

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
CBRNE/IED Sub Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2014 at 10:00 am
Ludlow Fire Dept., Ludlow, Ma.

In attendance: Mark Babineau (WMFCA), Raine Brown (FRCOG), Gretchen Johnson (FRCOG), John Dearborn (D-4 Hazmat), Tim Nelson (D-4 Hazmat), James McInerney (JHAT), Dave Lanoie (FCSO).

The meeting was brought to order by Mark Babineau at 10:04 am.

A round of introductions followed.

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the September 12, 2013 CBRNE/IED meeting.

Motion: John Dearborn motioned approve the September 12, 2013 CBRNE/IED minutes. Motion seconded by Tim Nelson. Voted unanimously.

Budget Review

Raine stated that the Council will be considering the leftover FFY11 and FFY12 funds that will need to be spent down by the end of June and July. The FFY14 contracts will be released in the next few months.

Raine stated that the spending of the FFY13 Tech Rescue training funds is on track. John Dearborn stated that there will be approximately \$5,000 left over from the FFY 12 Haz Mat Team funding. These funds will be released back to the full Council to consider on Tuesday. The government sequestration created a disruption in the training schedule.

Requests

Hazmat Team – JHAT Request

Jim McInerney stated that the Joint Hazard Assessment Team (JHAT) Team works closely with the bomb squad. The JHAT team is the first of its kind in the nation. It was developed in 2009 with ten Hazardous Material Technicians from various state teams. Their purpose is to identify and assess hazardous materials. The role of the team is expanding. The team has been pre-deployed for some high hazard events. The team is equipped with SR5 suits. However, the suits weigh 80 pounds, can limit mobility and can be very hot. Discussion followed.

Motion: John Dearborn motioned to purchase four ballistic vests and four helmets using \$4,000 from FFY12 Regional Hazmat Team Training funding and up to \$11,000 from FFY13 Regional Hazmat Team Training funding. Motion seconded by Tim Nelson. Voted unanimously.

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Franklin County Sheriff's Office – Tactical Response Team

Dave Lanoie stated that Sheriff Donelan is putting together a sixteen person regional tactical response team. The proposal is to purchase equipment and training for the team. The team will be interoperable with other tactical response team. There is an increasing dependency on regional assets. Due to the amount of funding being requested, Dave stated that he would be happy to supply more detailed information and would be open to a phased in approach. The Sheriff's office is committed to maintaining the team once it is established. Raine stated that some of the items will need to be presented to other subcommittees. The radios will need to go before the Interops Subcommittee and the training to the T&E Subcommittee. Raine stated that she has asked EOPSS if the uniforms are an allowable expense. Discussion followed.

Motion: Tim Nelson motioned to add the Franklin County Tactical Response Team the CBRNE list of priority projects and to endorse the project to the other Homeland Security Council Subcommittees. Motion seconded by John Dearborn. Voted unanimously.

Next Steps/Future Meetings

John stated that the WRHSAC supported the purchase of equipment for the District 4 & 5 Hazmat teams with FFY09 funds. One piece of equipment was the Area RAE gas and radiation detection rapid deployment kit and associated software. This detection system is state of the art and used by many Hazardous Material Response Teams, however very few teams have the associated upgraded software. This unit purchased by WRHSAC for the western based teams is the only unit in the Commonwealth with the upgraded software.

The team was asked to bring the equipment for testing and setup along the Boston Marathon route. Utilizing the software, District 4 Hazmat team members were able to link their unit with units from other regions and demonstrate the capacity to share a real-time mapping of live sensor operations with MEMA Headquarters / Incident Command in Framingham. The map showed all sensor activity along the route. Based on this test, MEMA/EOPSS will be renting additional units with the upgraded software to provide a detailed and redundant map of the Boston Marathon route and immediate surrounding area to Incident Command on the day of the marathon.

The next meeting will be scheduled as needed.

There being no further business to discuss John Dearborn made a motion to adjourn. Tim Nelson seconded. Voted unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 am.

Respectfully Submitted by
Gretchen Johnson

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Homeland Security Program Assistant
Franklin Regional Council of Governments