

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council  
CBRNE/IED Sub Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
September 15, 2014 at 10:00 am  
Ludlow Fire Dept., Ludlow, Ma.

**In attendance:** Mark Babineau (WMFCA), Raine Brown (FRCOG), Gretchen Johnson (FRCOG), John Pond (WMFCA), Sean Walker (SFABS), Duane Nichols (Hazmat DFS), Tim Nelson (D-4 Hazmat), Daniel Dupre (D-4 Hazmat), John Dearborn (D-4 Hazmat).

The meeting was brought to order by Mark Babineau at 10:11 am.

A round of introductions followed.

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the June 13, 2014 CBRNE/IED meeting.

<p><b>Motion:</b> John Dearborn motioned to approve the June 13, 2013 CBRNE/IED minutes. Motion seconded by Tim Nelson. Voted unanimously.</p>
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**Budget Review**

Raine Brown stated that the FFY13 funds allocated for the hazardous materials training will continue to be used to send participants to the trainings in New Mexico and Colorado. John stated that he is trying to coordinate a local training that was done a few years ago with actual radiation materials. It was very well done but it's challenging to coordinate the transportation of the materials and to find a secure location for the training.

Raine stated that CBRNE has allocated \$45,000 for WMD CBRNE training. This funding is intended for hazardous materials training that includes all disciplines. Raine stated that Linda Moriarty is coordinating a TEEEX training but it won't use all of that funding.

**Requests**

**First Responder Hazmat Training**

John Dearborn stated that the letter included in the meeting packet from Jon Davine. Jon Davine is an independent consultant. John Dearborn clarified that he is not directly associated with Jon Davine's consulting business. John passed out a handout on emerging trends. One in three emergency calls of the Hazmat Team is related to hazardous materials that have to do with drug production. A big concern issue is that first responders aren't always recognizing the hazardous materials. Many of these processes are using household items such as lithium batteries, soda bottles, etc. However, if the materials are mishandled it can become a very dangerous situation.

One pot meth is a current trend and can be cooked in soda bottles.

Butane hash oil is another trend. The process takes low grade marijuana, butane and a tube of some sort and turns the product into syrup that is added to food products. This makes the product easy to conceal and harder for the dogs to detect.

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The Medical Marijuana law in Massachusetts currently allow for private citizens with a prescription to grow up to a 90 day supply of marijuana or ask a friend to grow it. Many private growers are using compressed gases and increased electricity which is leading to structural fires. There is also a concern about respiratory illness due to the hot and humid environment that is conducive to the growth of molds and fungus as well.

The course will also address home made explosives. Raine asked John to develop a scope of work. John stated that he would like to have a class held in each county. Raine suggested holding day time sessions in Hampshire and Hampden and hold an evening and weekend session in Berkshire and Franklin County. John suggested allocating \$18,000 for the trainings. Discussion followed.

<p><b>Motion:</b> Duane Nichols motioned approve up to \$18,000 of FFY13 WMD CBRNE training funds to hire a consultant to offer an Emerging Trends for First Responders training in each of the four Western Counties. Motion seconded by Tim Nelson. Voted unanimously.</p>
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Raine stated that she will draft the RFP once the scope of work has been finalized. Raine stated that at least three CBRNE members will need to review and evaluate the proposals. Discussion followed.

**Next Steps/Future Meetings**

The next meeting will be scheduled as needed.

There being no further business to discuss Tim Nelson made a motion to adjourn. Duane Nichols seconded. Voted unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:39 am.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Gretchen Johnson  
Homeland Security Program Assistant  
Franklin Regional Council of Governments