

**Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council  
Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, January 16, 2018, 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), Stephen Gaughan (EMS Rep/Hatfield FD), (Michael Nelson (MDPH), Gail Bienvenue (MDPH), Jeff McDonald (MSP), Jeanne Galloway (West Spfld Public Health), Dennis Annear (NWMIMT), Michael Glisson (Granger Inc.), Amy Reilly (MAPC), Monica Wynne (Baystate Health), Bob Barry (MEMA), John Dearborn (Longmeadow FD), Paul Morrisette (East Longmeadow FD), David Bryant (MEMA), Jeff Stillings (DHS Springfield), Brian Rust (Cooley Dickinson Hosp.), Dennis Nazzaro (Northampton FD), Nick DaDalt (EOPSS), Melissa Nazzaro (EOPSS), Ann Dunne (FRCOG)

This meeting was audio recorded.

Chairman Thomas Grady called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

**Approval of Minutes**

The committee reviewed the minutes from the December 19, 2017 meeting.

<p><b>Motion:</b> Carolyn Shores Ness moved to approve the December 19, 2017 meeting minutes. John Dearborn seconded. Motion passed unanimously.</p>
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A round of introductions followed.

**Updates from the Chair - None**

**Updates from Disciplines**

- FIRE: None
- POLICE: None
- EMS: None
- EMD: None.
- PUBLIC HEALTH: Jeanne Galloway reported the current rate of infection is similar to the 2013/2014 flu season. The PV Mosquito Control District has received \$150,000.00 grant award.
- DPW: None.
- CORRECTIONS: None.
- COMMUNICATIONS: None
- HOSPITAL: None.

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- . - LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Carolyn Shores Ness reported on the success of the Mohawk Area Public Health Coalition Series for elected officials. Municipalities are beginning to realize the value of the online resource guide.
- Massachusetts State Police (MSP). Tom Grady offered his gratitude to the MSP for all their support and assistance to the City of Pittsfield during the funeral services for Lt. Michael Winston.
- MEMA: Bob Barry noted the Western Mass Quarterly EMD meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 31, 2018 at MEMA, Agawam.
- EOPSS: Nick DaDalt updated the Council on his recent deployment to Puerto Rico, as part of a Federal Health & Human Services Team. EOPSS received the preliminary investment plans from the western region. Nick anticipates the funds will be available in the fall.
- TRANSPORTATION: Jamin Carroll emailed Raine, and noted the extreme cold temperatures are affecting the fleet of vehicles.

**Planning/Pandemic Flu:** Brian Rust represented the hospitals on behalf of Ann Shea, and Raine gave the following update: FFY16 projects are moving along with continued outreach to national conferences to present the Family Reunification Template, and the committee is now looking at the following FFY17 projects.

- Pediatric MCI Planning / with HMCC.
- Functional Access Needs and Daily Response Guidance.

**Interoperability/Information Sharing:** None.

**Training and Exercises:**

Tom noted there are several upcoming T&E trainings, and asked the Council members to encourage the disciplines to register. The subcommittee discussed Emerging Trends/Threats as the possible theme for a annual conference symposium. Tom is seeking input and ideas from the Council in developing the theme further.

**Equipment/PPE:** None.

**CBRNE/IED:** John Dearborn presented the Tech Rescue Team's request to purchase a vehicle to transport equipment and a few members of the team. Chief John Pond, Holyoke Fire Dept. will house the vehicle and agreed to take care of the maintenance and registration. CBRNE has \$56,495.00 from the FFY2018 Plan to put towards the purchase, and is seeking

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an additional \$33,310.00. The full cost of the crew cab vehicle is \$ 89,805.00. Raine noted the additional funds would be taken from the computer forensics allocation of the plan.

After a brief discussion, the following motion was made:

<p><b>MOTION:</b> John Dearborn moved to support the purchase of the vehicle for the Tech Rescue Team as part of WRHSAC's FFY2018 Investment Plan. Carolyn Shores Ness seconded. Voted was unanimous.</p>
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The purchase fills an identified gap, and will be an excellent regional asset for the Tech Rescue Team. As their services increases in demand and the team begins to look at the long term planning process.

MSP - Lt. Jeff MacDonald noted the class of recruits will graduate next week, and we will see more troopers in the field. The new electronic citation online process is working well, particularly where network connectivity is good. Tom thanked Jeff and the MSP for their assistance to the City of Pittsfield.

**Fiduciary Report:**

Raine reviewed the FFY16 projects, and is looking at remaining funds to be spent by July 2018. There are some challenges with moving forward with some projects, due to the delay in receiving a response from Motorola. Dennis Nazzaro brought the mobile communication command pod for members to view; the pod was delivered as part of the WMLEC gap solutions project. FFY17 is under contract, the Pan Flu subcommittee is working on some of the projects, and Raine will start working on the Tech Rescue Team PPE equipment purchases.

Raine will attend the MMA conference later this week, and shared the newly formatted WRHSAC newsletter for review. Raine will make it available to municipalities at the conference. Raine will attend the cyber security session at the conference, and will share the information at the next Council meeting.

MAPC: The MAPC is working on the fiduciary contract with the FRCOG.

**Old Business:**

*FFY18 Investment Plan*

Raine presented the draft of the WRHSAC FFY2018 Investment Plan, and asked for feedback prior to submitting it to EOPSS for approval by February 14, 2018 deadline. Raine will update the plan to include the Tech Rescue Team truck purchase. The draft contains details of current projects to past projects from FFY2015. Raine will email the final investment plan to the Council, before submitting it to EOPSS.

Raine asked the members to review the list of "B" projects, to be considered if a project falls through. In the past, a list of placeholder categories has been approved, without a dollar amount attached.

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The following “B” list of categories were discussed and voted on:

- Tech Rescue Equipment.
- Mass Care Supplies.
- Search & Rescue (non-tech rescue) equipment.
- Interoperability Equipment.
- Equipment for the multi-agency coordination centers.

The following motion was made:

<p><b>MOTION:</b> Carolyn Shores Ness moved to accept the list of “B” categories as presented. John Dearborn seconded. Voted was unanimous.</p>
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*WRHSAC Communications Representative*

Melissa Nazzaro reported that Jeremy DeMar, Director of Dispatch, Springfield, is willing to be considered as the representative. Bob Hassett will contact Jeremy before the next meeting, to discuss becoming involved.

**New Business:**

Melissa Nazzaro reported that Governor Baker has approved the buildout plan for the First Responder Network by opting in to FirstNet. The decision enables the First Responder Network Authority and AT&T to begin offering a new wireless system for public safety communications. This will encourage competition between the providers.

**Business Unforeseen by Chair:** None.

**Next Steps/Future Meetings**

The next Council meeting will be held on February 20, 2018 at 10:00 am at the Hatfield Fire Department, 3 School Street, Hatfield, MA

<p><b>Motion:</b> Carolyn Shores Ness moved to adjourn. John Dearborn seconded. Motion passed unanimously.</p>
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The meeting adjourned at 10:51am.

List of Documents Reviewed at the Meeting

- WRHSAC Council Meeting Minutes from December 19, 2017
- WRHSAC Fiduciary Report : FFY16 Homeland Security Grant, 1/12/18
- WRHSAC: FFY16 Western Region Homeland Security Grant, 1/12/18
- WRHSAC: FFY16 Homeland Security Grant, 1/12/18
- WRHSAC : FFY18 Investment Plan

Respectfully Submitted by  
Ann Dunne, Franklin Regional Council of Governments