

**Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, January 20, 2015, 10:00am**  
**WMEMS, 168 Industrial Drive, Northampton, MA**

In attendance: Raine Brown (FRCOG), Gretchen Johnson (FRCOG), Thomas Grady (BCSO), Josiah Neiderbach (PVPC), Jamin Carroll (PVTA), Fran Nothe (WMFCA), David Cruz (EOPSS), Amy Reilly (MAPC), Melissa Nazzaro (Spfld Comm), Linda Moriarty (WMEMS), Bob Barry (MEMA), Russell Sienkiewicz (NPD), Ed Lesko (BOH/BOS), Mark Babineau (WMFCA), Robert Hassett (SFD), Jeanne Galloway (WSpfld HD), John Pond (WMFCA), Michael Wynn (PPD), Candi Christenson (VMA OEM).

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

**Approval of Minutes**

The Council reviewed the minutes from the December 16, 2014 meeting.

<p><b>Motion:</b> Ed Lesko moved to approve the minutes from the December 16, 2014 meeting as submitted. Linda Moriarty seconded. Motion passed.</p>
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**Updates from Chair**

No updates were given by the Chair.

**Updates from Disciplines**

- FIRE: John Pond stated that the Tech Rescue Team will be meeting with the Western Mass Fire Chiefs on Thursday to give an update on the activities of last year and the plans for this year. Tom Grady stated that there is interest in Berkshire County to have a large animal training. They would like the Tech Rescue Team to be involved. John replied that training coordination should be done through the Western Mass Fire Chiefs.
- POLICE: Mike Wynn stated that the Regional Mutual Aid agreement will be available on line soon. Mike stated that Berkshire County is not participating in the agreement.
- EMS: Linda Moriarty stated that the new EMS director is Michael Kass. He is very savvy and well qualified.
- EMD: Bob Hassett stated that Springfield has applied for a CAMET trailer which is a small animal sheltering trailer. The request was approved and should be delivered in February. The trailer is available to the region and will be listed in the Resource Guide.
- PUBLIC HEALTH: Ed Lesko stated that he will be away next month and Erica Johnson will be his proxy at the March meeting.
- TRANSPORTATION: No update was given.
- DPW: No update was given.
- CORRECTIONS: No update was given.

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- **COMMUNICATIONS:** Melissa Nazzaro stated that the update of the MIFOG, the statewide tactical channel guide, will begin on February 4<sup>th</sup>. There is no funding available to print field guides. MEMA has offered to print 8.5" x 11" sheet copies upon request. Tom strongly encouraged that the System Owner's ask the COMML's to review the MIFOG for updates as well.
- **HOSPITALS:** No update was given.
- **LOCAL GOVERNMENT:** No update was given.
- **Massachusetts State Police (MSP):** No update was given.
- **MEMA:** Bob Barry stated that MEMA PIO training on March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> is full. Peter Judge will be running the training. UMASS is hosting an active shooter exercise on March 19<sup>th</sup>.
- **EOPSS:** No update was given.

**Planning /Pandemic Flu:**

Linda Moriarty stated that the subcommittee projects are moving along. At the last meeting there was a request for School Go Kits from the Pioneer Valley Regional School District. EOPSS directed the Subcommittee after the Sheffield School District request that any future requests must have been opened up to the entire region and prioritized. There also isn't any funding available in the current funding years for these requests. Therefore, the Subcommittee decided not to entertain any further School Go Kit requests at this time. It may be possible to allocate funding to this type of project in a future funding year.

**Interoperability/Information Sharing:**

Russ Sienkiewicz stated that the elections for the WMRIC At-Large members were held last month. Russ asked Raine to distribute the member flow chart. Russ stated that a microwave purchased for the Borden project is no longer needed and will be repurposed in Franklin County. Russ stated that the WMLEC channels were used during the First Night celebrations in Northampton as a practical exercise to familiarize end users with the WMLEC System. The exercise went very well.

**Training and Exercises:**

Tom stated that the first planning session for the Anti-Terrorism Exercise was held via conference call. There was good varied representation. It is going to be a really good series of exercises. Tom encouraged everyone to spread the word.

Tom stated that the Subcommittee discussed and endorsed the Native Storm 2015 Exercise. Bob Hassett stated that this exercise is designed to prevent hospital deaths during a major disaster. Springfield will be sending patients to hospitals in 500 mile arcs. We will be the departure facility and not a receiving facility. It will be an earthquake scenario. All hospitals in

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lower pioneer valley will be devastated. The hospitals still in working order will be in Franklin and Berkshire Counties. Springfield will be moving 70 patients. Springfield will receive support from the National Guard, Air Force Reserve and local ambulance services. Springfield is the only metro medical area that has completed this training four times in the US. Many other metro areas are requesting our plan of operations. The exercise is scheduled for the first weekend in June. Westover Air Force Base is on board. A full scale table top drill was done last year. The VA is partnering with Springfield for this project.

**Motion:** Ed Lesko motioned to approve \$5,000.00 to fund the Native Storm Exercise. Linda Moriarty seconded. Bob Hassett abstained.

The next exercise proposed for approval is a Mobile Generator Fuel Request. Raine stated that Chris Pelletier from the Franklin County Sheriff's Department contacted her requesting funding for the initial fill up for the 87 gallon diesel tank on the generator. Raine inquired with EOPSS and it is an allowable expense if there is a training held. There was vendor training. Therefore, both Franklin County Sheriff's and Holyoke Fire Department can submit for reimbursement for the first fill up. The future fuel will be paid for by the user.

**Motion:** Ed Lesko motioned to approve up to \$650.00 to pay for the diesel fuel to fill the two mobile generators for the first time. Russ Sienkiewicz seconded. John Pond abstained.

Tom stated that the CBRNE Medical Management training scheduled for March 10 and 11 is full. If anyone is interested and has not signed up yet, a wait list is being kept.

Tom stated that the Hazmat Emerging Trends trainings are underway. Tom attended one of the trainings and it went well. He stated that he was pleased to see so many law enforcement attendees at the training.

**Equipment/PPE:**

Raine stated that an RFB was released for Tech Rescue Equipment. Only a partial response was received. A second RFB will be released for the remaining equipment.

**CBRNE/IED:**

Mark stated that the CBRNE Subcommittee did not meet last month.

**Fiduciary Report**

Raine stated that projects are moving along. Raine stated that there is \$5,900 leftover from the CBRNE Medical Management Training. The training was originally thought to be three days but is only two days. The Hadley Farm House was found to be able to accommodate the training and was less expensive than the Mass Mutual Center. The Training and Exercise Subcommittee allocated \$5,000 to the Native Storm Exercise and \$650 for the Generator Fuel Request.

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Amy Reilly stated that the Mass Municipal Association Conference Trade Show will be held January 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. MAPC will have a booth at the conference. Amy stated that Raine did a great job compiling information about the Council. Raine stated that she will be attending.

**Old Business**

No old business was discussed.

**New Business:**

Tom stated that the next Council Chairs meeting will be February 13<sup>th</sup>. Tom asked that if anyone has issues that should be brought up at that meeting please contact him.

**Business Unforeseen by Chair**

No unforeseen business was discussed.

**Next Steps/Future Meetings**

The next meeting of the Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council will be held on Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am at WMEMS.

There being no further business Linda Moriarty moved to adjourn. Russ Sienkiewicz seconded. Voted unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 am.

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