

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 18, 2017, 10:00am
168 Industrial Drive, Northampton, MA

Present: Raine Brown (FRCOG), Tom Grady (BCSO), Jeanne Galloway (HCHC), Amy Reilly (MAPC), Melissa Nazzaro (Springfield Comm.), Carolyn Shores-Ness (Deerfield BOS/BOH), Mark Babineau (WMFCA), Chris Bouchard (Beckett Highway), Dennis Annear (NWMIMT), Bob Hassett (Springfield CMED), Paul D'Auteuil (MSP) Jamin Carroll (PVTA), Sandra Martin (BCBOHA), Nick DaDalt (EOPSS), Allison Hope (BCBOHA), John Dearborn (WMFCA), Paul Morrisette (WMFCA), Bob Barry (MEMA), Ann Dunne (FRCOG)

This meeting is audio recorded.

The meeting was brought to order at 10:08 am by Thomas Grady, Council Chair.

Approval of Minutes

Approved later, once a quorum was present.

A round of introductions followed.

Updates from the Chair - No updates.

Updates from Disciplines

- FIRE: No updates.
- POLICE: No updates.
- EMS: No updates
- EMD: No updates.
- PUBLIC HEALTH: Jeanne Galloway noted we are coming into the mosquito and tick season.
- TRANSPORTATION: No updates.
- DPW: Chris Bouchard noted the Longmeadow DPW were very grateful for all the coordination from other Town departments who showed their respect at the funeral of Warren Cowles, Longmeadow DPW Town Employee, who was killed in a crash. FEMA is raising the levy limit on disaster recovery to \$2 million. By raising the threshold, some disasters may not be funded in the future.

Paul D'Auteuil will act as proxy for Steve Kozlowski.

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Approval of Minutes

The Council reviewed the minutes from the March 21, 2017 meeting.

<p>Motion: Carolyn Shores-Ness moved to approve the minutes from the March 21, 2017 meeting. Mark Babineau seconded. Motion passed unanimously.</p>
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- **CORRECTIONS:** Tom reported the Sheriff's Office continues to work on a new inmate management information system, with the target date of December 2017 for implementation.
- **COMMUNICATIONS:** Melissa Nazzaro reported the testing of the new NextGen 911 product scheduled for the ACD site at Cambridge, was pushed back. The goal is to have all the larger ACD sites up and running by the summer.
- The State has received the radio draft plan from the vendor, and is working on updates. The plan is to provide the future vision on radio systems for the Commonwealth. The Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) position was posted by EOPSS.
- Tom Grady is pleased with the NextGen rollout, and advised staff to attend the training.

Paul Morrissette will act as proxy for John Pond.

- **HOSPITALS:** No updates.
- **LOCAL GOVERNMENT:** No updates.
- **Massachusetts State Police (MSP):** Paul D'Auteuil reported the Tennessee Gas Pipeline (TGP) and its parent company Kinder Morgan (KM) have proposed their Northeast Expansion, which includes the expansion of an existing pipeline in Sandisfield. Given the national opposition to the Dakota Access Pipeline, the MSP are preparing for the safety and security elements. The MSP has reached out to MEMA, and local Emergency Management Agencies to be on standby if needed.
- **MEMA:** Bob Barry reported they are organizing a meeting with the local Colleges with the intent to keep them up to date on emergency planning, and arrange a group to continue to meet on a quarterly basis. There is an upcoming EMD meeting in June, Bob will send out invitations once the specific date is set.
- **EOPSS:** Nick DaDalt reported that EOPSS has approved Chief Dearborn and Chief Morrissette as members of WRHSAC, their applications are at the Governor's Office for

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background checks and final approval. EOPSS is now fully staffed, and while there are no specifics on the HS grant program funding, Nick hopes the Agency will know by early May.

- **Planning/Pandemic Flu:** No updates.

Interoperability/Information Sharing: Melissa Nazzaro noted two projects were approved by WMRIC at their March 21, 2017 meeting, and requires approval by the Council.

WMLEC Gap Solutions Proposal.

The total cost of the proposal is \$200,000.00. Melissa summarized the proposal and below is a detailed version from the handout.

WMLEC requested FFY16 funds from WMLEC Gap Solutions to fund four (4) projects that will help fill identified gaps, and supply the four (4) counties served by WMLEC with rapidly deployable, mobile assets. The proposal is as follows:

In Eastern Hampshire /Hampden County - Continue build out of the WMLEC RapidCom mobile communications trailer. This request is for three (3) repeaters (VHF, UHF and 800 MHz), a Motobridge gateway, cables and antennas, and Pepwave 4g router. The cost of this project would be approximately \$75,000.

Western Hampshire / Hampden County – Purchase a portable “box” or “Command Module” that would be quickly deployable to the Westfield River Valley gap area any other regions throughout the area that are under served by existing fixed infrastructure remotely placed. The cost of this project would be approximately \$55,000.

Franklin County – Update outdated radios in Field Comm 40. This unit already has a gateway switch and UHF repeater. While its 800 Mhz radios have already been updated, this project would update all the VHF and UHF radios to be P25 capable and provide a medium size asset that can operate either independently or through patching into the fixed WMLEC infrastructure. We are also requesting a Pepwave 4g router for this unit. The cost to replace the four (4) VHF / UHF mobile radios, interface cables and the Pepwave router would be approximately \$30,000.

Berkshire County – Continue build out of the BCSO Command Unit. This large platform fills the gap in Berkshire County, but like the trailer, needs repeaters to make the unit a complete asset capable of operating independently or patching into the existing WMLEC infrastructure. We are requesting VHF and 800 MHz repeaters, cables and antennas to fill out the need of this unit. The cost of this project would be approximately \$40,000.

Melissa asked for a motion to approve the proposal as presented.

<p>Motion: Carolyn Shores-Ness moved to approve \$200,000.00 from FFY16 funds for the WMLEC Gap Solutions Proposal. Bob Hassett seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.</p>
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We will not have complete coverage in Western Mass due to terrain challenges, but having mobile assets to deploy individually or as a group was considered the best use of the funds. Tom noted the system operators and owners agreed this was the best way to remediate some of the gaps.

BCSO Satellite Internet: This project does not require a Council vote.

Jason Breault proposed the hardware and installation of a Viasat Antenna with 2 year activation (Up to 120/GB per year) at the WMRIC March meeting. The cost of this project is \$31,537.00. This is a huge gap in Franklin and Berkshire County.

The Council will consider this project if \$30,000.00 becomes available at the year end.

Training and Exercises: Tom noted there are several upcoming trainings, and asked for a motion to approve the UMass Reunification Training Request:

The 'I Love You Guys Foundation' are available to provide training, and the proposal is for a one-day training with a tabletop exercise.

This request was approved at the T&E meeting this morning.

<p>Motion: Carolyn Shores-Ness moved to approve the allocation of \$10,000.00 from FFY2016 funds for the training, to be held at UMASS for 95-100 participants. Sandra Martin seconded. Motion passed unanimously.</p>

Equipment/PPE: No updates

CBRNE/IED: No updates

Fiduciary Report: Raine noted the FFY15 contracts end in July 2017. The T&E subcommittee has \$10,000.00 left over, and WMRIC has approximately \$11,000.00 from the Hampshire Hills project. The T&E subcommittee will decide to use their funds on training or give it to the Council, and Raine will take the \$11,000.00 to WMRIC this afternoon. The FFY 16 projects are slowly getting underway.

Amy Reilly noted that MAPC will send out a survey to Council and subcommittee members asking for feedback on how MAPC is doing as the fiduciary agent and FRCOG as the program manager.

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Old Business: September 2017 Meetings.

The Council agreed to move the September meeting date to Tuesday, Sept 12, 2017 due to a conflict with a scheduled training. Raine will email an early notification reminder to members.

A motion was taken to defer the August meeting date:

Motion: Melissa Nazzaro made a motion to defer the August meeting. Chris Bouchard seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
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New Business: None

Business Unforeseen by Chair:

It was noted the T&E subcommittee changed the meeting start date to 9am effective immediately. SIEC is meeting on May 10, 2017.

Next Steps/Future Meetings

The next Council meeting will be on May 16, 2017 at 10:00am at WHEMS, 168 Industrial Drive, Northampton.

Motion: Carolyn Shores-Ness made a motion to adjourn. Mark Babineau seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
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The meeting adjourned at 10:50am.

List of Documents Reviewed at the Meeting

- WRHSAC Council Meeting Minutes from March 21, 2017
- WRHSAC Fiduciary Report: FFY 15 Homeland Security Grant, 4/14/2017
- WRHSAC Fiduciary Report: FFY 16 Homeland Security Grant, 4/14/2017

Respectfully Submitted by
Ann Dunne
Franklin Regional Council of Governments