

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 17, 2013, 10:00am
WMEMS, 168 Industrial Drive, Northampton, MA

In attendance: Raine Brown (FRCOG), Gretchen Johnson (FRCOG), Thomas Grady (BCSO), Linda Gross (FRCOG), Nikki Nixon (PVPC), Russell Sienkiewicz (NPD), Tom Lynch (BHS), Ann Shea (MMC), Josh Shanley (NEM), Carolyn Shores Ness (Municipal Rep.), Jamin Carroll (PVTA) proxy for Nicole Rohan, Bob Hassett (SFD), Linda Moriarty (WMEMS), Gail Bienvenue (MDPH), Pat Smith (FRCOG), Stephen Gawron (MSP), Chris Bouchard (DPW), Josiah Neiderbach (PVPC), Cindy Hahn (ARC), Victoria Grafflin (EOPSS), Fran Nothe (WMFC), Dennis Nazzaro (NFD/DFS) proxy for Melissa Nazzaro (Spfld Comm.), Ed Lesko (HDPH/SB) proxy for Sandra Martin (BCBOHA), Bob Barry (MEMA), Pat Carnevale (MEMA), Bernard Forgea (CFD/PD), Matt Kirchner (PPD), Jeffrey Bradford (PPD), Curt Wilton (WSH), Mary Kersell (HPHPC), Andrew Vernon (UMASS), Robert Garriepy (HPD), Mark Babineau (WMFCA), Steve Staffier (SWIC), Blair Sutherland (MSP), Amy Riley (MAPC), Jon Davine (NFD), Kurt Wilton (DPW) .

The meeting was brought to order at 10:05 am by Thomas Grady, Council Chair.

A round of introductions followed.

The Council reviewed the minutes from the August 20, 2013 meeting.

<p>Motion: Linda Moriarty moved to approve the minutes from the August 20, 2013 meeting as submitted. Carolyn Shores Ness seconded. Motion passed.</p>

Updates from Chair

Tom Grady stated that there is an RFP for the Statewide Fiduciary. Brook Chipman is putting together review subcommittee with a representative from each Council. Sandra Martin has decided to resign from the Council due to potential conflict of interest issue.

Updates from Disciplines

- FIRE: Fran stated that the Tech Rescue Team will be holding a training in the next few days.
- POLICE: none.
- EMS: Linda stated that a Western Mass EMS two day conference will be held on October 18th and 19th. A portion of the conference will cover the Boston Marathon planning and what happened this year. There will also be an active shooter presentation.
- EMD: none.
- PUBLIC HEALTH: none.
- TRANSPORTATION: none.

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- DPW: Chris introduced Kurt Wilton and explained that he will be his proxy if he can not attend a Council meeting. Chris has been working on spreading the word about the upcoming DPW GPS training. Raine stated that 30 people have signed up so far.
- CORRECTIONS: Tom stated that Corrections is working on preparing the training for the portable metal detectors and x-ray machines. There have been some personnel issues. Raine asked to be kept in the loop so that she could take some pictures.
- COMMUNICATIONS: Dennis stated that there is a Communication training is next Wednesday. The class is full but observers are welcome.
- HOSPITALS: none.
- LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Carolyn stated the DPW GPS training is coming up. There has been a lot of interest. Efforts like this training are being used as leverage to help put pressure on to pass the farm bill that included the watershed protection measures and funding for towns. She thanked the Council for their support.
- Massachusetts State Police (MSP): none.
- MEMA: Bob stated that the quarterly MEMA meetings will be held in October.
- EOPSS: Victoria stated that the FFY10 contracts have all been re-issued. EOPSS is working on the 2013 THIRA annual update. Feedback from the Councils on the THIRA is encouraged. The update is due by December 31st.

Planning /Pandemic Flu:

Linda Moriarty stated that the Planning Subcommittee held a joint meeting with the Training and Exercise Subcommittee to identify priority projects. All of the Planning Projects are proceeding well and on time.

Interoperability/Information Sharing:

Russ Sienkiewicz stated that the WMLEC project has run into some issues that are being resolved. There will be a kick-off presentation on the WMRIC project at the meeting today. The Gaps Analysis study will be further discussed at the meeting today. The CMED project is moving forward.

Training and Exercises:

Tom stated that the subcommittee met earlier this month with the Planning Subcommittee.

Equipment/PPE:

Raine stated that there are no new updates.

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CBRNE/IED:

Mark stated that the CBRNE Subcommittee met to discuss project priorities.

Fiduciary Report

Raine stated that there is a total of \$1,234,527 in unallocated funds from FFY10-13. Staff and EOPSS will take care of which funds will come from which fiscal year funding. Raine suggested that each Subcommittee speak to their priorities for the next 12 to 24 months.

Interops priorities included:

- WMLEC expansion engineering finalization
- CMED
- Borden fire tower
- Hovey Hill
- Interops Consultant
- Cell boosters
- Hampshire Hills Police 800Mhz radios
- WMLEC
- Northwest FCECS Gaps Analysis

CBRNE priorities included:

- Body armor
- Tech Rescue
- Regional Hazmat Team Training
- Mobile shooting range

Planning priorities included:

- DPW GPS Units
- CI Phase V Transportation & Communication
- REOC Phase II w/JIS
- Project/Public Outreach
- Mass Receiving Phase II
- COAD/Faith

Training & Exercise priorities included:

- Anti/Counter Terrorism
- WMD/CBRNE
- Shelter Exercise
- Communications
- Rest Center Plan Training

Raine stated that funding for the support staff will encounter challenges due to the new FFY funding year deadlines. It may be possible to give the Council money in earlier FFY funding

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years for projects in exchange for administrative funding in later FFY funding year. EOPSS is considering this possible solution. Discussion followed.

Motion: Carolyn Shores Ness moved to approve all of the priorities minus the last priority of every subcommittee except for the Training and Exercise Subcommittee. The T&E Subcommittee can reduce the funding of the first priority in order to stay within the FFY13 budget. Linda Moriarty seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Tom welcomed Amy back from maternity leave. Amy thanked the Council. She stated that MAPC has submitted an application for the statewide fiduciary yesterday. The Program Managers will be meeting later this week to discuss projects and funding deadlines. Amy thanked the Council for doing a great collaborative job with the FFY13 Plan. She also commended the Council for their successful efforts to spend down the FFY10 funding.

Old Business

No old business was discussed.

New Business:

No new business was discussed.

Business Unforeseen by Chair

No unforeseen business was discussed.

Next Steps/Future Meetings

Tom thanked the Subcommittees for their hard work on prioritizing their projects. He thanked everyone for their hard work to benefit our communities. This is a tremendous group. Bernie thanked the Council for all of the assets used during the Cummington Fair.

The next meeting of the Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council will be held on Tuesday, October 15th at 10:00am at the Northampton Police Dept.

There being no further business Mark Babineau moved to adjourn. Dennis Nazzaro seconded. Voted unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 11:33 am.

Respectfully Submitted by
Gretchen Johnson
Homeland Security Program Assistant
Franklin Regional Council of Governments