

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 21, 2016, 10:00am
WMEMS, 168 Industrial Drive, Northampton, MA

Present: Raine Brown (FRCOG), Bob Dean (FRCOG), Tom Grady (BCSO), Ann Shea (MMC, proxy for hospital member), Robert Hassett (SFD), Melissa Nazzaro (SComm), Mark Babineau (WMFCA), John Pond (WMFCA), Jeanne Galloway (HCHC), Ed Lesko (BOH), David Cruz (EOPSS), Gail Bienvenue (MDPH), Jamin Carroll (PVRTA), Tracy Rogers (FRCOG), Sandra Martin (BCBOHA), Steve Kosloski (Monson PD), Mark Trapani (Pittsfield PD, proxy for Mike Winn), Dennis Annear (NWMIMT), Michael Nelson (MDPH), Amy Reilly (MAPC), Christine Howe (MAPC), Paul Morrisette (Guest).

The meeting was brought to order at 10:07am by Thomas Grady, Council Chair.

Approval of Minutes

The Council reviewed the minutes from the May 17, 2016 meeting.

<p>Motion: Ed Lesko moved to approve the minutes from the May 17, 2016 meeting as submitted. Melissa Nazzaro seconded. Motion passed unanimously</p>

A round of introductions followed.

Updates from the Chair

Tom Grady attended EOPSS' active shooter meeting in Boston. The Secretary asked for smaller groups to break out and discuss what the Commonwealth should do, what process should be in place across the state. EOPSS is doing research across the country to find best practices to bring to future discussions. As of now, there is no specific process in place. It will continue to evolve over time.

Updates from Disciplines

- FIRE: no update
- POLICE: no update
- EMS: Linda Moriarty is away at a training session so could not attend the Council meeting today.
- EMD: It is lightning safety week. Go to www.weather.gov to learn more about what to do and not to do to stay safe.
- PUBLIC HEALTH: Ed Lesko stated that the Zika virus is still around.
- TRANSPORTATION: No update.
- DPW: No update.
- CORRECTIONS: No update.

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- **COMMUNICATIONS:** Melissa Nazzaro reported the State 911 grant programs for FY17 were recently released. On June 29th, the First Net consultation task team focused on quality of service, priority and preemption in wireless data communications. Reviewing a white paper with a goal of advising the Governor to opt in or out.
- **HOSPITALS:** Ann Shea reported hospitals are updating their regional medical plan.
- **LOCAL GOVERNMENT:** No update
- **Massachusetts State Police (MSP):** No update.
- **MEMA:** No update.
- **EOPSS:** No update.

Planning/Pandemic Flu:

MACC Equipment Discussion

Raine reminded the Council of the discussion at the May meeting regarding start up equipment for regional Multi-Agency Coordination Centers (MACC) using WRHSAC's MACC ConOps. The Council agreed to support and concept and asked the Pan Flu Planning subcommittee to develop a basic equipment list and requesting protocol. That subcommittee came up with a list of items they thought should be allowed to be paid for by the Council. The list includes a laptop with required software, a heavy case, a base radio, a printer and either a video projector with a screen, or a computer monitor. Raine still needs to research pricing. The recommendation from the Planning subcommittee is to allow any MACC to request equipment from this list. Question about whether the Council should set aside funds or consider requests as they are submitted? Need more information about pricing to gauge the correct answer. Raine will develop pricing estimate for next month's meeting.

Interoperability/Information Sharing:

Melissa Nazzaro talked about WMRIC's wish to increase the gap solutions project budget to \$200,000 in FFY2016. WMRIC has decided not to continue with an annual interoperability consultant, so they suggest adding addition funds to the project to cover any engineering costs. Raine noted it has been updated on the FFY2016 preliminary project list.

Melissa noted that EOPSS has received funds to conduct both a COML and COMT training. Raine sent information to the Council e-mail list regarding how to apply. So far, only one interested applicant from western MA. Application deadline is late July or early August.

The WMLEC mobile communications trailer purchase is in process and the trailer should be received by the end of July. The trailer is intended to fill gaps in WMLEC coverage. The trailer is towable by most SUVs or pick-up trucks. It can be taken to exercises or used as a stand-alone

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radio system. We will plan to set up a “show and tell” event at a future Council meeting so everyone can see it.

Training and Exercises:

Tom G reported that the training & exercise subcommittee met before the Council meeting and considered the following items:

The NWMIMT submitted a request for funding for mileage, lodging and supplies for participation in the FEMA Region One – Urban Search and Rescue Team, MASS task Force 1 in Vigilant Guard 2016 in the State of Vermont.

Motion: Tom Grady moved to support the NWMIMT request for \$6,500 for training in late July in the State of Vermont. Ed Lesko seconded.

Discussion: What does the Council get for \$6,500? Dennis Annear reported on the benefits of the requested training. The NWMIMT will get to manage the incident exercise over multiple operational periods, which is something they do not get to practice locally.

Voted unanimously in favor

Next month the subcommittee will discuss the multi-year training and exercise plan.

Equipment/PPE:

Raine reported the large event hydration-misters purchase is moving forward. Purchase orders have been issued. The misters will arrive by mid-July. We will add those items to the resource list.

CBRNE/IED:

No meeting was needed since the last Council meeting in May. Raine reported on the tech rescue team, a purchase order for a torch cutting tool, and a bid for structural collapse training. Response has been received and the bid is a joint venture with the Central region.

Fiduciary Report

FFY14 Closeout

Raine talked about the fact that the exact final figures for FFY14 projects are not known now. Raine asked to be given the authority to zero out all remaining FFY14 funding by allocating it to projects that are paid for across two fiscal years of FFY14 and FFY15.

Motion: Melissa Nazzaro moved to authorize Raine to zero out the remaining FFY14 funds by allocating it to projects that cross two fiscal years. Mark Babineau seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Raine reported that all FFY15 projects are on target.

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
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Tuesday, June 21, 2016, 10:00am
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Amy Reilly from MAPC introduced Christine Howe as a new member of the MAPC staff, and announced that MAPC submitted to EOPSS an FFY16 application to be the statewide fiduciary, with the same arrangement with the FRCOG to assist the WRHSAC.

Old Business

FFY16 Investment Plan Update

Raine gave an overview of the competitive grant applications submitted for tech rescue training and equipment, and for the Hampshire Hills interoperability project.

Raine then talked about the known funds in the amount of \$749,052. EOPSS wants a preliminary list of projects by the end of this week. The Council should allocate all funds. Raine gave an overview of the current list of proposed projects from each subcommittee.

After totaling the proposed projects, there remains \$131,052 unallocated. We need to show EOPSS that we have allocated that amount as well. The T&E subcommittee talked about building on the success of the Active Shooter symposium held at Deerfield Academy. The proposal from T&E is to reserve that unallocated balance for another region-wide event.

<p>Motion: Melissa Nazzaro moved to allocate the remaining balance of \$131,052 to the T&E subcommittee for a region-wide symposium event. Ed Lesko seconded. Motion passed unanimously</p>

New Business:

WRHSAC Vice-Chair

With the resignation of Tom Lynch, the Vice-Chair position on the Council is vacant.

<p>Motion: Bob Hassett moved to nominate Melissa Nazzaro as Vice-Chair. Ed Lesko seconded. Motion passed unanimously</p>
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Business Unforeseen by Chair

- a) Franklin County special Response team training is moving forward.
- b) Regarding active shooter training, people want a tool kit or a process for planning. The T&E subcommittee would like to hear ideas.
- c) If cache equipment is used, for any reason, please document the use so we can illustrate how much the equipment is being used.

Next Steps/Future Meetings

The next meeting of the Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council will be held on Tuesday, July 19, 2016 at 10:00 am at WMEMS in Northampton. Subcommittees may not meet in August. The Council may need to meet, but will cancel if no need to meet.

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There being no further business Ed Lesko moved to adjourn. Mark Babineau seconded. Voted unanimously in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 10:35am.

Respectfully Submitted by
Robert Dean
Franklin Regional Council of Governments