Northeast Ingham Emergency Service Authority Board Meeting

Call to Order (Agenda 1)

The regular meeting of the NIESA Board was called to order by Chairperson Diederich, on May 14, 2026, beginning at 7:00 p.m. at Station 61, 1296 W. Grand River, Williamston, MI.

Roll Call (Agenda 2)

Voting Members Present:	Mr. Diederich, Mr. Duffy Mr. Hansen, Ms. Schoenborn, Mr. Wilbrink, Ms. Hart
Voting Members Absent:	Wheatfield Township
Non-Voting Members Present:	Ms. Schultz, Lana Stanfield, Bruce Miller, Ben Stiffler
NIESA/Employees Present:	Director Yanz, Deputy Chief Drent, Mason Babcock, Tom Hilker, Kyle Oesterle, Mike Takovich
NIESA/Employees Absent:	None
Guests:	Andrew Keller and Christina Miteff

Pledge of Allegiance (Agenda 3)

Chairperson Diederich led the NIESA Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recognition of staff in the house—Chairperson Diederich recognized the many staff listed under ***NIESA/Employees Present*** and thanked them for attending tonight's meeting and for their service.

Approval of Agenda (Agenda 4)

Approval of Agenda—that the NIESA Board of Directors approve the agenda of the regular meeting held Thursday, May 14, 2026.

Amendment: Add under New Business, Item a. Union Update.

Ms. Schoenborn, seconded by Mr. Wilbrink, moved to approve the agenda of the regular meeting for Thursday, May 14, 2026, as amended.

Ayes: 6	Nays: 0	Motion carried.

Public Comment (agenda 5)

Bruce Miller shared Nate Lott resigned as Locke Township supervisor as of April 30th. Bruce is now the new township supervisor of Locke Township.

Approval of Minutes (Agenda 6)

Approval of Minutes—that the NIESA Board of Directors approve the minutes of the regular meeting held April 9, 2026.

Amendment: Mr. Hansen's motion, Page 3, Mr. Hansen's motion should read, "moved to make recorded meeting minutes available to the public; however, the motion failed for lack of a second". Then move the motion under the Meeting Recording/Access to Recording heading.

Mr. Wilbrink, seconded by Ms. Schoenborn, moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held April 9, 2026, as amended.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Approval of Consent Agenda (Agenda 7)

Approval of Consent Agenda—that the NIESA Board of Directors approves the NIESA Check Account Summaries and Payroll Account Summaries dated April 2026.

Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Schoenborn, moved that the NIESA Board approve April 2026, consent agenda Item 7, as presented.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Old Business (Agenda 8) – (Action Items)

Member at Large Position— Non-Paid Position – Four-Year Term (July 1, 2026–June 30, 2030): One application was received from Mr. Wilbrink. The application deadline is May 26, and the position will take effect in July. It was recommended that the vacancy be posted on the NIESA website under Open Positions. Director Yanz will follow up with Ms. Paula Curtis regarding the website posting.

Meeting Recording Policy— Director Yanz will continue working on a draft policy outlining procedures for recording Board meetings, including options for hosting videos on YouTube and placement on the NIESA website. There were no new updates at this time. The Board discussed the potential use of a third-party service to manage the recording process. Director Yanz was asked to submit a draft policy in June. Chairperson Diederich stated he would like to record the meetings, and the Board indicated interest in pursuing this initiative.

New Business (Agenda 9) – (Discussion Items)

The Firefighters Union vote was conducted, and the vote passed. NIESA's full-time firefighters have voted to move forward with IAFF representation, beginning a formal bargaining process. Because labor negotiations must be handled by a labor attorney, NIESA has engaged Foster & Swift at a rate of $350 per hour. Bargaining is expected to require 150–200 hours of legal work, with an estimated cost of up to $70,000. Only $7,000 is currently budgeted, and Director Yanz is reviewing expenditures to identify areas for reallocation.

Eighteen of the twenty-one eligible full-time employees have submitted IAFF applications. Union membership is voluntary; non-members will still be represented but will not have voting rights. The next steps include electing a union board, drafting a contract, and working with NIESA leadership to determine what is feasible for the department.

The goal shared by both staff and leadership is to establish a stable, collaborative contract that protects current conditions and provides clarity and security for employees moving forward.

It was recommended that the NIESA Board add "Personnel/Finance – Union" to the June agenda under "New Business".

Reports (Agenda 10)

Director Yanz delivered the Monthly Director's Report across Administration, Operations, Training, Grants, and Personnel. Highlights included open Medic position, NIESA's participation with the Medic Response Team, Grant from State of Michigan released, working on letter of support from each jurisdiction, Ms. Paula Curtis to send out a "Sample" letter to each.

Treasurer Report

- *Bank Balances/Investment Report/Bank Fees—Flagstar CD is maturing; therefore, will make decision on funds at the June 11, 2026 meeting.*

Department Heads

- NIESA-EMS Fire Report, May 2026
- EMS/MC Accounting Report

Public Comment (Agenda 11)None

Board Member Comments (Agenda 12)

Mr. Duffy reported that a tree and power line came down at the Williamstown Township hall on Election Day and expressed the township's appreciation for NIESA's prompt and professional response.

Mr. Hansen requested clarification regarding the General Fund Budget for January through March, specifically related to the Stabilization Authority.

Chairperson Diederich noted that the Member-at-Large position will require an Alternate. Mr. Ben Stiffler has expressed interest in serving in this role.

Ms. Schoenborn shared the annual audit is underway. The new auditing firm does not conduct on-site reviews, so all required documents must be transmitted manually or through authorized remote access. The audit remains in progress.

Adjournment (Agenda 13)

Mr. Hansen, seconded by Ms. Schoenborn, moved that the NIESA Board meeting be adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Duffy, Secretary
NIESA Board