

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 20, 2017, 10:00am
168 Industrial Drive, Northampton, MA

Present: Raine Brown (FRCOG), Tom Grady (BCSO), Jeanne Galloway (HCHC), Melissa Nazzaro (Springfield Comm.), Carolyn Shores-Ness (Deerfield BOS/BOH), Dennis Annear (NWMIMT), Bob Hassett (Springfield CMED), Jamin Carroll (PVRTA), Sandra Martin (BCBOHA), Nick DaDalt (EOPSS), John Dearborn (WMFCA), Bob Barry (MEMA), Ann Shea (MMC), John Paciorek (WMPCA), Monica Wynne (Baystate Health), Allison Hope (BCBOHA), Michael Wynn (Pittsfield PD), Stephen Gaughan (EMS Rep/Hatfield FD), Alex Plotnikiewicz (Intern, Springfield CMED), Jarret Wright (NHS/IP), Adrian Santiago (EOPSS Director), Brendon Eaton (EOPSS Intern), Wesley Gallant (EOPSS Intern), Amy Reilly (MAPC), Adrian Santiago (EOPSS/DHS Director), Ann Dunne (FRCOG).

This meeting is audio recorded.

The meeting was brought to order at 10:02 am by Thomas Grady, Council Chair.

Approval of Minutes

The committee reviewed the minutes from the May 16, 2017 meeting.

<p>Motion: Stephan Gaughan motioned to approve the May 16, 2017 meeting minutes. John Paciorek seconded. Motion passed unanimously.</p>
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A round of introductions followed.

Updates from the Chair - Tom Grady advised the Council to view the photos on the WRHSAC website from the TEEX Wide Area Search & Rescue Training.

Raine updated the Council on the DHS grant funding for FFY17. The final grant award was \$901,230.00, which is \$35,000.00 less than the anticipated \$936,315.00. Raine worked with Tom Grady to reduce the investment as follows:

- Interops: Hampshire Hills Project reduced by \$5,000.00 to \$45,000.00
- Children in Disasters Next Phase: reduced by \$10,000.00 to \$50,000.00
- T&E Regional Symposium: reduced by \$20,085.00 to \$69,000.00

Updates from Disciplines

- FIRE: No updates.
- POLICE: No updates.
- EMS: No updates.
- EMD: No updates.
- PUBLIC HEALTH: Jeanne Galloway noted we are in the mosquito and deer tick season.

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- TRANSPORTATION: No updates
- DPW: No updates.
- CORRECTIONS: Tom Grady noted the Sheriff's Department is working on their budget, and expects to see some changes with criminal justice reform.
- COMMUNICATIONS: Melissa Nazzaro reported on the successful update of the NextGen 911 product at the Cambridge ACD site. The State 911 department released the support & incentive grants and the EMD & training grants for FFY18. Melissa noted that eligibility for some of the grants is contingent upon staff remaining current on training and recertification.
- HOSPITALS: Ann Shea reported the hospital preparedness program grant will now be managed by the HMCC. The hospitals decide on the exercises, which must have a regional focus. Ann noted that the area hospitals participated in recent events: active shooter exercise, Barnes mass casualty incident exercise, and are in the process of completing the mass decontamination exercise.
- LOCAL GOVERNMENT: No updates.
- Massachusetts State Police (MSP): Tom Grady reported on recent promotions, and restructuring within the MSP.
- MEMA: Bob Barry reported on the Team Rubicon presentation at the quarterly EMD meeting, their primary mission is to provide disaster relief to those affected by natural disaster. This volunteer non-profit organization helped in Conway in the aftermath of the tornado, and provided assistance at no cost.
- EOPSS: Nick DaDalt noted that the keynote presentation on best practices at the National Homeland Security Conference recognized the Commonwealth and particularly the western region for their work in homeland security planning and training.
- Adrian Santiago introduced himself as the Program Manager of the State Homeland Security Division.
- **Planning/Pandemic Flu:** Ann Shea reported the FFY15 projects are reaching completion, and the FFY16 projects are beginning. After lengthy discussions, the subcommittee voted to discontinue the CVE project. Raine is researching interventions to violence as an alternative, with the focus on training as a project. Tom Grady suggested to combine training and planning, and asked the subcommittee to contact Raine with ideas. The next scheduled Planning/ Pan Flu meeting is scheduled for July 11, 2017 at PVPC, Springfield, MA.

Interoperability/Information Sharing: Melissa Nazzaro noted the WMLEC trailer demo at the Springfield LEPC was a success. Hampshire Hills and the FCECS GPS Clocks projects are both

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active. The WMLEC gap solutions multi asset driven project will enhance the mobile assets and improve the communication capabilities throughout the region. Interviews are on going to fill the SWIC position, and Melissa will keep the Council updated. Tom Grady reminded the Council that the Com-L radios are a great area resource to be used at large scale events throughout the region.

Training and Exercises: Tom noted there are several upcoming trainings and suggested members to view the trainings on the WRHSAC website.

Tom asked the Council to vote on the following projects.

TEEX Pediatric Disaster Response Training.

Motion: Carolyn Shores Ness moved to approve \$5,000.00 for TEEX Pediatric Disaster Response Training. Michael Wynn seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

This training will take place in February 2018.

Regional Hazmat Team Cargo Tank Response Training.

Motion: Carolyn Shores Ness moved to approve \$9,699.00 for the Cargo Tank Emergency Response Workshop. John Dearborn seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

EMS Conference Training

The Massachusetts EMS conference is scheduled for October 19 & 20, 2017 at the MassMutual Center, Springfield, MA. The conference organizers asked if WRHSAC was interested in sponsoring plan on offering a pre-conference MCI management training program on October 18, 2017. The committee agreed.

Motion: Carolyn Shores Ness moved to approve up to \$14,000.00 for the EMS pre-conference training. John Dearborn seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Equipment/PPE:

Raine noted the POs are in process for the hydration misters and the fit testers.

Chief Wynn requested funding to purchase portable jersey barriers, to be used at large scale events in the area. The plastic containers are water filled and are very effective.

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Motion: John Paciorek moved to approve up to \$15,000.00 for the purchase of portable jersey barriers, the funds to be taken from FFY16 CVE project funds. Carolyn Shores Ness seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

The portable barriers will be housed in Berkshire County, at the Sheriff's Office or at the City of Pittsfield DPW. Raine will purchase as many jersey barriers as the funds will allow.

CBRNE/IED: John Dearborn reported that following an incident in Easthampton, that the Federal Agencies present were impressed by the equipment and preparedness of the local teams. John thanked the Council for their continued support of the Hazmat Teams through training and equipment purchases. Chief Morrissette and Chief Dearborn are working on an area array system in relation to the pipeline project, and also noted how well equipped the western region is due to the support of the Council. A recent issue with WMLEC cache radios was due to poor labeling. It was suggested the host agency should mark or label the radios to better identify the equipment. It was reviewed that public safety officers could use the radios at planned municipal events. The radios are not to be loaned to private entities for private events.

Fiduciary Report: Raine reported the purchase of Tech Rescue Equipment from the remaining FFY15 funds is in progress. She anticipates the grant will be spent down to zero by end of July.

FFY16 Tech Rescue Equipment Competitive Project Extension.

Raine has experienced some delays, and asked the Council to approve the extension to the end of March 2018.

Motion: Carolyn Shores Ness moved to extend the project to March 31, 2018. Michael Wynn seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

WRHSAC Proxies & Designees

Raine reviewed the bylaws and updated the Council on the process of designating a permanent designee. EOPSS will vet all permanent designees; the emergency proxy rule for one meeting as detailed in WRHSAC's bylaws still stands.

FFY2017 Investment Plan Final Award Adjusted Budget.

Raine worked with Tom Grady to reduce the investment plan by \$35,000.00 to match the \$901,230.00 grant awarded.

Old Business: Tom Grady reported that Berkshire County Sheriff Office receives frequent requests for resources, and Tom manages a resource tracking system. This gives the county the opportunity to identify resources and the frequency of use.

New Business: Jarret Wright-NHS/IP introduced himself to the Council. His Agency's main goal is working as security advisors, meeting with companies at the regional and state level to

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conduct site assessments of critical infrastructure, and supports facilities in being resilient. NHS/IP also provides regional trainings in many disciplines to include cyber security.

Tom noted the importance of maintaining partnerships with the Council, MEMA, DHS, EOPSS and FEMA, when planning and conducting trainings.

Amy Reilly noted some members of MAPC attended the National Homeland Security Conference and will hold meetings with program managers to share the information gathered. Amy will share the results at a later meeting, and provide an after action plan in response to the information gathered from the recent survey.

Business Unforeseen by Chair: None

Next Steps/Future Meetings

The next Council meeting will be on July 18, 2017 at 10:00am at WHEMS, 168 Industrial Drive, Northampton.

Motion: John Paciorek made a motion to adjourn. Carol Shores Ness seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

The WHEMS location is no longer available as a meeting venue after July. Raine noted the new meeting location beginning with the September 12 meeting will be at Hatfield Fire, Hatfield, MA.

The meeting adjourned at 11:24am.

List of Documents Reviewed at the Meeting

- WRHSAC Council Meeting Minutes from May 16, 2017
- WRHSAC Fiduciary Report: FFY 15 Homeland Security Grant, 6/20/17
- WRHSAC Projects Report: FFY16 Homeland Security Grant , 6/20/2017
- WRHSAC Projects Report: FFY 16 Competitive Homeland Security Grant, 6/20/2017
- WRHSAC FFY2017 Investment Plan Preliminary Projects

Respectfully Submitted by
Ann Dunne, Franklin Regional Council of Governments