

October 21, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes

Board Members Participating: Eric Alberts (proxies from Molly Ferguson and Dr. Hsu), Maria Bledsoe, Lynne Drawdy, Nicole Fulton, Olive Gaye, Alan Harris, Dr. Peter Pappas, Ken Peach, Chief Aaron Rhodes, Wayne Smith, Clint Sperber, Mike Szczepanski, Lynda W.G. Mason, Dustin Williams

Others Present: Matt Meyers

Call to Order, Welcome, Roll Call & Introductions: Eric Alberts called the meeting to order at 4 pm. A quorum was reached.

Approval of June Board Minutes: The minutes were attached to the calendar invitation. A motion to approve these was made and seconded. There was no discussion or opposition and the motion carried.

Approval of May, June, July, August, September 2025 Treasurer's Reports: The reports were attached to the calendar invitation. Lynda W. G. Mason advised that she has reviewed and approved the treasurer's report, including the revisions to the May report. A motion to approve all reports was made and seconded. There was no discussion or opposition and the motion carried.

Executive Committee Update: Eric advised that the September meeting was cancelled. The next meeting is in November.

Old Business:

- **Contract/Funding Updates:** Eric reported that the Coalition will receive full funding this fiscal year and the state has advised they can pay the first quarter invoice in a timely manner. Funding for next fiscal year is still uncertain and we are monitoring this.
- **Board Engagement:** Eric advised the update is attached to the calendar invitation and shows Board members are engaged. There was one Board member who had an issue with calendar invitations and this has been corrected.
- **September Meeting Update:** Lynda advised that the survey results are attached to the calendar invitation. Satisfaction with the meeting and engagement was high. The most significant improvement opportunity is to continue to promote in-person attendance.
- **Issues Board / Traffic Light Report:** Clint Sperber advised that the updated report is attached to the calendar invitation. He advised that the report has been updated with the new contract deliverables, and all first quarter deliverables were completed and approved. The Coalition has begun work on the second quarter deliverables due 12/15/25, including the annual updates to the HVA, Readiness Assessment, Readiness Plan, Training and Exercise Plan and Supply Chain Integrity Plan. Clint reported that we are continuing to make progress on two of the high priority issues. The Coalition is supporting development of the Orange County Family Reunification Plan. We are also working with the Florida Committee on Trauma Disaster Preparedness Subcommittee, chaired by Dr. Zito at Orlando Health, to develop an

RMOCC (regional medical operations coordinating center).

- **Board Terms/Appointments/2025 Elections:** Lynne reported that most Board members have agreed to serve another term. She thanked all and stated that the Board's leadership during these challenging times is critical to our sustainability. There are two Board members who are moving and each has spoken to their replacement about serving on the Board. Chief Kammel recommended that Chief Christian Montoyo take his place. Aaron Kissler recommended that Dr. Ethan Johnson take his place. Lynne advised that both have agreed to serve. These appointments keep the geographic and discipline balance needed. A motion was made and seconded to appoint both to the Board. There was no further discussion or opposition and the motion carried. Lynne advised that this means we do not need an election this year. She stated that we will recognize Aaron Kissler and Chief Kammel for their service and introduce the new Board members at the conference.
- **RMAT Updates:** Lynne advised that the team is providing support at the Orlando Air Show this month. NOTE: due to the government shutdown, the air show was cancelled. She stated that the priority this year is to complete the inventory and reorganize the warehouse for ease in deploying response equipment.
- **Annual Conference:** Lynne reminded the Board that the conference highlights and registration link went out this week to all members by email and on social media. Our goal is to have 150 attendees (100 in person and 50 virtual) and four paid sponsors. Registrations have been brisk, and we have three of the four sponsors paid and FHCA providing CEUs. Eric stated that it is a great agenda and he hopes all Board members can participate.

New Business:

- **Proposed State of Florida EM License:** Eric expressed concern regarding a proposal to require all positions in emergency management to have a license. He stated that this would be burdensome for healthcare organizations and would increase difficulty in keeping positions filled. Florida Hospital Association does not support this proposal. Alan Harris agreed. Lynne advised that the Florida Healthcare Coalitions all oppose this. FEPA is holding a town hall meeting on Friday and Lynne will attend to learn ways to express our concerns. If this progresses, the Board will write to legislators.
- **Board Approval:**
 - **Member of the Year:** Lynne advised that only one nomination was received. The Board reviewed the nomination. A motion to approve the nominee as Member of the Year was made and seconded. There was no discussion or opposition and the motion carried. Lynne advised that there were two nominations for Leader of the Year. The Executive Committee votes on these. Lynne will send these out for a vote by email so that we can order the plaque in time for the conference.
 - **Budget Revision #2:** Lynne advised that she did not send out this document as there are formatting errors that the state is working to correct. She reviewed the proposed budget revisions, including eliminating six months' salary for the administrative specialist position, moving the project manager to part-time, eliminating the statewide conference funding, reducing our share of the BOLDplanning state contract, and

eliminating the rest of the infectious disease consultant contract, Dollars saved were moved to the hospital minimum equipment project, split between equipment for items over \$5,000 and supplies for those under. This will help to accommodate new hospitals coming online this year. Lynne asked for approval to add joining FEPA at \$100. A motion was made and seconded to approve the budget revisions. There was no further discussion and no opposition and the motion carried. Lynne will submit the budget revision to the state for approval and will share the final document with the Board.

Board Open Forum: Board members reported on issues and updates within their discipline. Alan Harris reported on a bill which has significant impacts to emergency preparedness and response.

Next Meeting: Lynne advised that the next Board meeting is December 16th, but we have several contract deliverables due December 15th. She suggested cancelling the December meeting and doing updates and Board voting to approve deliverables via email. All agreed. Lynne asked about the 2026 Board schedule and all agreed to keep the same schedule.