

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 27 2016, 10:00am
23 Service Center Rd, Northampton, MA

Present: Raine Brown (FRCOG), Tom Grady (BCSO), Ann Shea (MMC), Melissa Nazzaro (SComm), Mark Babineau (WMFCA), David Cruz (EOPSS), Tracy Rogers (FRCOG) and (Municipal Proxy), Sandra Martin (BCBOHA) and (PH Proxy), Fran Nothe (WMFCA), Monica Wynne (Baystate MC), Shannon Sullivan (EOPSS), Paul D'Auteuil (MSP), Christine Howe (MAPC), John Pond (WMFCA), Ann Dunne (FRCOG)

The meeting was brought to order at 10:20AM am by Thomas Grady, Council Chair.

The Committee took a moment of silence in memory of Linda Moriarity.

Approval of Minutes

The Council reviewed the minutes from the July 19, 2016 meeting.

<p>Motion: Mark Babineau moved to approve the minutes from the July 19, 2016, meeting. John Pond seconded. Tracy abstained. Motion passed by majority.</p>

A round of introductions followed.

Updates from the Chair

The subcommittee received meeting handouts in advance of the meeting.

Updates from Disciplines

- FIRE: None

- POLICE: None

- EMS: Tom talked to Brian Andrews, President of the WMEMS Board regarding the status of the EMS seat on the Council. Lisa Herringshaw is the designated alternate for Linda, and is interested in filling the seat. There are two or three other people also interested. The subcommittee is comfortable with Lisa continuing in this capacity, until WMEMS makes a formal proposal for permanent representation.

- EMD: None

- PUBLIC HEALTH: Sandra reminded people to get a flu shot.

- TRANSPORTATION: None

- DPW: None

- CORRECTIONS: None

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- **COMMUNICATIONS:** Melissa Nazzaro reported the COML class took place last week and the COMT class is already finalized and will take place next month.
- **HOSPITALS:** None
- **LOCAL GOVERNMENT:** None
- **Massachusetts State Police (MSP):** None
- **MEMA:** Raine received an update from Bob Barry (MEMA). There is a scheduled EMPG meeting on October 4th, anyone who is receiving money should have a received an email. There will be two sessions, held at 1pm and 4pm.
- **EOPSS:** Melissa gave feedback to the subcommittee on a recent “Ride to Remember” bike ride from Springfield to the State House, where they utilized Council purchased communication equipment for this event. She thanked the subcommittee for their support.

Planning/Pandemic Flu: Ann Shea chaired the last subcommittee meeting. FFY14 projects are wrapped up and FFY15 projects are contracted.

Interoperability/Information Sharing: Nothing to report. Melissa noted the committee has not met recently.

Training and Exercises: Tom updated the Council on the recent T&E subcommittee meeting:

The T&E subcommittee discussed at their meeting the process of how the subcommittee is going to accept proposals and to set some rules and guidelines. Submitted proposals exceeded available funds and also either didn't readily fit into T&E investment areas or were in areas already spent down.

A motion was made that any proposals must be submitted to Raine Brown first. Raine will bring the proposals to the subcommittee for discussion and review. Depending on the review the subcommittee will invite the requester to the next month's meeting if the subcommittee feels it fits into the investment areas.

No funds to vote on today.

Tom encouraged people to serve on the subcommittee by contacting Raine.

Equipment/PPE: No new projects

The hydration misters were the last project. Bob Hassett used the misters a lot this summer at planned events, and is very happy with the outcome.

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CBRNE/IED: There is an upcoming structural collapse training at Westover. Sixteen of the Western MA Tech Rescue Team members will participate and eight from the Central Region.

Fiduciary Report

Raine reported the FFY14 is zeroed out. All FFY15 projects are moving along; do not see any challenges in meeting our goals at this time.

FFY16 received over \$400,000 competitive grant funds divided between the Western and Central Tech Rescue Teams. \$300,000 was awarded for equipment for structural collapse rescues and \$100,000 for structural collapse training. As our priorities were the opposite of that, Raine submitted a letter seeking an amendment for the funding allocation to be reversed with \$315,000 going towards training and approximately \$86,000 towards the purchase of equipment; this would better meet our training needs. EOPSS was in agreement, and the amendment was approved. We expect to see the contracts in place next week.

Old Business

FFY2016 Investment Plan- already covered under the fiduciary report.

DHS Countering Violent Extremism Grant Program

Raine updated the Council on the submitted grant proposal for funding to focus on building community resilience in Springfield, West Springfield and Chicopee, as these communities receive the highest number of immigrants and refugees.

This is a separate competitive FEMA Grant, with \$10,000,000 available nationwide. The due date was 9/6/16; it is currently under review by the DHS and FEMA. We should know by the end of October. If we are awarded the grant runs from Dec 2016 /Jan 2017 to Nov 2018.

New Business

IMAT Steering Committee Representative – Meeting October 18

Raine received an email from MEMA/EOPSS requesting Council representation on the IMAT Steering Committee. They are looking to reform the committee and anticipate 6-8 meetings in the first year. After some discussion, Tom offered to represent the Council.

<p>Motion: Sandra Martin moved to appoint Tom Grady to represent WRHSAC on the State IMAT Steering Committee. John Pond seconded. Motion passed unanimously.</p>

Business Unforeseen by Chair:

HSEEP Training

MEMA/EOPSS is hosting a HSEEP Training, which is the Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program training. They are seeking one member and alternate from the Homeland Security T&E subcommittee to take the training. Allison Hope was suggested by the T&E subcommittee, and we are seeking one alternate if spaces are available. It will take place over three days on Nov 8,9,10 in Framingham, and is free. Monica Wynn expressed interest in the training.

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Raine will suggest Monica and Allison to MEMA/EOPSS.

Fran Nothe had a concern about the radio issues in Monson; their technician discovered some issues and was working on a proposal to bring forward to Interops. Melissa noted that Bob Hassett had mentioned he had some requests for funding, but did not discuss the specifics.

Shannon Sullivan, Legal Counsel for EOPSS, noted that EOPSS is reviewing their role for all Regional Subcommittees under their jurisdiction and are always available.

Business Unforeseen by Chair: None

Next Steps/Future Meetings

The next meeting of the Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council will be held on Tuesday, October 18, 2016 at 10:00 am at WMEMS in Northampton.

Tom acknowledged Linda Moriarty's legacy to the Council. Linda was an advocate for EMS and all public safety. She represented the region on many boards and committees, and the gap will be felt at both the local and statewide level.

Tom read a poem in honor of Linda before adjourning the meeting.

There being no further business Tom moved to adjourn. John seconded.

Voted unanimously in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 am.

List of Documents Reviewed at the Meeting

- WRHSAC Council Meeting Minutes from July 19, 2016
- WRHSAC Fiduciary Report: FFY 14 Homeland Security Grant, 9/27/2016
- WRHSAC Fiduciary Report: FFY 15 Homeland Security Grant, 9/27/2016
- WRHSAC SHSP FFY14 Projects spreadsheet
- WRHSAC SHSP FFY15 Projects spreadsheet
- WRHSAC FFY2016 Investment Plan Budget
- FRCOG *Reach UP!* Western Massachusetts Executive Summary
- Letter from Victoria Grafflin, Director HS Division, Office of Grants & Research

Respectfully Submitted by
Ann Dunne
Franklin Regional Council of Governments