# **MABAS-WISCONSIN** in ACTION

A quarterly newsletter of MABAS WISCONSIN incidents and activities that underscore its value to the community and to foster growth and improvement through the sharing of actual experience.

DIV 140: THE HOSPITAL IS ON FIRE - NEED A 3RD ALARM

BY ADAM KOHNERT, WHITEHALL FIRE DEPARTMENT

When Chief Jeremiah Pientok arrived at the Gundersen Tri-County Hospital/Nursing Home, he saw heavy black smoke had filled the 3rd floor corridor and several rooms. There was a lot of panic by everyone. At that time, Chief Pientok radioed to dispatch to pull the **MABAS Division 140 Box card 7-1-1 to the 3<sup>rd</sup> alarm level**.

On September 4th, 2018, at 10:28pm, the Whitehall Fire Department was dispatched to 18601 Lincoln Street for a commercial fire alarm. The initial alarm was showing "3rd floor southeast corridor, smoke".

This was the **Gundersen Tri-County Hospital.** Subsequent calls from hospital personal advised the **Trempealeau County Dispatch Center** that there was active fire on the 3rd floor. It was a Tuesday night, with temps in the mid-sixties.

Whitehall is in central Trempealeau County, about 40 miles south of Eau Claire and midway between Minneapolis and Stevens Point. The Gundersen Tri-County Hospital houses a nursing home on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. There are three floors total; the bottom two are hospital and the top floor is the nursing home portion.

When arriving on scene, we were told by staff that there were 32 nursing home residents and 5 hospital patients, and they were starting to evacuate.

At first, it was unknown what exactly was on fire. When Chief Pientok entered the nursing home corridor, he observed a wall AC Unit smoking. Chief Pientok then proceeded down two flights of stairs to an exit door where he was able to unlock the door for fire personnel.

Our initial plan was to send an attack crew in with a cross lay through the east corner stairway. We have trained in this stairway before. At the time, we had concerns about both staff and the safety of the patients/residents. We found out that you can train all you want, but the real event is never the same thing. At first, it was complete chaos. But with the help of other departments, we were able to gain control quickly. The hardest part was making a command post that would arrange placement for patients.

It was a very quick knock down. Most of the flames were gone when we got inside. However, there was still heavy smoke inside. The smell was very pungent and had already circulated throughout the whole hospital.

We knew that the hospital could not stay open and patients/residents needed to be moved elsewhere.

The staff had patient accountability under control. After we had our IC (Incident Command) setup, we cross referenced their records of whom we had ready to be moved and who we already had on busses to be moved.

(Continued on page 3)



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The Gundersen Tri-County Hospital (Photo by Adam Kohnert)

**VOLUME 10, ISSUE 1** 

WINTER 2018-19

### MABAS-WISCONSIN IN ACTION

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE BY KEVIN BIERCE, CHIEF, PEWAUKEE FIRE DEPARTMENT, AND PRESIDENT, MABAS WISCONSIN

#### Greetings!

Well, one look outside and we can see the effects of global warming! Unfortunately for us, warm or not, out mission continues to serve our communities and that of our neighbors.

Once again we continue to see the need for MABAS on day to day basis. Whether it's for additional staffing to keep our firefighters safe from the elements or providing critical backup to apparatus that loses it battle with the elements at -55°, MABAS certainly helps the IC win the war.

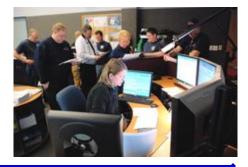
The last several weeks I watched several multi-box calls that have been commanded like a wellrehearsed concert, key positions filled quickly, resources allocated, and task force reserves put into place early in the incident. Simply put, the right tools, the right people, make MABAS a strong system. I thank all of you who make it successful each and every day. Till the next Box. Kevin

### MABAS TRAINING IDEA FROM 2009 BY GARY SCHMIDT

The responders of an agency new to MABAS visited their Comm Center to understand the new protocols by watching a radio drill conducted by SE Region Coordinator Bill Rice at Division 107 on March 7, 2009.



Seeing the card while hearing the radio responses enabled those who would be using the radios understand the difficulties encountered by the Comm Center when transmissions are unclear, distorted, or stepped on. (Photo by Bill Mokros)





Save the Date for the first Joint WEMA / MABAS-WI Conference. WEMA Conference Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019 MABAS-WI Conference Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Host Facility The Holiday Inn & Conference Center 1001 Amber Avenue, Stevens Point, WI 54482

For Conference & Vendor Information please check either website: <u>http://www.mabaswisconsin.com</u> or <u>https://wema.wildapricot.org</u>

Use the reservation link provided on the websites. The lodging room rate will be at State Rate of \$82.

Conference Fees are \$125 (each). Attend both and receive a 20% discount.

### MABAS WI CORPORATE SPONSOR

As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, MABAS Wisconsin relies on donations and sponsors to further its mission of mutual aid, associated systems and training. We thank the following organization for their sponsorship:

**Mutual Aid Labs** provides world-class software to emergency services agencies without regard to their size. For too long size and budget has dictated the quality of technology available to these agencies, Mutual Aid Labs will provide software that revolutionizes processes and procedures, in such a way that it does not place undue burden on an agency's budget.

Mutual Aid Labs is the provider of **EMABAS** full electronic implementation of the *Mutual Aid* Box Alarm System (MABAS).



**EMABAS** converts box cards from static data to dynamic documents that change as departments and agencies change; **EMABAS** transforms the manner in which you plan and respond.

The desktop version of **EMABAS** provides the main interface for creating and using box cards. It also provides interfaces into resources, contacts, dispatch and reporting. Additionally the system has the ability to aid agencies in the use of MABAS during actual Calls.



### DIV 140: THE HOSPITAL IS ON FIRE - NEED A 3RD ALARM - CONTINUED

(Continued from page 1)

#### Use of MABAS.

MABAS worked well. We had the resources we needed in a timely matter and dispatch did a wonderful job of making sure everyone knew where to go and which channel to be on.

When Chief Pientok advised Dispatch to pull MABAS box card 7-1-1 to the 3<sup>rd</sup> level, Dispatch already had the card in front of them (fantastic!). Once Dispatch paged out the MABAS call, departments were enroute within 3-4 minutes.

Without MABAS, it would have taken more time for department paging.

The communication issues included portable radio range. Even though Chief Pientok was talking through our county repeater, the thick block wall was too much for the radio to penetrate through.

DEPARTMENT NAME:

Whitehall

BOX ALARM #

7-1-1

ENGINES

Whitehall

Independence

ENGINES

Blair

Pigeon

Arcadia

Hale

Osseo

Ettrick

(Large Fire) Call Whitehall Water Utility

TRUCKS

Whitehall

TRUCKS

Arcadia

Trempealeau

Holmen

1st Choice

Dispatcher: Please Notify Division

140 President at the 2nd Box Alarm Level. Derek Olson

LOCAL DISPATCH AREA:

STILL

WORKING

STILL MABAS BOX ALARM: ALARM

BOX

2ND

3RD

4TH

5TH

REQUEST

Midwest Gas

INTERDIVISIONAL

Also, there was a ton of radio traffic on the main county channel, so it made it difficult for Chief Pientok to direct responding units. We should have utilized more Fire Ground channels for Incident Command and our attack crew.

What stood out to us was that the hospital has a mass text message system. Within minutes, hospital staff were showing up to help. They also did an excellent job finding places for displaced residents to go.

Our message to other departments is to train on MABAS and Incident Command. This will eliminate the "winging it" when going on scene.

We as a department decided that better communication from the individuals inside was needed with the responding units and the people on the outside. We have since trained on this and have a plan in place.

AMBULANCES

Whitehall

AMBULANCES

Arcadia

Osseo

3rd Choice

CHIEFS

Whitehall

Independence

CHIEFS

Blair

Pigeon

Arcadia

Hale

Osseo

Ettrick

BOX ALARM TYPE:

Structure Fire Hydrant

LOCATION OR AREA:

Zone 1 City Of Whitehall

SQUADS

Whitehall

SQUADS

Blair

Pigeon

Arcadia

Hale

Osseo

Ettrick

2nd Choice

Eau	Claire	12	
Ġ			Au
n (2)	ileva 93	10 Osseo	
Arca	adia Div.	hitehall 53 Blair 140 ealeau	
	93 93 14	Holmen 53	54
S EQ Ti Pigeon		La Crosse	
Arcadia Hale			
Osseo			
Ettrick			
			1

### MABAS-WISCONSIN IN ACTION

### MABAS DIVISION 132 TRIES TO SAVE THE VIEW BY JOHN ANDERSEN, DEPUTY CHIEF, CHIPPEWA FIRE DISTRICT



By 5am, it had been snowing for 10 hours and a snow plow was clearing the parking lots of **The View** restaurant. It was **February 12, 2019**, a Tuesday morning.

Located at **17779 County Hwy. "X", in the town of Lafayette**, the building is on Little Lake Wissota and is a wellknown tourist stop and a gathering place for area residents. Boating and ice fishing during the season made the building a year-round attraction.

At **5:48am**, a fire in the walk-out basement level of a tavern / restaurant was reported to the **Chippewa Fire District** by the person plowing the parking lot. Because this was a commercial building, an automatic <u>Local</u> 2<sup>nd</sup> alarm was dispatched, which included automatic mutual aid. Initial units arrived at 5:57am.

#### At 6:02am, we upgraded Chippewa County MABAS Division 132 Card 6 -312-2 to the Box level.

The Chippewa Fire District is a combination fire district with 9 career personnel, 2 part-time personnel, and over 110 paid-on-call volunteers. We operate from 4 stations with 37 pieces of apparatus, covering one village and four townships.

The building was built in the late 1930's/early 1940's. The building had multiple remodels and additions. At one time there were 5 separate roofs.

As time went on, we had to rotate crews and lost some firefighters due to work requirements.



At **7:46am**, we went to the  $2^{nd}$  Box Level and at 8:34am, we escalated to a  $3^{rd}$  alarm box with the fire within the void spaces increasing and additional water was needed.

The snow would continue to fall

through 3pm that day. Weather and road conditions deteriorated, and water supply was affected.

We needed more tenders to feed two truck companies that were put into operation. The heavy snowfall and the fact the building was only accessible on three sides (due to the lake) made access difficult. Snow was piled around parking lot making movement difficult.

Water dripping from the

tender traffic made the highway route of travel ice covered and slippery. Ironically though the structure was right on the lake, direct access to the lake was hampered by plowed snow in the parking lot.

(Continued on page 5)



### MABAS DIVISION 132 TRIES TO SAVE THE VIEW - CONTINUED





#### (Continued from page 4)

The need to frequently rotate crews for rehab did slow fire attack in the later stages of the fire.

### Using MABAS

MABAS eliminated the old system of "cherry picking" responses and mutual aid. Yes, the building is a total loss, but MABAS assured that we flowed two Trucks at 1,500 GPM for several hours. The construction/voids beat us. We updated the card on 1/1/2019. We now have 2 local alarm levels then go to a MABAS Box

We are still adapting to the use of the IFERN radio frequency and coverage of IFERN in Chippewa County is limited. We used Chippewa County Fire, Fire Ground Red and Fire Ground Blue.

We use MABAS more than we used to; in the last year, perhaps four times. The more we use MABAS, the more comfortable we are with it. The Chippewa County Dispatchers are putting a lot of work into the system, so they are getting better and better in using it.

We do monthly radio drills and calls are reviewed by our Local Emergency Planning Committee, of which I am the chair. We are changing our format in 2019 as the Dispatchers will initiate the MABAS Radio Drill using target hazard cards.

Doug Matthews our Division President has been very active working on this project.

In May, 2019, another project of Doug's will be

a combined wildland fire exercise with the DNR and integrating the MABAS Card into that drill.



We are a CO-OP Area for the DNR. If they are busy then we do not have their resources.

DEPAR	TMENT NAME:			BOX ALARM TYP	E:		EFFECTIVE DATE:	MABAS DIVISION
CHIPPEWA DISTRICT Structure Fire Non- Hydrant (Tender)			January 1, 201	9 132				
BO	X ALARM #		LO	CATION OR ARE	EA:		AUTHORI	ZED SIGNATURE:
	6-312-2		Chippewa	a Fire District's	s Box 312		Scott F	Bernette, Chief
LOCAL	DISPATCH ARE	A:						
ALARM	ENGINES	TRUCKS (AERIAL)	TENDERS	SQUADS	AMBULANCES	CHIEFS	SPECIAL EQUIPMENT	CHANGE OF QUARTERS (Station #)
STILL	3		3	3	Duty Crew #1	3		
	1		1, 2, & 22	6	Duty Crew #2	1	Eng 11 (Fill Site)	
1st Alarm	33		Caddott Anson			AC 1	Page Cadott, Anson, Township PERSONNEL	
2nd Alarm	2 Chip City	1	6		Backup	2 AC 2	TRAILER PUMP 6	
	BOX ALARM:				•		•	•
ALARM	ENGINES	TRUCKS	TENDER\$	SQUADS	AMBULANCES	CHIEFS	SPECIAL EQUIPMENT	CHANGE OF QUARTERS (Station #)
		CHIP.CITY	BOYD		CHIP.DIST. 4th Out		CADOTT TRAILER PUMP	ALTOONA ENGINE (TO #1)
BOX			TILDEN	Tilden				TOWNSHIP TENDER (TO #1)
			EAGLE POINT	Eagle Point				ELK MOUND TENDER (TO #2)
	ANSON		Elk Mound (fr #2)				TOWNSHIP TRAILER PUMP	COLFAX TENDER (TO #6)
2ND			BLOOMER	TOWNSHIP				
			TOWNSHIP (Fr #1)					
			ROCK CREEK					
3RD		FALL CREEK	FALL CREEK					
	ALTOONA (Fr #1)		STANLEY					NEW AUBURN ENGINE (TO #1)
4TH			AUGUSTA					
		EAU CLAIRE						
5TH			CORNELL					
NTERDIVI		1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice				<b>é</b> r
REQUEST		Div. 152 - Clark	Div. 143 - SLCroix					and the second s
DISPATCH	ER INFORMATION				1			A CONTRACTOR OF THE OWNER
			ith District on 1st Alarm	s / Chip City on 2r	d Alarm (Automatic Aide	) - SEE MAP		TRUCK
			alls West of 90th Street					Sold States States on the
			is East of 90th Street wh				( The second	
			0003 opt #3 & Page Div				- Charles	
	NFORMATION							A REAL PROPERTY OF
Consider co	intacting Red Cross f	or occupants					718	A STREET ST
							- (Ph	oto: WOOW TV18)

### MABAS-WISCONSIN IN ACTION

### DIV 115 IN ACTION - DISASTER BOX AS TORNADO HITS DEERFIELD PLANT

BY JOSH SEWELL, FIRE CHIEF, DEEFIELD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

**August 9, 2018** was a Thursday afternoon. I was at our fire station along with 2 Captains. It was around 70 degrees, but very humid.

At first it was very unclear what exactly happened as it did not resemble a tornado however debris in the air was rotating which gave us enough information to call into the Comm Center with what we were seeing. I believe we were the first to make a call on this at **3:52pm**.

A large commercial building, the International Machinery Exchange, a manufacturer of cheese making and dairy equipment, at **214 N Main Street**, seemed to be hit (it was in view from the firehouse). Knowing that the building we saw take the hit was a business, at **4pm** our **MABAS Division 115 Disaster Box card** was pulled due to the fact we did not know how many workers were still at the facility, and if any surrounding occupied buildings were affected.

As the incident commander that

afternoon, when I arrived on scene, I could see heavy damage to the business including a roof collapse and the smell of natural gas in the area. There was a combination of brick buildings and sheet metal buildings involved. A few houses took on minor damage from downed trees.

Alliant Energy responded to shut off gas. No injuries were reported. Incoming EMS units cancelled at 4:19pm, the Box was struck out at 5:10pm and State Highway 73 reopened at 5:34pm.

At the time of the incident we were unsure the actual path of the tornado, so precautionary measures were put in place to evacuate the surrounding area. Dane County Emergency management was on scene with their drone, and if I recall correctly, the total affected area was seven-tenths of a mile, mainly in the village.

Overall, we were pleased with our MABAS card. We had enough recourses on scene in the event the outcome was different. We did not make any changes to our cards.



MABAS worked exactly how it should that day. We had plenty of recourses on scene and back filled in quarters in the event another incident occurred.

DEPARTMENT NAME: BOX ALARM TYPE: EFFECTIVE DATE:						MABAS DIVISION		
	eerfield			Disaster			January 1, 2018	115
BOX ALARM # LOCATION OR AREA:					AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE: Ryan Fankhauser			
DR10-13 Village of Deerfield								
LOCAL DI	SPATCH AREA:							
ALARM	ENGINES	TRUCKS	SQUADS	Ambul EMS (ALS)	ances EMS (BLS)	CHIEFS	SPECIAL EQUIPMENT	CHANGE OF QUARTERS (Station #)
STILL	Deerfield E1 Deerfield E2		Deerfield S5	Deer-Gove M78 Deer-Gove M80	Cambridge		Deerfield C1 Deerfield U7 Deerfield T4	
Working STILL	Cambridge							
MABAS B	OX ALARM:							
ALARM	ENGINES	TRUCKS	SQUADS	Ambul EMS (ALS)	EMS (BLS)	CHIEFS	SPECIAL	CHANGE OF QUARTERS (Station #)
BOX	Cottage Grove Marshall		Cambridge	Ryan Bros. M65	Lake Mills Marshall	Cambridge	Deerfield Mass Causality 1	Lake Mills Engine Cottage Grove Squad
2ND	McFarland Lake Mills		Cottage Grove	SunPriaire	Stoughton McFarland	Marshall		Sun Prairie Engine McFarland Squad
3RD	Stoughton Sun Prairie		McFarland	Fitch-Rona	Waterloo DeForest	Cottage Grove	DCCV-1	DeForest Engine Verona Squad
4TH	DeForest City of Madison		Verona	Monona	Columbus Edgerton	Lake Mills	Airport Mass Causality 1	Maple Bluff Engine Lake Mills Squad
5TH	Maple Bluff Monona		Lake Mills	Town Madison	Oregon Waunakee	Sun Prairie		Fitchburg Engine Marshall Squad
Backfill	Fitchburg Edgerton Town Madison		Marshall DeForest Stoughton	City Madison M5 City Madison M8 City Madison M10	Belleville Johnson Creek Jefferson	Maple Bluff Stoughton McFarland	Fitchburg Mass Causalty 1 DeForest Mass Causalty 1	
NTERDIVISI	IONAL	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice			\$	
REQUEST		104	103	118				

## DIVISION SPOTLIGHT: DIV 143 - ST. CROIX COUNTY BY JIM FRYE, DIV 143 PRESIDENT

Division 143, St. Croix County, is in west-central Wisconsin. The St. Croix River (which flows into the Mississippi) forms the border with the State of Minnesota on the west. Much of the area is agriculture.

Upon division inception in 2012, the movement towards live status was slow in the beginning. As the division membership becomes more familiar with the process and procedures we see the system being used more and more. All six Fire Departments are MABAS along with three of the four EMS Agencies. There are three other FD's and two other EMS agencies that have response areas in our County but are part of other divisions.

with MABAS We keep fresh procedures via monthly meetings and radio drills. The MABAS newsletters are sent to division members. Last September the division held a fullscale exercise where MABAS protocol was evaluated along with other aspects. Box card development is a never-ending process. No one knows for sure if you have the right resources on the card until you get a chance to use it. We just started a process of vetting the box cards of the agency hosting each monthly meeting.

There are many target hazards in the division, including large big box retail stores, commercial warehouses, manufacturing facilities, and senior housing / skilled nursing homes. There are a couple of smaller airports in the district, two rail lines, an interstate highway (I-94), several grain elevators and agricultural commodities facilities in the division. We have tour boats in our area. There are several hundred acres of wooded lands.

#### **Issues & Challenges**

Any emergency at our target hazards would be a MABAS event. Any widespread or severe weather event would be cause for a MABAS call. With the Willow River State Park and other public lands, there could be a need for a MABAS event should someone go missing. These days, with staffing issues, a house fire is a MABAS event.

Our area is a bedroom community for the St. Paul-Minneapolis area and our division is all volunteer, so lack of daytime staffing is an issue. The fact that fire stations are ten miles or more apart poses a response challenge.

The division has made great strides to improve communications. They have set up simulcast paging for MABAS events. At the present time, there is an inability to communicate across the division using IFERN on a portable. There is only one IFERN base station in the county. There is a plan in place to correct the deficiency in the near future.

Assistance from Minnesota is via two St. Croix River crossings within the division. One at I-94 in Hudson; the other 11 miles north at WI Highway 64/MN 36 in the town of St Joseph.

The likelihood of both bridges out at the same time is unlikely, however we did have a fully involved semi-truck fire just on the Wisconsin side of the eastbound I-94 bridge last fall. The freeway needed to be shut down. This caused major traffic delays all over the east side of the Twin Cities.

Our division does have separate mutual aid agreement with Washington County MN agencies. This helps bolster our box cards by being able to use the neighboring MN resources.

Because of our geographic location to Minnesota, our division would greatly benefit from a MABAS agreement between our State and Minnesota by tapping into the resources of a major metropolitan area (Twin Cities).

We welcome Polk County to the MABAS group. Several agencies within our division have response area in Polk County. At this time, with not all Polk County agencies on board with MABAS, it is difficult to know which agencies are in MABAS and which ones are not in.

As we were building our interdivisional cards, we quickly learned that it is difficult to totally fill the card. We are hoping that as Polk County gets up and running, we can take resources from all three adjoining divisions (Division 117 is on the east) and fill our interdivisional cards completely.

Div. 161 Polk County on Rapids Blaine New Richmond Jyn Park Div. 143 MINNESOTA Glenwood City 94 St. Croix County Div. 117 Maplewood Dunn County Hudson Minneapolis 694 Baldwin 94 95 St Paul Woodbury lina 62 Meno 5 River Falls Cottage Grove Div. 156 Pierce County

We are still fairly new to MABAS, yet have come a long way since starting out. Our County Emergency Support Services Director and Emergency Communication Manager has been very supportive and we continue to grow and learn with each MABAS event.

To view past newsletters, visit: <u>www.mabaswisconsin.org</u> (see left side column of links)



### MABAS-WISCONSIN IN ACTION

## MABAS CONFERENCE: PLANNING FOR LARGE SCALE INCIDENTS BY GARY SCHMIDT

Are you prepared for an extended large disaster including a Mass Casualty Incident (MCI)? Or can't it ever happen in your area? If not in your jurisdiction, could you be called to another community?

In ten years of reporting in this newsletter, a common refrain from Incident Commanders is "I never thought this could happen in my community".

Do you have any of the following in your vicinity:

- Passenger Trains
- Freight Trains Carrying Hazardous Chemicals
- Large Industrial Employers
- Multi-story Office Buildings
- Interstate Highways
- Commercial Airline Flight Paths above
- A Concentrated Population (City, Village, Town main street)
- Large Crowd Gatherings (Churches, Schools, Stadiums)

Is there a chance that any of the following happen:

- A high-speed train crash
- A hazardous cloud resulting from a freight train derailment
- An explosion at a manufacturing firm or commercial establishment
- Blinding fog or snowstorm
- A plane crash
- A tornado
- An active shooter

Are your MABAS cards filled out adequately to handle a large amount of victims? Would you or your Comm Center know where to turn for additional resources? Are you prepared to handle a long-duration event? Are you even able to imagine the circumstances that may arise?

The 2019 Annual MABAS Wisconsin Conference has many presentations planned about mass incidents, including active shooters, major floods, large fires, and industrial explosions.

Hearing first-hand about the challenges faced at these disasters may cause you to reassess your emergency plans and adjust your box cards ensuring they are complete.

### The peripheral aspects of an MCI

I was on the scene on a Life Safety Box at the 2012 Oak Creek Sikh Temple shooting. Aside from the actual incident, here are some things that I observed that surprised me:

- The amount of Law Enforcement and EMS vehicles that responded and where to stage them all
- The amount of radio frequencies needed (most, if not all, were used: Red, White, Blue, Gold, Black, Gray)
- The number of relatives of victims that descended on foot to the area (victims were trapped for hours before police rescue, but were communicating via cellphones with others)
- The volume of local, State, and National news media that flooded the scene
- Calls of the active shooter continued well after the event due to relatives getting calls from trapped victims, making it sound like there was more than one shooter and in different locations.
- For over 60 minutes, Law Enforcement was focused on the incident, with little left over for traffic & crowd control.

### Division Presidents Fire Chiefs Company Officers Dispatch Administrators



Firefighters Dispatchers Emergency Managers EMS Providers

We are excited to bring the 9th annual MABAS-WI conference to the Holiday Inn and Conference Center in centrally located Stevens Point. The training opportunities for this year's conference will prove to be beneficial to all. If this is your first MABAS conference, or you're a seasoned veteran, there is no better place to learn alongside fire service personnel, emergency managers and 911 emergency dispatchers.

The Conference registration cost is only \$125.00 (which includes 2 lunches and the Friday evening picnic). Conference lodging cost is @ state rate: \$82.00 per night.

### The Wisconsin Emergency Management Association (WEMA) Conference is at the same location the day prior. Register for both and receive a 20% discount on conference fees.

There will be a link provided on both the WEMA & MABAS-WI websites that can be used for making room reservations online (suggested) or you can reserve rooms by calling (715)-344-0200 and using the Block Codes "WEM" if attending the WEMA Conference and "ALA" if attending the MABAS Conference.

### CONFERENCE PRESENTATION: DISPATCHERS FROM THE VEGAS MASS SHOOTING BY GARY SCHMIDT

On October 1, 2017, the Las Vegas valley experienced the deadliest mass shooting in US history. During the over nine hours that encompassed the event, 15 communications specialists and 2 communications specialist supervisors processed hundreds of calls related to this incident in addition to a normal Sunday night's volume of calls while many people were home, asleep and unaware of what was happening. Part of that team will be at the **2019 MABAS WI Conference providing the Keynote Presentation**. Here is their background information.

Tucked away on the third floor of the Central Fire Station Headquarters for Las Vegas Fire and Rescue, sits the Combined Communications Center. A secondary PSAP in Clark County, this center is the fire and medical communications center for Las Vegas Fire and Rescue, Clark County Fire Department, North Las Vegas Fire Department, and the Mount Charleston Fire Protection District.

Tasked with covering over 6,500 square miles of Southern Nevada, response terrains range from desert valley and urban sprawl, to densely populated entertainment zones, to mountain ranges with hiking and ski lodges.

Over 2 million residents reside within this response area and over 42 million

visitors touch down for conferences and vacations annually.

Besides the world-famous Las Vegas Strip and Fremont Street, visitors and residents utilize the several National Parks, including Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area as well as McCarran International Airport (eighth nationwide for travel volume).

Fifty highly trained and motivated Communications Specialists, five Communication Specialist Supervisors and eight Registered Nurses comprise the front-line comm center staff.

An "Accredited Center of Excellence" (ACE) by the National Academies of Emergency Dispatch since 2016, the staff handles over

500,000 calls annually, striving for excellent customer service and first responder safety.

At 10pm that Sunday night, with experience levels ranging from barely off probation to nearly 20 years on the job, every team member had a role and made a huge impact to the success of this incident.

Operational success was achieved, but with a deeply rooted emotional impact for the center, its partner agencies and the town. In the days, weeks and months after the event, a true team effort was in action to ensure that each and every team member knew they were not alone in dealing with the emotional aftermath. This team exemplified, "no one in this family fights alone".





To hear the first hour of public safety radio transmissions of the Las Vegas mass shooting, go to: https://www.broadcastify.com/news/21

Top Left: the open-air venue as shown from a lower floor. Top Middle: the airport fuel tank farm targeted (shown from a lower floor). Top Right: the hallways longer than a football field, taken from elevator lobby. Some shots were fired from the far end of the hallway on a similar floor. Left: The two windows broke out by the shooter (left window faces airport).

Hundreds of visiting civilians were sheltering for over 10 hours in casino basements & hallways with minimal food, water, facilities and hundreds of workers had their own separate areas to evacuate to. This included many other nearby casinos.

Do you have something similar in your community? Are your dispatchers or responders familiar with evacuation locations that victims may relocate to in the event of a shooting, an explosion, or a tornado? Would they be able to make sense of calls coming from the victims as they describe where they may be?

Photos and captions by Gary Schmidt, who coincidentally had a vacation booked at Mandalay Bay on Tuesday October 3rd, the first full day after the 10pm incident.

### MABAS-WISCONSIN IN ACTION

### MABAS TAKES ON THE POLAR VORTEX OF 2019 BY GARY SCHMIDT

### Jan 29<sup>th</sup> 8:22am 692 250th Street, Baldwin Township Temp: -11° Wind Chill: -42° Wind Gust: 35 mph

By: Brent Knegendorf, Asst Chief, United Fire & Rescue

#### Div. 143 - St. Croix County, West Central Region Upgrades: Box at 8:35am

The weather played a big factor in as to get more manpower and tenders to the scene due to the weather and time of the call. We arrived on scene to a fully involved barn fire and pulled 2 lines off the engine to knock the fire down and protection to one building that was fairly close.

After talking with the homeowner, he refused a backhoe to come in and wanted us to let it burn so after we made the decision that the barn was under control to the other structures around it that we would have the township put up road closed signs up and let it burn itself out. MABAS provided an advantage as to getting the water that we needed for knock down and also extra manpower to help pack up are tools and hoses due to the temperature that day as it wears out your crew quickly.

### January 29<sup>th</sup> 10:59am W746 Paine Road, Rubicon. Temp: 0° Wind Chill: –28° Wind Gust: 38 mph By: Chief Paul Stephans, Hartford Fire & Rescue

### Div. 111 - Washington County, Southeast Region Upgrades: Box at 11:05am

A skid loader was being heated by a propane heater in an equipment shed attached to a large barn. The skid loader and shed were destroyed by the fire but firefighting efforts stopped the fire from extending into the attached large wood barn. The severe cold caused immediate icing on the ground creating a fall hazard and also immediate icing of equipment, both personal protective equipment and fire operations equipment.

We recognized early that due to the weather, we would need to rotate fire crews often. MABAS allowed for a rapid, efficient notification of mutual aid resources as part of a pre-established system so our efforts could focus on the firefight without worrying about what specific mutual aid resources we should request.



(Photos by Hartford Fire Department)

Jan 29<sup>th</sup> 6:59pm 611 Main Avenue, Village of Crivitz. Temp: -4° Wind Chill: -26° Wind Gust: 18 mph By: Chief Lukas Deschane, Crivitz Vol. Fire Dept. Div. 144 – Marinette County, Northeast Region Upgrades: Box, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Levels at 7:05pm Upgrades: 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Levels at 7:48pm Structure fire at Crivitz Lumber & Rental in downtown Crivitz. Main building was heavily involved with fire upon arrival, so call was escalated directly to a third alarm right away.

Later escalated to fifth alarm due to subzero temperatures, the need for rotating firefighters and problems with equipment.

### Jan 29<sup>th</sup> 9:23pm N72W24640 Good Hope Rd, Lisbon Temp: -5° Wind Chill: -32° Wind Gust: 30 mph By: Chief Douglas Brahm, Lisbon Fire Department Division 106 – Waukesha County, Southeast Region Upgrades: Box level at 10:49pm.

House Fire with subzero temperatures and wind chill. Law enforcement arrived first and removed one elderly person from the residence. Box 26-12 to Box Level. Box struck out at 11:20pm.

# January 30<sup>th</sup> 10:53am N53W17868 Ridgeline Trail, Village of Menomonee Falls.

### Temp: -16° Wind Chill: -47° Wind Gust: 28 mph

By: Matt Jay, Waukesha County Communications Division 106 – Waukesha County, Southeast Region Upgrades: Box level 11:04am; 2<sup>nd</sup> level at 11:40am. House fire in subzero temperatures and wind chill. Waukesha Metro bus was contacted for warmth and shelter of personnel on scene. Box 27-21 to 2nd Alarm Level.

### January 30<sup>th</sup> 12:58pm 226 Church St, Brooklyn. Temp: -15° Wind Chill: -42° Wind Gust: 22 mph

# By: Asst Chief Leif Spilde, Brooklyn Fire & EMS Protection District

**Division 115 – Dane County, Southwest Region Upgrades: Box level 1:11pm; 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:59pm.** Report of fire in detached garage with home as exposure. Fire could be seen from the Brooklyn station, this combined with frigid conditions prompted immediate box alarm. Special requests for Madison Metro for bus for warming & Salvation Army & Red Cross. Going in to

this stretch of cold weather we had talked to other MABAS Division 115 members and we all agreed to call a box alarm as soon as we knew we had a working fire.

(Continued on page 11)

### Contact Us at Our New Email Address!

Your contributions to the various columns will make this newsletter a success. Let us know about your MABAS response activity or training events at mabaswinews@gmail.com

### MABAS TAKES ON THE POLAR VORTEX OF 2019 - CONTINUED

#### (Continued from page 10)

The weather made for very difficult fire operations at every level. The structure was built on slight incline so all the water that was used for fire suppression and protection of exposers froze went it hit the ground. This made just walking around the scene very difficult. Water that did make it to the street caused traffic issues because of all the ice. Personal on scene also struggled as once they got wet, they were frozen like an ice cube. We utilized a Madison Metro bus to stage personal in while in staging.

Incoming engine companies dropped off personal at the scene and we staged the engines in our station to prevent freezing issues sitting idle at the scene.

As always MABAS makes every larger event go much smoother. Having good cards in place and understand how they work goes a long way in a successful call. In this particular call a lot of non-fire agencies were used and have trained with the fire department in the past, so it makes calls like this go much smoother.

### January 31<sup>st</sup> 1:55am E3598 County Road Y, Township of Eau Galle. Temp: –26° Wind Chill: –26° Wind Gust: Calm

By: Chief Jamey King, Durand Rural Volunteer FD Division 117 – Pepin County, West Central Region Upgrades: 2:31am Box Level

Called to the scene of a Commercial Truck Shop on Fire.

### January 31<sup>st</sup> 6:45am 1693 56<sup>th</sup> St Somerset Temp: -30° Wind Chill: -30° Wind Gust: Calm

By: Asst Chief Jason Crotty, Somerset Fire/Rescue Division 143 - St. Croix County, West Central Region Upgrades: Box level at 6:59am, 2<sup>nd</sup> level at 8:07am. Somerset and St Joseph FD Responded to a singlestory home. The original call reported flames showing in the basement. Our Captain FF Rieken went direct to the scene in his private vehicle and once on scene he automatically called for a MABAS card to be activated due to the cold and time of day (availability of personnel). Since he did not have our cards at hand he worked with St Croix Co Dispatch to activate the correct card. Once I was on scene and assumed command things were already in motion.

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The weather was a huge impact for this scene. We had a pump relay set-up due to the driveway and snow conditions. With the pump relay, we now had two engines working to keep thawed and haul water from the nearby Village of Somerset (approximately 2 miles from the scene). In that short amount of time tenders, would have freezing valves, discharges or problems at the hydrant to get the trucks filled again. We called for extra tenders due to this problem.

Some of the tenders had to be thawed in the Somerset Fire Dept so they could be used again. We also had to deal with the need for Firefighter safety and how to keep them warm if they were in staging or simply needed a place to go.

On this particular day there was no school due to the weather, so we requested a school bus from the area. They promptly honored our request and delivered one to the scene. At the end of the fire when we broke all the hoses down they were hauled back to the station and hung to thaw out before they could be cleaned and put back into service. The weather definitely played a role in the outcome of this fire.

MABAS was excellent tool for this event because as we know it's designed to take the thoughtful approach to calling for mutual aid and all the tools were predetermined. The dispatch center did an excellent job in keeping up with the changing events and requests that I called into them. I knew that by using MABAS, we were not depleting the surrounding communities and allowed for more thought on the strategies of fighting the fire rather than trying to think what equipment I needed next.

# January 31<sup>st</sup> 9:27pm 1980 Rathert Rd, Township of Cottage Grove.

### Temp: –6° Wind Chill: –6° Wind Gust: Calm

By: Chief Jude Wolf, Cottage Grove Vol Fire Dept. Division 115 – Dane County, Southwest Region Upgrades: Box level at 9:39pm

Fire reported in basement of residence, extending to garage. Box alarm requested early due to frigid temps. Box struck at 9:56pm.

### MABAS WISCONSIN IN ACTION STAFF

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### MABAS-WISCONSIN IN ACTION

## Incident Reporting Is Very Important

This newsletter issue is focused on the largest MABAS deployments to date, however, MABAS is used every day to prevent local incidents from becoming large, thereby saving lives and saving money by minimizing property loss. The value of MABAS cannot be understated, yet it is difficult to communicate that message across the State without an effective method to track the MABAS success story.

Incidents Entered July 1, 2018 thru October 31, 2018				
Date & Time	Location	Div.	Host Agency	Вох Туре
7/1/2018 12:27	7311 Omega CR	102	RAYMOND FIRE DEPT	Commercial - Non Hydrant
7/1/2018 20:34	812 E Brandybrook Rd	106	WALES GENESEE FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
7/3/2018 11:15	5862 TREE LINE DR	115	FITCHBURG FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
7/6/2018 0:00	w5467 CTH FF	105	MONROE FIRE DEPT	Commercial - Non Hydrant
7/6/2018 5:25	S36 W29903 Wern Way	106	WALES GENESEE FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
7/7/2018 18:49	W296 S3019 Molly Ln S	106	WALES GENESEE FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
7/8/2018 6:01	W6477 County Highway W	129	JUNEAU FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
7/9/2018 14:26	1263 E. Walnut	112	GREEN BAY FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
7/10/2018 0:00	W7880 CTH O, Deerbrook, WI	147	ANTIGO TWP FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
7/10/2018 18:20	N Bristol St / E Main St	115	SUN PRAIRIE VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
7/11/2018 11:33	N6681 Weber View Drive	129	IRON RIDGE FIRE DEPT INC	Structure - Non Hydrant
7/12/2018 15:04	150 S. Fisk Street	112	GREEN BAY FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
7/17/2018 0:00	1018 County Road C	144	WAUSAUKEE VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
7/19/2018 16:55	S31 W30159 Sunset Dr	106	WALES GENESEE FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
7/23/2018 0:08	N76 W14629 North Point Dr	106	MENOMONEE FALLS FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
7/25/2018 10:30	200 CWA Drive	130	MOSINEE FIRE DIST	Target Hazard
7/31/2018 0:26	N29 W22960 Marjean Ln	106	PEWAUKEE FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
8/4/2018 1:25	2856 Cth Mn	115	COTTAGE GROVE VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
8/7/2018 18:50	E4151 430th Ave	117	MENOMONIE FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
8/9/2018 15:52	214 N Main St	115	DEERFIELD VOL FIRE DEPT	Disaster
8/13/2018 17:35	1 Main St.	123	NEENAH-MENASHA FIRE RESCUE	Structure - Hydrant
8/14/2018 12:35	336 W Main St	106	WAUKESHA FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
8/15/2018 6:23	841 E Veterans Way	106	MUKWONAGO FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
8/22/2018 15:20	W74N735 SPRUCE AVE	119	CEDARBURG VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
8/26/2018 0:00	200 C Avenue	144	GOODMAN VOL FIRE DEPT	Target Hazard
8/27/2018 20:53	202 E Oak Street Sparta, WI	145	ERVS SPARTA RURAL FIRE DEPT	Disaster
9/2/2018 14:10	205 E. 3rd Street, Marshfield WI	116	MARSHFIELD FIRE AND RESCUE	Structure - Hydrant
9/11/2018 16:21	9384 Hwy 54	116	PITTSVILLE FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
9/12/2018 15:43	3151 Cth A	115	STOUGHTON VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
9/15/2018 17:18	1058 Autumn Oak Lane	143	HUDSON FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
9/16/2018 21:52	S82 W13705 Durham Dr	106	TESS CORNERS VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
9/19/2018 0:00	501 5th St	105	NEW GLARUS FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
9/22/2018 10:59	S102 W34688 Lower Clarks Park Rd	106	EAGLE FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
10/6/2018 18:25	1250 Fairhaven Blvd	106	ELM GROVE VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
10/7/2018 0:00	W1902 State Hwy 64, Marinette	144	PESHTIGO TN FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
10/21/2018 16:08	2226 Appaloosa Ln	115	COTTAGE GROVE VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
10/24/2018 5:06	N3398 North Chapel Heights Road	120	CAMPBELLSPORT VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
10/25/2018 4:25	3334 Cth W	115	DEERFIELD VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant

### **Incident Reporting Is Easy To Do**

MABAS Wisconsin has a tool in place to log the use of MABAS. The **Incident Entry Portal** can be accessed via <u>http://incident.mabaswisconsin.org</u> or through <u>http://www.mabaswisconsin.org</u> using the DBMS Login drop down box.

To enter an incident, login with a UserID of *mabas* and a password of *wisconsin*. After the initial entry, Departments need their specific credentials to alter the incident information or to alter the other information on the site about their department. Departments should contact their Division President for the login information

Incidents Entered November 1, 2018 thru January 31, 2019				
Date & Time	Location	Div.	Host Agency	Вох Туре
11/4/2018 14:27	2928 Cth V	115	SUN PRAIRIE VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
11/12/2018 0:00	N5355 Goodland Road. Hartford, WI	129	WOODLAND VOL FIRE DEPT INC	Structure - Non Hydrant
11/15/2018 4:15	1805 W CENTER ROAD	119	SAUKVILLE FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
11/16/2018 19:22	320 Blackhawk Dr	118	FORT ATKINSON FIRE DEPT	Life Safety
11/17/2018 0:00	606 F Alley, Crivitz, WI	144	CRIVITZ VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
11/19/2018 13:50	S91 W31610 Marys Ct	106	MUKWONAGO FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
11/20/2018 0:00	139 Center Street	129	RANDOLPH FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
11/25/2018 2:18	3441 Mueller Road	115	DE FOREST AREA FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
11/27/2018 0:00	3064 Hill Road	112	WAYSIDE VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
12/6/2018 1:31	1141 E. Sumner Street	111	HARTFORD VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
12/6/2018 23:09	3039 Woods Edge Way	115	FITCHBURG FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
12/7/2018 5:19	5820 Shannon road	111	HARTFORD VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
12/8/2018 0:00	607 Commerce	124	HOLLANDALE VOL FIRE DEPT	Commercial - Hydrant
12/9/2018 7:30	2025 CHATEAU CT	119	GRAFTON VOL FIRE DEPT INC	Structure - Hydrant
12/10/2018 0:22	S70 W14980 Cornell Cir	106	TESS CORNERS VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
12/14/2018 2:30	12675 W North Ave	106	BROOKFIELD FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
12/17/2018 10:21	W703 Cty Rd B	118	PALMYRA FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
12/17/2018 10:21	W703 Cty TK CI	118	ROME TWP FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
12/17/2018 14:50	10106 W HAWTHORNE ROAD	119	MEQUON FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
1/4/2019 4:58	2665 Monroe Road	112	BELLEVUE FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
1/5/2019 7:27	8105 95th ST	101	PLEASANT PRAIRIE FIRE & RESCUE	Commercial - Hydrant
1/7/2019 8:48	Vinnie Ha Ha Boat Launch	118	FORT ATKINSON FIRE DEPT	Ice/Water/Dive Rescue
1/8/2019 0:28	N14209 Fairground Ave.	152	OWEN-WITHEE-CURTISS FIRE ASSN	Structure - Non Hydrant
1/14/2019 20:09	123 22nd ave	105	MONROE FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
1/21/2019 11:57	3413 Blackberry Lane	112	SUAMICO VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
1/22/2019 21:06	604 N Musket Ridge Dr	115	SUN PRAIRIE VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
1/26/2019 7:48	618 Main Street	149	PRENTICE VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
1/26/2019 11:47	203885 Lakehurst Road	130	MOSINEE FIRE DIST	Structure - Non Hydrant
1/28/2019 2:42	W1011 Cty Trk Cl	118	ROME FIRE DISTRICT	Structure - Non Hydrant
1/29/2019 8:22	692 250th Street Baldwin Township	143	UNITED FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT	Structure - Non Hydrant
1/29/2019 10:59	W746 Paine Road	111	HARTFORD VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
1/29/2019 18:12	10580 Central Road	137	SURING VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
1/29/2019 18:59	611 Main Ave.	144	CRIVITZ VOL FIRE DEPT	Commercial - Hydrant
1/29/2019 21:23	N72 W24640 Good Hope Rd	106	LISBON FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
1/30/2019 10:53	N53 W17868 Ridgeline Trl	106	MENOMONEE FALLS FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
1/30/2019 12:58	226 Church St	115	BROOKLYN FIRE AND EMS PROT DIST	Structure - Hydrant
1/31/2019 1:55	E3598 County Road Y	117	DURAND RURAL VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
1/31/2019 6:45	1693 56th Street	143	SOMERSET FIRE/RESCUE	Structure - Non Hydrant
1/31/2019 21:27	1980 Rathert Rd	115	COTTAGE GROVE VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant

