



Gratiot County Emergency Management Division  
Emergency Operations Center  
1375 County Farm Drive  
Ithaca, Michigan 48847



Gratiot County Local Emergency Planning Committee  
Meeting Agenda  
March 10, 2026 @ 10:00 am  
**Gratiot-Isabella RESD Room 300**

**Chair** – Fred Harris, Gratiot County Emergency Manager / Homeland Security Division  
**Vice-Chair** – Paul Hungerford, Superintendent, G-I RESD  
**Information Coordinator** – Rich Ramereiz, St Louis Police Chief  
**Emergency Services Coordinator** – Fred Harris, Gratiot EMHSD

- I. **Call to order, Pledge of Allegiance**
- II. **Roll Call/Attendance**
- III. **Approval of January 13, 2026, Meeting Minutes and March 10, 2026, Agenda.**
- IV. **Call to the Public**
  - a. None Present
- V. **Special Presentation**
  - a. None scheduled
- VI. **Old business**
  - a. We have seventy-eight (78) organizations within Gratiot County that must comply with the Tier II Emergency and Hazardous Chemical Inventory requirements. Gratiot Emergency Management monitors/reviews those records along with the respective Fire Department.
  - b. Gratiot EM reviews all site plans and emergency action plans associated with those submitted reports.
  - c. Gratiot County Homeland Security Grants are currently at a standstill due to the funding issues in DC.
  - d. We currently have the following outstanding Homeland Security Grants pending reimbursement:
    - i. HSGP FY 23 - \$9,509 (Alma PD Drone)
    - ii. HSGP FY 24 - \$8,307. (Gratiot Airport Security Cameras)
    - iii. HSGP FY 25 - Not received any funding as of this date.
- VII. **New business**
  - a. The annual Gratiot County Emergency Management Performance Grant (which partially funds the EM Coordinator wages/benefits) comes from FEMA through MSP Emergency Management and has, in the past, had a funding level of approximately \$14,000 and has been reduced every year. This year, the contribution came in at a whopping \$547.00. The county funds everything else.



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- b. With the Hazard Mitigation Plan grant funding of \$63,000.00 (from FEMA) to fund the revision of the plan, we are in the process of developing the RFP for a consultant/project manager. Once a consultant is hired, we will begin hosting community meetings and gathering potential hazard data that do/could impact Gratiot County. When revising our mitigation plan, it is important to look at both historical hazards and emerging risks. Being a rural, agricultural-heavy county, we should address things like:
  - i. Flooding, culvert and drainage upgrades, updated floodplain mapping, and overwhelmed agricultural drainage systems.
  - ii. Critical facility backup power
  - iii. Siren/alert system improvements
  - iv. Public shelter planning (including Warming/Cooling Centers better identified)
  - v. Severe weather
  - vi. Ice Storms causing prolonged power outages
  - vii. Elderly populations are at risk during extended outages.
  - viii. Drought that may impact agricultural production/fire risk in dry fields
  - ix. Hazardous material transport (highways/rail), pipeline infrastructure (natural gas transmission lines)
  - x. Grain bin entrapments
  - xi. Active threat incidents (schools, government facilities, Cyber threats to County, City, Village IT systems
  - xii. Domestic Terrorism/Civil Unrest
  - xiii. Water supply mapping, water supply backup power systems
  - xiv. Water contamination/mitigation
- c. The list goes on and on. This is why it is critical to develop a coordinated effort and obtain feasible hazard possibilities from community/organizational meetings. If we ever need to declare a state of emergency for our county, our plan must include these hazard mitigation measures to request and receive federal funding.
  - i. We will need several volunteers to assist with reviewing/revising the Hazardous Mitigation Plan.
- d. Gratiot Emergency Management has also developed an Emergency Procedures Manual for all Courthouse offices and has instructed all staff. We still have twelve offices scheduled for the training in April.

**VIII. Round Table**

- a.

**IX. Adjournment**

The next planned LEPC meeting is May 13, 2025, 10 a.m. in room 300 at the Gratiot-Isabella RESD