



INDIANA DISTRICT 2

HOSPITAL PREPAREDNESS PLANNING COMMITTEE, INC.

Indiana District 2 Health Care Coalition Meeting Minutes

Date: January 8, 2026

Time: 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Location: Plymouth Public Library

Called to Order by: Lydia Spencer

Board Members:

Chair: Lydia Spencer

1st Vice Chair: Emily Neufeld

2nd Vice Chair: Dr. Jason Bailey

EMA Representative: Kip Shuter

EMS Representative: Tony Doyle

Member-at-Large 1: Kim Brown

Member-at-Large 2: Aaron Bolinger

Secretary: Angela Hostetler

Readiness and Response Contractor:

Mark Philson

Planning Coordinator: Jenn Tobey

Clinical Advisor: Dani Briney

Training and Exercise Coordinator:

Michelle Superczynski (*now resigned*)

1. Call to Order

- Called to Order By: Lydia Spencer
- Time: 9:07 AM
- Quorum established
- Previous minutes accepted; please ask questions if you have any.
- New Member Introductions:
 - Stacey Bowler, Director of Patient Services, Center for Hospice
 - Vince Benchino, IDOH Clinical Director – Trauma & Injury Prevention
- New meeting location piloted. Feedback requested on future meetings for location, content, and meeting format
 - Discussed later that previous meeting location was \$480 every month; trying to find a new location with appropriate space and parking for less cost. Team to tour LifePlex after meeting.

2. Funds Review – Mark Philson

Current Balances:

- Checking: \$40,613.64
- Savings: \$135,444.16
 - Includes H1N1 funding
- Invoice #2 submitted

Budget/Grant Updates:

- NSGP-NSS grant submitted, awaiting response
 - Intended use: additional EM radios
 - Deliverables on track
 - Member feedback and discussion requested
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3. D2 Communications Drill Report

- **Preparis participation: 36.36%**
 - Preparis costs approximately \$8,000 annually; it is imperative that the platform is actively used.
 - Usage data is submitted to the state and helps determine future funding.
 - Preparis can and should be utilized during emergencies and is a shared resource for all D2 partners.
 - Recently used during an emergency and provided extensive support.
 - Membership status:
 - Individuals who are unsubscribed will be removed; members should verify they are subscribed.
 - If unsure of participation status, members may use the QR code provided or remain after the meeting for assistance.
 - Assistance is available to help members access their accounts.
 - Responding to drills:
 - Members were reminded to respond to drills.
 - Response timeframe is approximately 2.5 weeks.
 - If both text and email notifications are received, only one response is required.
 - Additional training on Preparis is desired.
 - Mark will distribute a one-page guide in the interim.
 - Training will be scheduled for a future meeting.

- **Radio call participation:**
 - Hospitals: 92%
 - EMA: 100%
 - Health Department: 100%
 - Dispatch: 100%
 - Contact team for radio training or equipment needs.
 - **Upcoming drill:** January drill scheduled for Tuesday, December 13.
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4. Old Business – Mark Philson

- All updated policies are available on the D2 website.
 - Working through website barriers; changes should be visible soon.
 - HVA updates:
 - Reminder to update monthly to incorporate real-world data.
 - Reminder sent on the first Friday of every month.
 - Report any non-routine events.
 - Timely updates are critical for decision-making and effective communication within the district.
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5. New Business

Deliverable Review for BP2 – Mark Philson

- Attachment A: Guidebook outlining state expectations
 - ASPR has additional requirements.
 - Resource for plan development; Mark can provide copies if needed.
- Focus on meaningful improvement vs. “check-the-box” compliance
 - First 6 months focused on learning about the district and addressing immediate concerns.
 - Board meets regularly to support progress.
- Deadlines and updates
 - ASPR and State moved deadline to June 30, 2026 (originally 12/31).
 - Key documents:
 - HCC Governance document (being reworked; critical for IRS non-profit status)
 - Jurisdiction information

- HVA
 - Readiness Assessment
 - Readiness Plan
 - Training and Exercise Plan
- Group input requested
 - Members encouraged to review emails and provide feedback on priorities.
- Bi-annual updates
 - EMResource:
 - Primary tool during emergencies.
 - Accurate updates are crucial to avoid reputational and financial impacts if skipped.
 - Updating info on EMResource:
 - Michelle needs updated licensed bed counts for MRSE planning, using EMResource.
 - Outreach has been made to gather updated information; correct numbers are required to move forward.
 - Updated emergency coordinator contacts is required for deliverables
 - State reviews this information as well.
 - Initial focus on hospitals, with plans to expand district-wide.
 - Many members unfamiliar with EMResource; goal is full district participation.
 - Incident example discussed demonstrating EMResource utility.
 - EMResource will be featured in next month's spotlight speaker session.

Training Update – Jenn Tobey

- Training Binder available at meetings contains all scheduled classes; members encouraged to review regularly.
- Training email distribution group is active; sends notifications for other district trainings as well.
- Some trainings are listed at the back of the agenda.
- EMA Stakeholder Meeting scheduled for 1/22, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM
 - All members welcome and encouraged to attend.
 - Registration required.
- ICS Courses 100, 200, 700: 7-hour courses scheduled for April.
- Signing up for training can be challenging; members may contact Mark or Jenn for assistance.

Planning Update – Jenn Tobey

- Shared plans; have been reviewed by Lydia but members encouraged to visit the website to review plans as well.
 - Extension noted earlier in meeting:
 - Appendix A–G due.
 - EOP and some annexes up for renewal.
 - Two new annexes being created: Recovery Plan and Cybersecurity.
 - Members encouraged to promote awareness of D2 and utilize Jenn’s expertise in planning.
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6. Good of the Order

Member Report-Outs

Public Health

- **Elkhart County:**
 - Flu is surging; COVID and RSV also circulating.
 - Changes to childhood immunization vaccine schedule.
- **Fulton County:**
 - Recent power outage impacted the town of Rochester; vaccines had to be relocated.
 - Generator now available and operational.
- **Marshall County:**
 - Carseat certification program coming soon.
 - COVID cases increasing.

EMA

- **Marshall County:**
 - Own website created with state support; includes training page.
 - LEPC reorganization kickoff **February 11**; participants welcome.
- **Kosciusko County:**
 - Certified 8 individuals in emergency response (CERT team).
 - Finalizing multi-hazard plan; currently in final review.
- **Pulaski County:**
 - 2nd MPHA meeting completed.

- **Elkhart County:**

- Jenn shared positive notes about the importance of continued education and spending time in training to become better.
- Continuity of Operations Plan written by county attorney; signed by commissioners but overdue for review (2 years).
 - Discussions ongoing to update plan and ensure essential teams are trained.
 - IDOH has removed contractors; county emergency responsibilities being revamped.
 - Backup plans emphasized for all teams.

Hospitals

- **Parkview Health:**

- Visitor restrictions began; masking recommended for all.

- **Pulaski Memorial:**

- Noted an influx of patients. Discussed restrictions.

- **St. Joseph Health:**

- Planning continues; awaiting bill
- Active shooter simulation in progress.

- **Beacon Health:**

- Opened new 2-story addition with rheumatology, infusion, MRI, and other services.
- System working on Everbridge implementation, including all Michigan hospitals; respiratory risk is medium.

- **Goshen Hospital:**

- Masking/restrictions expected later this week; discussions ongoing.

- **Note from Jenn:** D2 can provide supplies for free from current stock; members advised not to purchase independently.

Public Safety (Fire, EMS, PD)

- **Elkhart Fire Department:**

- Improving program with Dr. Bailey; 19 administrations completed successfully; planning expansion.

- **Tri-County EMS:**

- Increase in respiratory patients.
- Adding trucks where available
- Extending advanced EMT scope to prevent paramedic burnout.

- **Elkhart County EMS:**
 - Dr. Bailey formed physician group; focusing on amputations, equipment, and meds.
 - Plans to implement freeze-dried program and blood transport into Goshen Fire.
 - Grant-funded junctional tourniquets provided to smaller departments.
 - Items can be intercepted if needed for emergencies.
- **IUSB:** Planning for commencement events.

IDOH

- Trauma and Injury Prevention (TIP)
 - Award initiatives 1 & 4 underway; workgroups formed across different areas.
 - RHTCP: Rural Health Transformation Program; 5-year initiative, \$207M awarded for year 1; distribution plans ongoing.
 - Goal is to improve access to care in rural areas in Indiana
 - Initiative 12: district grant funding; 8 districts created (different from usual configuration).
 - NorthTrack meeting next week; trauma-related representation encouraged.
 - TIP has funding; members acting as ambassadors must submit data; D2 can request funding for approved items.
 - Non-preapproved items require a request form and quarterly review.
 - Focus on developing training plans and state support.

IDHS

- Grant waiting to open; funding expected.
- Casey's small community grants: up to \$500 for smaller projects.
- Office for School Safety now under Homeland Security; requesting improved notice on training to adjust budgets/schedules.

INDOT

- Rachel Greenwood, 19 years in emergency response for INDOT.
- Drivers must be recertified annually; first snow impacted operations due to lapsed certifications.
- 511.in.org used for situational awareness; monitors plow locations, active cameras, and planned routes.
 - EMS feedback: site helps plan safe patient transport routes.

NWS

- Contact NWS with any needs; radar does not always detect all incidents.
 - Spring Weather Spotter Training planned for March/April; will include guidance on hazards and reporting.
 - Example shared: tire fire detected via radar; plume information shared with first responders.
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7. Update on Michelle

- Previous liaison role before restructuring occurred
 - Accepted role at IDOH as Public Health Field Coordinator, covering districts 1, 2, 3, and 4.
 - TEC role with D2 is a conflict of interest; resigned from D2 position.
 - Will continue attending D2 meetings in a non-board capacity.
 - TEC position will become available, more information forthcoming.
 - Michelle has been heavily involved in district initiatives and aims to transition responsibilities smoothly.
 - MRSE Exercise Planning:
 - Volunteers needed from core 4 hospitals, EMS, EMA.
 - Membership involvement critical for planning and execution.
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8. Adjournment

Adjourned by: Lydia Spencer

Time: 10:42 AM

Next Meeting: February 12 at 9:00 AM, location TBD