

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, Nov 21, 2017, 10:00 am
Hatfield Fire Department, 3 School Street, Hatfield, MA

Present: Raine Brown (FRCOG), Tom Grady (BCSO), Carolyn Shores-Ness (Deerfield BOS/BOH), Bob Hassett (Springfield CMED), Jamin Carroll (PVTA), Stephen Gaughan (EMS Rep/Hatfield FD), Paul Morrissette (WMFCA), Michael Nelson (MDPH), Ann Shea (MMC), Gail Bienvenue (MDPH), Chris Bouchard (Beckett Hwy), (Ann Dunne (FRCOG), Kristin Potrikus (EOPSS), Jeff McDonald (MSP), Jeanne Galloway (West Spfld Public Health), Duane Nichols (Northampton Fire Dept.), Amy Reilly (MAPC), Dennis Annear (NWMIMT), Bob Barry (MEMA), Michael Wynn (Pittsfield PD), Michael Glisson (Granger Inc.)

This meeting is audio recorded.

Chairman Thomas Grady called the meeting to order at 10:06 am.

Approval of Minutes

The committee reviewed the minutes from the October 21, 2017 meeting.

<p>Motion: Carolyn Shores Ness motioned to approve the October 21, 2017 meeting minutes. Jeanne Galloway seconded. Motion passed unanimously.</p>
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A round of introductions followed.

Updates from the Chair - Tom Grady

The T&E subcommittee agreed to invite Hans Olsen, Assistant Undersecretary for Homeland Security to their next meeting, to provide some guidance on enhancing cyber security. Hans is leading the cyber security initiative in the Commonwealth, and cyber security is listed as one of the FFY18 Homeland Security priorities.

Dennis Annear presented the Northwest Massachusetts Incident Management Team (NWMIMT) after deployment report. The team returned from their October deployment to Puerto Rico where they worked with MEMA in the aftermath of the recent Hurricane. Dennis coordinated the task force, which operated as a MACC. The team was assigned to co-ordinate and assist in the air operation with ground deliveries of fuel, food, water and medical assistance to 29 communities in isolated areas. Dennis noted the team created an informational document to provide some overlap of operations for the next team. Dennis acknowledged the advantage of the WRHSAC trainings, and the network opportunities the training provides.

Updates from Disciplines

- FIRE: None

- POLICE: see Government Resources for Houses of Worship under new business.

- EMS: None

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- EMD: Bob Hasset shared a weather briefing from NOAA, and reports warmer weather is projected for the winter months, however this could mean more ice than snow.
- PUBLIC HEALTH: Jeanne Galloway updated the Council on the public health's ongoing work with HMCC, and noted while we are in the flu season, it is not prevalent in the area yet. Carolyn Shores Ness reported that the Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District was certified, and hopes to provide some tick monitoring in collaboration with UMASS.
- TRANSPORTATION: Jamin Carrol noted his department is preparing for the winter season.
- DPW: Chris Bouchard attended a conference in Colorado, and reported on the deployment of the Homeland Security mobile command vehicle to assist with two major roadside accidents in Colorado.
- CORRECTIONS: Tom Grady noted the challenges of the criminal justice reform bill, depending on the version passed.
- COMMUNICATIONS: None
- HOSPITAL: Ann Shea reported on the work of the emergency planning group, and noted that funding from the hospital grant will focus on PPE/De-con training and replenishing expired equipment.
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- LOCAL GOVERNMENT: None
- Massachusetts State Police (MSP). None
- MEMA: Bob Barry reported on the upcoming January launch of the new streamline version of eCEMP.
- EOPSS: Kristin outlined the FFY18 guidelines and priorities, and noted the deadline to submit the full investment plan to EOPSS is February 14, 2018.

Planning/Pandemic Flu: Ann Shea reported on the following projects:

- The Family Reunification Trainings in October were very successful, and noted the subcommittee is developing an online training module.
- The Hampden MACC Phase V survey is completed, and the subcommittee agreed to move forward with this project.

The FFY17 projects are as follows:

- Children in Disasters Project: Identify training gaps, before moving forward.
- FNSS: Develop a Resource Guide

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- **Informational Visualization:** The goal of the project is to use technology to create a 360-degree interior layout map of critical structures, to be used by emergency services during an event.

Interoperability/Information Sharing: None

Training and Exercises: The T&E Subcommittee is looking for recommendations for training and exercises for FFY 2018 investment areas. Tom reminded the Council to encourage NIMS/ICS training in their communities, as this is one of the FFY 2018 SHSP funding requirements, as noted in the EOPSS guidelines.

Tom noted there are several T&E subcommittee motions that require Council action:

Amtrak Exercise Proposal:

The Amtrak Police would like to partner with WRHSAC to conduct a series of MCI trainings in Springfield, MA. The goal is to provide training for regional fire, ems and police in response to a passenger rail MCI.

Carolyn Shores Ness moved to approve \$23,300.00 to support the Amtrak MCI training. Steve Gaughan seconded. Vote was unanimous.
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The training will take place in May 2018.

Cargo Tank Training for first responders:

Cargo Tank Training for first responders - The 2-day course is designed for non-hazmat first responders, and can accommodate up to 45 people. The total cost of the training is \$11,244.00, and Raine expects to hold this training at UMASS Police or Amherst FD at no cost.

Carolyn Shores Ness moved to approve up to \$12,000.00 to support the Cargo Tank Training. Paul Morrissette seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mental Health First Aid Training for Berkshire County Law Enforcement

The subcommittee agreed to support the request to provide an additional training in Berkshire County for law enforcement. The cost of the training is \$3,000.00, and can accommodate up to 30 people

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Carolyn Shores Ness moved to approve \$3,000.00 to support the Mental Health First Aid Training for Berkshire County Law Enforcement. Chris Bouchard seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Western Mass. Critical Incident Stress Management Training Manuals:

Tom asked the subcommittee to purchase training manuals in support of the Western Mass. Critical Incident Stress Management Team. As the team works closely with public safety after a major incident, they would like to expand their training options. The team asked for \$1,000 to purchase manuals for an upcoming training.

Carolyn Shores Ness moved to approve \$1,000.00 to purchase training manuals in support of Western Mass. Critical Incident Stress Management Team. Michael Wynn seconded. Motion passed by a majority. One abstention.

Equipment/PPE: None

CBRNE/IED: The subcommittee is planning a meeting to discuss their investment plan for FF2018.

Fiduciary Report: Raine Brown reviewed the budget with the Council, and noted the FFY2016 projects are moving along. The Planning Pan Flu committee may have some funds remaining, while CBRNE funds are allocated. FFY17 projects will begin soon, and FFY18 guidelines and deadlines require action today.

Old Business: Public Health Proxy:

The Council agreed to approve Noreen Pease to represent public health on WRHSAC as an alternate voting member. Jeanne Galloway will continue as the public health voting member.

Jeanne Galloway moved to nominate Noreen Pease to represent public health on WRHSAC as an alternate voting member. Carolyn Shores Ness seconded. Vote was unanimous.

WRHSAC Communications Representative.

There were no updates or discussion at the meeting.

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New Business:

EOPSS has distributed their FFY18 guidelines. Subcommittee should submit a list of priorities for full Council for approval at the December 19, 2018 meeting. EOPSS expects the grant to be level funded at \$900,000.00 approx. The guidelines encourage the Council to develop plans around existing projects, before moving forward with new projects, and to outreach to the various disciplines to determine training gaps and emerging trends.

The Attorney's Office is sponsoring four regional national pilot forums of learning on public safety crisis, with the focus on houses of worship and faith based communities. Michael Wynn will participate in the panel discussion and agreed to give the preliminary opening remarks on behalf of the Council. The forum will be held in Amherst, MA on December 04, 2017.

Business Unforeseen by Chair:

Tom wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and thanked the members for their dedication and hard work.

Next Steps/Future Meetings

The next Council meeting will be held on December 19, 2017 at 10:00 am at the Hatfield Fire Department, 3 School Street, Hatfield, MA

Motion: Carolyn Shores Ness made a motion to adjourn. Michael Wynn seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
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The meeting adjourned at 11:20am.

List of Documents Reviewed at the Meeting

- WRHSAC Council Meeting Minutes from October 21, 2017
- WRHSAC Fiduciary Report : FFY16 Competitive Homeland Security Grant, 11/21/17
- WRHSAC FFY16 Projects: State Homeland Security Program, 11/20/17
- Massachusetts Dept. of Public Health proxy letter 11/7/17
- FFY2018 Homeland Security Priorities
- FFY2018 EOPSS guidelines for Homeland Security Planning Regions
- Government Resources for Houses of Worship and Faith Communities.

Respectfully Submitted by
Ann Dunne, Franklin Regional Council of Governments