

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

*The mission of the Emergency Management Committee is to provide a liaison between the Association and the State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, county and local emergency managers, to encourage and assist Association members to be involved in their local emergency planning process and to provide feedback to the Association of pertinent emergency management issues and information.*

The Emergency Management Committee meets regularly throughout the year and addresses issues as directed by the board of directors. During the past 12 months our committee has been busy with issues that affect all departments in Minnesota. The main goal of the committee in 2017 has been continuing to work with the Statewide Mutual Aid Plan, including the FAST Team. The Committee also held a training session with the MSFCA Board and Regional Directors to continue to address gaps in the system. These projects are ongoing and are the lead projects of the Committee. Both of these are long term projects. The “foundation” is now in place; yet, we need to continue to promote and educate. Ongoing plan education and plan maintenance will be key components as we progress forward.

### **Some of the specifics of the project are as follows:**

We know that Minnesota has more than its share of disasters. Whether floods, wildfires, ice storms, or tornadoes, Minnesota has experienced its share of Presidential Disaster Declarations. The Minnesota State Fire Chiefs Association – Emergency Management Committee is continuing the education effort with many other individuals and associations to enhance the mutual aid system used in the fire service in Minnesota.

The goal is to create a system and process that is understood and utilized in times of need, by individuals throughout the State. Education is a critical cornerstone in this endeavor. The system and process identifies and guides people on the following matters:

1. Mutual aid use in day to day response
2. Mutual aid use in regional response
3. Mutual aid use in Statewide Disaster scenarios
4. Mutual aid used outside of Minnesota (EMAC)

Videos on the FAST team and Statewide Mutual aid are available on the MSFCA Website. The Plan was used in 2017 assistance with non-line of duty deaths and response to unique fire scenes. We have put new equipment in service that will enhance the FAST team response. The Intrastate Mutual Aid plan is on the MSFCA website for use.

The Emergency Management Committee consists of members that serve as representatives of numerous fire service and emergency management organizations throughout the state of Minnesota. Additional organizations represented include: HSEM, DNR, State Fire Marshal, MSP airport, and AMEM/MEMA. This cross section of talent on the committee enhances the wide variety of opinions expressed during our meetings.

The committee set additional goals and objectives for the year. In 2017 we have continued to address these goals:

- Ongoing Participation in various State and Local Committees and Task Forces
- Continued development and encouragement of Fire Chiefs involvement in the emergency management process.
- Development and utilization of technology in the emergency management arena. Specific discussions have been on the use of vertical cameras.

The committee is also involved with social media while at-

tempting to keep our key activities/accomplishments posted on Facebook.

Our relationship with the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) and its representation on our committee has enabled our committee to stay in the forefront in reference to homeland security. The Homeland Security Advisory Committee has Ulie Seal, Bloomington Fire, as our committee’s representative.

Stuart Glaser, Stillwater Fire, has been actively serving as the Association of Minnesota Emergency Managers (AMEM) liaison this past year in order to keep effective and efficient communications.

John Olson, P2CAT Director, Minnesota InfraGard / FBI continues to be a liaison with the EM Committee. InfraGard is a partnership between the FBI and the private sector. It is an association of persons who represent state and local public safety agencies, business, academic institutions and other participants dedicated to sharing information and intelligence to prevent hostile acts against the U.S.

Finally, I would like to remind our membership that committee information is posted on the MSFCA website. We encourage you to read the MN Fire Chief magazine. Our committee attempts to provide our members with timely information referencing emergency management issues throughout the state of Minnesota. If any of the MSFCA members are interested in serving on the Emergency Management Committee, please contact Scott Gerber at 952-960-1650. I would like to thank all the EM Committee members for their hard work this past year, and we will stand ready to face challenges in the future.

### **Committee members:**

Scott Gerber, Excelsior Fire District  
Jerry Streich, Andover Fire Department  
Kevin Reed, HSEM  
John Kreuser, HSEM  
Rick Luth, HSEM  
Jacob Beauregard - HSEM  
John Olson, InfraGard/P2CAT  
Stuart Glaser, Stillwater Fire Department  
Jim Flanders, Minnetonka Fire Department  
David Burke, MAC Fire Department  
Tom Miller, City of Minneapolis Emergency Management  
Brenda Kremer, MAC Fire Department  
Kristi Rollwagen, MAC Emergency Management  
Greg Pederson, Roseville Fire Department  
Mike Richardson, Woodbury Public Safety  
Scott Anderson, Maple Grove Fire Department  
Ulie Seal, Bloomington Fire Department  
Joel McColl, Savage Fire Department  
Tim Oland, DNR  
Chad Stangeland, Moorhead Fire Department  
Greg Hayes, Mdewakaton Public Safety  
David Jensen, Hugo Fire Department  
Kevin Sedivy, DPS, State Fire Marshal’s Division  
Rodger Coppa, Plymouth Fire Department  
Mike Meyer, Lakeville fire Department