Weather Awareness Week is March 17 – 23. There will be a Statewide Tornado Drill on March 20<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. There is a chance for thunderstorms/hail tomorrow, Feb 27<sup>th</sup> from around 6pm to 2am. We will see record high temperatures this week immediately followed by the potential for snow.

II. **Meeting Called to Order** at 9:40am

III. **Pledge of Allegiance**

IV. **Roll Call:**

Jurisdiction – Representative		Jurisdiction – Representative	
X	Clare County – Jerry Becker	X	Muskegon County – Renee Gavin
X	Ionia County – Jacob Sommer	X	Newaygo County – Josh Westgate (AL)
X	Isabella County – Marc Griffis	X	Oceana County – Troy Maloney
X	Kent County – Matt Groesser	A	Osceola County – Mark Watkins
X	Lake County – Don Divis (AL)	X	Ottawa County – Lou Hunt (Chair)
X	Mason County – Heath Scarbrough	X	City of GR – Allison Farole (Secretary)

X	Mecosta County – Patrick Maddox	A	Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe – Fred Cantu
X	Montcalm County – Eric Smith		
X = Present A = Absent V = Virtual AL = Alternate			

Name – Agency	
X	Katherine DeVoursney – WMRMC, Region 6 HSGP Coordinator
A	Amanda Frifeldt – WMRMC, Fiduciary
V	Mark Schmiedeknecht – WMRMC, Fiduciary
X	Lt. Orville Theaker – MI State Police / EMD
V	Julie Adams – Isabella County
X	Helen Lee – Isabella County
V	Jerry McCoy – Montcalm County
X	Scott Corbin - Kent County
X	Alexander Yared – Kent County
X	Leah DeLano – Ottawa County
V	Dori Peters – Muskegon County Public Health Department
V	Jim Maczko – National Weather Service, Grand Rapids
V	Tim Dickman – Region 6 Healthcare Coalition
V	Luke Aurner – Region 6 Healthcare Coalition
V	Lisa Carr – Gerald R. Ford International Airport
X	Nicollette Wands - Dataminr
X	Samantha Gronau – Dataminr

**V. Approval of the Agenda**

- A. Motion: Ottawa Co
- B. Second: Clare Co
- C. All in Favor

**VI. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes**

- A. Motion: Mecosta Co
- B. Second: Isabella Co
- C. All in Favor

**VII. Public Comment**

**VIII. Presentation**

- A. Nicollette Wands & Samantha Gronau, Dataminr
  - This presentation focused on Dataminr’s product First Alert; this product was purchased for 10 counties by the region for a NPA project on one-year terms & the counties would need to choose to renew with their own funding if desired
  - First Alert gathers real time data that is publicly available such as information from X (Twitter), Facebook, blogs, Reddit, and other social media platforms and centralizes it into one customizable feed utilizing

AI technology; the purpose is to improve situational awareness in emergency situations for First Alert users

- Dataminr was founded in 2009 and is available in 160 countries & the US Military is the largest customer; over 1 billion pieces of data are gathered daily and each data point will link back to its source
- An example of First Alert in use: the MSU active shooter situation in February 2023 alerted officials in Grand Rapids/Kent in real time who then acted quickly to prepare hospitals and send equipment
- Ottawa Co discussed that they have found it useful in situations of power outages, structure fires, and concerning events
- Clare Co discussed that while it has been useful, the data gathered can be a mixed bag because sometimes rumors spread fast online but in reality do not pose a threat
- First Alert can be very useful for informing officials of the real time narrative being created; this can be helpful for Public Information Officers and other communication entities to help shape messaging
- The current licenses purchased by the Region expire in June 2024; if interested in continuing or purchasing, contact Dataminr for reduced bulk rates; there are also 3mo and 6mo plans available which could be especially useful for the upcoming election season

**IX. Fiduciary Report**

- A. Allocation spreadsheets for FY21 & FY22 were sent out on 2.16.24

**X. Workgroup Reports**

A. Citizen Corps

- CERT Training Class – City of GR will be offering in the future, they have a long waiting list of people interested
- City of GR has around 16 volunteers & Ottawa Co has around 150+
- Ottawa Co finds it beneficial to pay for advertising the program on social media platforms to spark interest

B. MEMA/IAEM

- MEMA – There is a new website: <https://mi-em.us/>
  - Monthly news updates are being sent out
  - Asking for volunteers to serve on committees
  - MEMA Spring Membership meeting will take place at the GLHS Conference on Wednesday, May 8 at 5pm
  - MEMA Conference will be held October 28 – 30<sup>th</sup> at Shanty Creek Resort
- IAEM
  - Information on the DEI initiative is available on their website
  - Virtual conference for members being held April 18 & 19<sup>th</sup>
  - National conference is being held in Colorado Springs from November 15 – 21<sup>st</sup>

C. Region 6 IPAWS

- WEA can produce translations in up to 10 languages

- Highly recommended to attend training in Lansing to learn about the dashboard platform
- Over 100 pre-written messages available backed by research to be effective

D. Regional MOU

- Met on February 8<sup>th</sup>
- Have a product currently under review and edits; will be able to take final product to local authorities for review

**XI. Committee Reports**

A. Executive Committee

- Discussions were had regarding the FY23 Budget and the 2024-25 Executive Committee voting procedure, and THIRA

B. Region 6 Sub-Committee (NPA, LETPA, HazMat)

- NPAs
  - FY21: We are awaiting the delivery of the Avatar robot
  - FY22
    - a. Barricade Project – Meridian will be hosting a demonstration of their new rapid gate product on March 12<sup>th</sup> at the Holland Farmer’s Market; may be able to videotape it to share out
    - b. AAFs for Berla’s, STB Kits and cellular response consoles have been submitted
  - FY23
    - a. Cellebrite and GrayKey renewals will be due in December
  - FY21 Leftover Funds for Clean-Up Project
    - a. As it looks right now, the Region will have around \$20-24k leftover – this can purchase around 75 RTF Kits
- LETPA
  - FY21 all set
  - FY22 LETPA projects discussed:
    - a. Breaching tools, LE radios, CodeRed, bomb tech, backup 911 mobile command systems, etc
  - FY23 still a concern as a shortfall is projected – heavy emphasis on Region 6 counties to complete local LE projects
  - An email from EMD regarding questions around LETPA and equipment storage, private security officers, and other concerns were discussed: LE equipment stored at non-LE buildings counts for LETPA, etc; more flexibility will be afforded due to increased LETPA 35% requirement in FY23 – More info on Region 6 website
- Hazmat
  - MI Hazmat Responder Conference being held April 15 – 17<sup>th</sup> in Grand Rapids
  - Next meetings will be May 13 and June 3
- Next NPAs Subcommittee Meeting:

- Will be held after the Planning Board meeting on March 25
- B. Region 6 Planning/THIRA Committee
- Met last week and approved past meeting minutes
  - First round of short surveys were sent out with a good response rate
  - Next round of short surveys will be sent soon
  - THIRA Training will take place in Mt. Pleasant on March 13 & 14<sup>th</sup>

**II. Region 6 Coordinator Report**

- A. AAFs
- Reminder that FY22 AAFs are due on April 1
  - Please reach out to Katherine with any questions, ideas, or help
- B. Region 6 HSGP Website
- Link: <https://www.region6hsgpmi.com/>
    - Contact Katherine for the password to the “Members Only” area
  - AAF Archive is now live on the website behind password
  - Soon to be added: LETPA info, Budgets, AAF Guidance
- C. FY24 Region 6 HSGP Workbook
- This will be written in the same manner as last year – Katherine will ask every county about any new projects and create the workbook to be submitted by April 1<sup>st</sup>

**III. Chairman’s Report – None**

**IV. Formal Correspondence**

- A. Committee Chairperson Letter – Abby Watkins (attached)

**V. Motions**

- A. Ottawa Co:
- **FY22 MCI Tabletop Exercise**
    - Motion: Ottawa Co
    - Second: Mecosta Co
    - *Motion Passes*

	<b>Jurisdiction – Representative</b>		<b>Jurisdiction – Representative</b>
X	Clare County – Jerry Becker	X	Muskegon County – Renee Gavin
X	Ionia County – Jacob Sommer	X	Newaygo County – Josh Westgate
X	Isabella County – Marc Griffis	X	Oceana County – Troy Maloney
X	Kent County – Matt Groesser	A	Osceola County – Mark Watkins
X	Lake County – Don Divis	X	Ottawa County – Lou Hunt
X	Mason County – Heath Scarbrough	X	City of GR – Allison Farole
X	Mecosta County – Patrick Maddox	A	Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe – Fred Cantu
X	Montcalm County – Eric Smith		
X = Voted Yes N = Voted No			

- B. Regional:
- **2024 – 2025 Executive Committee Nominations**

- Discussion: To ensure program continuity, the Board may want to consider creating a mentorship initiative for these positions; individuals interested in serving in the future could observe, learn, and receive guidance from those currently holding positions.
- Nominations for 2024 - 2025:
  - Chairperson: Abby Watkins, Newaygo Co
  - Vice Chairperson: Lou Hunt, Ottawa Co
  - Secretary: Allison Farole, City of Grand Rapids
    - Motion to Close Nominations: Isabella Co
    - Second: Muskegon Co
    - *Motion Passes*
      - All in Favor
- Motion to Confirm Nominations: Ottawa Co
- Second: Clare Co
- *Motion Passes*
  - a. All in Favor

- **FY22 Clean-Up RTF Kits Project**

- Motion: Ottawa Co
- Second: Oceana Co
- *Motion Passes*

	<b>Jurisdiction – Representative</b>		<b>Jurisdiction – Representative</b>
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X	Isabella County – Marc Griffis	X	Oceana County – Troy Maloney
X	Kent County – Matt Groesser	A	Osceola County – Mark Watkins
X	Lake County – Don Divis	X	Ottawa County – Lou Hunt
X	Mason County – Heath Scarbrough	X	City of GR – Allison Farole
X	Mecosta County – Patrick Maddox	A	Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe – Fred Cantu
X	Montcalm County – Eric Smith		
X = Voted Yes N = Voted No			

- **FY23 Region 6 HSGP Budget**

- Motion: Ottawa Co
- Second: Kent Co
- *Motion Passes*

	<b>Jurisdiction – Representative</b>		<b>Jurisdiction – Representative</b>
X	Clare County – Jerry Becker	X	Muskegon County – Renee Gavin
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X = Voted Yes N = Voted No			

• **FY23 Amended Internal Deadlines**

- Motion: Ottawa Co
- Second: Kent Co
- *Motion Passes*

	<b>Jurisdiction – Representative</b>		<b>Jurisdiction – Representative</b>
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X = Voted Yes N = Voted No			

**VI. Action Item Updates – None**

**VII. Old Business**

A. Past Purchases

- For specific directions on any HSGP-funded items or equipment you would like to dispose of, please contact Paul Lounsberry ([lounsberryp@michigan.gov](mailto:lounsberryp@michigan.gov)) and cc Lt. Theaker
- Fingerprint scanners were discussed; these are in need of upgrades and may no longer be security compatible – contact the company for credit
- Ottawa Co expressed interest in acquiring a larger trailer for emergency response supplies; contact them with any leads

**VIII. New Business – None**

**IX. Open Discussion**

A. RTF Kits – please do not give these out to State or Federally funded organizations, such as the DNR etc.; these are intended for local use

B. American Red Cross

- Clare Co discussed the ARC recently changed command structure and have a new Director; the director has been contacting County

Administrators to discuss emergency response plans but the Admins should be directing them to contact local EMs instead

C. PEM Board

- Recently met in Lansing
- There are currently 438 certified PEMs in Michigan
- PEM Board meeting will be held at the GLHS Conference on Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 10am
- Next meetings will also be held August 21<sup>st</sup> and October 23<sup>rd</sup>

X. **Dates Review:**

<b>FY22 Important Dates</b>	
Grant Performance Period Start Date	9.1.22
Budget Approval Date	1.23.23
Fiduciary Opens Grant	6.1.23
<b>AAFs due to R6 Coordinator</b>	<b>4.1.24</b>
PO Req docs due to Fiduciary	8.15.24
Reimbursement Packets Due	1.1.25
Grant Performance Period End Date	5.31.25
Fiduciary Closes Grant	5.31.25

<b>FY23 Important Dates</b>	
Grant Performance Period Start Date	9.1.23
Budget Approval Date	2.26.24
Fiduciary Opens Grant	6.1.24
AAFs due to R6 Coordinator	4.1.25
PO Req docs due to Fiduciary	8.15.25
Reimbursement Packets Due	11.30.25
Grant Performance Period End Date	5.31.26
Fiduciary Closes Grant	5.31.26

IX. **Adjourned** at 11:30am

- The next Executive Committee Meeting is March 11, 2024
- The next Region 6 HSGP Planning Board Meeting is March 25, 2024
- The next Region 6 Sub-Committee Meeting (NPAs) will be immediately following the Planning Board meeting on March 25, 2024 tentatively scheduled for 11:30am





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**Allison Farole, Board Secretary**

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*Recording Secretary – West Michigan Regional Medical Consortium*

February 26, 2024

Per the Region 6 Homeland Security Planning Board Bylaws Article 6.2, as the newly elected Chairperson of the Region 6 Homeland Security Planning Board, I recommend the following individuals be re-appointed as Committee Chairpersons:

Leah Delano, Region 6 Subcommittee Chairperson. This committee is responsible for addressing the National Priority Areas (NPAs), Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Activities (LEPTA), and Hazardous Materials (HazMat).

Scott Corbin, Region 6 Planning Committee Chairperson. This committee is responsible for addressing regional planning initiatives and the Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA).

Ms. Delano and Mr. Corbin have led their committees successfully for some time. They both have exceptional knowledge, skills, and experience needed to continue leading the committees set in place by the Region 6 Homeland Security Planning Board. It is my privilege to recommend to the Region 6 Homeland Security Planning Board to appoint Leah Delano as the Region 6 Subcommittee Chairperson and Scott Corbin as the Region 6 Planning Committee Chairperson.

Thank you for your consideration.

*Abigail B Watkins*, P.E.M, M.E.P, A.P.I.O, A.C.E.R.T, M.F.R

Director, Newaygo County Emergency Services

Chairperson, Region 6 Homeland Security Planning Board



## Region 6 Homeland Security Planning Board

“Community Preparedness through Regional Collaboration”

### 2024 HSGP Region 6 Board Meeting Dates

**Executive Committee** begins at **10:00a.m.** on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the Month

**Planning Board** begins at **9:30a.m.** on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the Month

*Meetings will be held in-person with a virtual option via Teams*

Executive Committee	Planning Board
January 2 <sup>***</sup>	January 22
February 12 <sup>**</sup>	February 26 <sup>**</sup>
March 11	March 25
April 8	April 22
May 13	May 20 <sup>*</sup>
June 10	June 24
July 8	July 22
August 12	August 26
September 9	September 23
October 14	October 28
November 12 <sup>*</sup>	November 25
December 9	December 16 <sup>*</sup>

*\*Denotes a date that falls outside the typical 2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Mondays*

### Locations

City of Big Rapids Department of Public Safety, 435 N. Michigan Ave, Big Rapids, MI 49307

*\*\*February Meetings will be held at 14485 Northland Drive, Big Rapids, MI 49307*

*\*\*\*January 2 – Executive Committee will meet at the Grand Rapids Fire Department (38 LaGrave Ave SE, Grand Rapids, MI, 49503)*