

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 18, 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 (PVTA), Nick DaDalt (EOPSS), John Dearborn (WMFCA), Bob Barry (MEMA), Monica Wynne(Baystate Health), Allison Hope (BCBOHA), Stephen Gaughan (EMS Rep/Hatfield FD), Alex Plotnikiewicz (Intern, Springfield CMED), Rejoice Sarpong (CMED Intern), Tracy Rogers (FRCOG), Paul Morrissette (WMFCA), Chris Bouchard (Beckett Highway), Paul D’Auteuil (MSP), Michael Nelson (MDPH), Ann Dunne (FRCOG)

This meeting is audio recorded.

The meeting was brought to order at 10:01 am by Thomas Grady, Council Chair.

Approval of Minutes

The committee reviewed the minutes from the June 20, 2017 meeting.

<p>Motion: Carolyn Shores Ness motioned to approve the June 20, 2017 meeting minutes. Melissa Nazzaro seconded. Motion passed unanimously.</p>

A round of introductions followed.

Updates from the Chair - Tom Grady noted the busy summer season of events, taking place without any challenges. Paul D’Auteuil noted preparations are underway for the Aug 12-13 Airshow at Barnes ANGB.

Hard Knox & Statewide IMT Updates.

Dennis Annear reported that all members of the IMT teams will receive IMT credentials through the All Hazard Incident Management Team for training. The process will be overseen by MEMA. MEMA will take a formal vote to accept and oversee IMT disciplines in the Commonwealth at a future meeting. The upcoming Hard Knox exercise is a FEMA funded exercise to test the Beverly Search & Rescue Team, and will use Berkshire East as their base. This is a largescale exercise involving 300-400 participants.

Updates from Disciplines

- FIRE: No updates.
- POLICE: No updates.
- EMS: Steve Gaughan noted the EMS continues to work on updating the MCI plans.
- EMD: Bob Hassett reported on the successful fireworks celebration in Springfield, and thanked everyone for their assistance.

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- **PUBLIC HEALTH:** Jeanne Galloway reported that the West Nile virus was found in the region.
- **TRANSPORTATION:** Jamin Carroll mentioned the transportation department has some budget challenges.
- **DPW:** Chris Bouchard noted the success of the Berkshire County debris management presentation, and noted the date of the upcoming Hazard Mitigation Climate Change workshop on August 2 which will be presented by MEMA and designed to build resilient communities.
- **CORRECTIONS:** No updates.
- **COMMUNICATIONS:** Melissa Nazzaro reminded the Council on the upcoming grant application and 911 certification deadlines and noted there is no update on SWIC position.
- **HOSPITALS:** No updates.
- **LOCAL GOVERNMENT:** Carolyn Shores Ness expressed her concerns with the Hard Knox planning team as local public safety personnel seem to be excluded from the process.
- **Massachusetts State Police (MSP):** Paul D'Auteuil noted the MSP has formed a new state division of homeland security.
- **MEMA:** Bob Barry reported on the success of the 2017 Emergency Management Performance Grant sessions held in Agawam. MEMA has streamlined the application process, which was appreciated.
- **EOPSS:** Nick DaDalt reported the FFY17 grant applications for the entire state were submitted to DHS for approval, and EOPSS hopes to receive an official award notice by August. The DHS will be conducting an audit of EOPSS's fiscal tracking in the next couple of weeks. Nick will provide an update on the outcome in upcoming meetings.
- **Planning/Pandemic Flu:** Ann Shea is attending the communication awareness CVE training in Framingham, MA. Raine noted the Family Reunification Template Plan is wrapping up, and the subcommittee is moving ahead with Phase II of the project which includes coordinating with the "I Love You Guys" to utilize their training presentation scheduled for October to expand our outreach. Suggestions were also made to present at National Conferences to reach a larger audience, and the RPA's will prepare synopses to submit to the various conferences. There is one final debris management outreach presentation at PVPC on July 27. The Hampden County Sheriff's office has expressed an interest in the MACC Hampden project, and the process has slowed down while discussions take place.

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Interoperability/Information Sharing: Melissa Nazzaro noted the following projects are wrapping up: Hampshire Hills 800, Franklin County GPS Clocks and the Hampshire Hills Control Station. The FFY16 WMLEC gap solution is an ongoing project, working on communication upgrades for the four counties.

Training and Exercises: Tom asked the Council to vote on the following proposal for a Sheltering Exercise.

<p>Motion: Carolyn Shores Ness moved to approve \$20,000.00 to pursue the proposal for the Sheltering Exercise, and to review the findings at the September meeting. Steve Gaughan seconded. Motion passed unanimously.</p>
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Tom advised on maximizing training efforts to allow as many participants to attend as possible and noted the challenges to avoid scheduling trainings at the same time as other public safety events.

Equipment/PPE:

Raine noted the portable jersey barriers would go out to bid again, as initially no vendors responded. The fit testers were delivered, and the hydration misters have shipped.

CBRNE/IED: John Dearborn received one request from Wilbraham PD, and will wait until all programs are ready before addressing the request. Raine noted there is \$10,000.00 of various tech rescue equipment on order from the FY15 spenddown, and the structural collapse training will take place on October 2 through 9 at Westover.

Fiduciary Report: Raine noted there is several thousand dollars more than expected as unspent funds in FFY15. She made the suggestion that these funds be moved to FRCOG Program Support to facilitate spend down to zero of FFY15.

<p>Motion: Carolyn Shores Ness moved to allow Raine to make the necessary adjustments as discussed. Bob Hassett seconded. Motion passed unanimously.</p>

FY16 projects are on track.

Old Business: None

New Business: The T&E subcommittee will pursue the Sheltering Exercise proposal to determine the needs in each county. Tom Grady reminded the Council to avail of resources and equipment in the Region when planning events.

The is no meeting scheduled for August, the next meeting will be on Sept. 12 at the Hartfield Fire Dept.

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Business Unforeseen by Chair: None

Next Steps/Future Meetings

New Location: The next Council meeting will be held on Sept. 12, 2017 at 10:00am at the Hatfield Fire Department.

Motion: Steve Gaughan made a motion to adjourn. Melissa Nazzaro seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40am.

List of Documents Reviewed at the Meeting

- WRHSAC Council Meeting Minutes from June 20, 2017
- WRHSAC Fiduciary Report: FFY 15 Homeland Security Grant, 7/18/2017
- WRHSAC Projects Report: FFY15 Homeland Security Grant , 7/14/2017
- WRHSAC Projects Report: FFY16 Homeland Security Grant , 7/14/2017
- WRHSAC Projects Report: FFY16 West & Central Competitive Homeland Security Grant, 7/14/2017

Respectfully Submitted by
Ann Dunne,
Franklin Regional Council of Governments