

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 21, 2015, 10:00am
WMEMS, 168 Industrial Drive, Northampton, MA

In attendance: Raine Brown (FRCOG), Gretchen Johnson (FRCOG), Thomas Grady (BCSO), Melissa Nazzaro (Spfld Comm), Linda Moriarty (WMEMS), Jeanne Galloway (WSpfld HD), Stephen Kozloski (MPD), Carolyn Shores Ness (DBOS/BOH), Ed Lesko (BOH/BOS), Robert Hassett (SFD/OEP), Chris Bouchard (DPW), Fran Nothe (WMFC), Mark Babineau (WMFCA), Russell Sienkiewicz (NPD), Robert Barry (MEMA), Sandra Martin (BCBHOA), (EOPSS), Amy Reilly (MAPC), Tom Lynch (BMC), Tony Pettaway (SPH), Michael Nelson (DPH), Dennis Nazzaro (NFD), David Elvin (PVPC), Michelle Goldman (EOPSS), Paul D'Auteuil (MSP), Sonya Schey (EOPSS), Terry Dun (FCECS).

The meeting was brought to order at 10:16 am by Thomas Grady, Council Chair.

Approval of Minutes

The Council reviewed the minutes from the March 17, 2015 meeting.

<p>Motion: Ed Lesko moved to approve the minutes from the March 17, 2015 meeting as submitted. Carolyn Shores Ness seconded. Motion passed.</p>
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Updates from Chair

Tom Grady asked Michelle Goldman for an update from EOPSS. Michelle stated that the FFY15 grant announcement was received. The grant is essentially level funded. The grant cycle has been increased from two years to three. More detailed investment information is required in the FFY15 Plan.

Tom stated that the Chairs meeting is next Friday in Framingham. Tom asked that members contact him with any issues or concerns that should be discussed at the meeting.

Updates from Disciplines

- FIRE: No update was given.
- POLICE: No update was given.
- EMS: Linda Moriarty stated EMS is still working on the budget issue. The proposed amendment to restore \$200,000 to the budget is being considered by the Senate Ways and Means Committee. Linda asked for Council members to contact Representative Stanley Rosenberg in support of the amendment.
- EMD: Bob Hassett stated that the Westover Training Pre-exercise went very well. The scenario is an on and off base aircraft crash. Springfield received the CAMET trailer. Bob stated that he is trying to coordinate joint training with the DART teams for pet rescue and resuscitation.
- PUBLIC HEALTH: Ed Lesko stated that tick season has begun. The Public Health trailer has been being utilized as a regional asset.

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- TRANSPORTATION: No update was given.
- DPW: Chris Bouchard stated that the Public Works Day at the State House is coming up. This is a meeting with the legislators. Safety is an issue that will be addressed at the meeting. A DPW worker in Connecticut was struck and killed while working on the road. Chris stated that \$30 million has been approved for pothole aid for towns.
- CORRECTIONS: No update was given.
- COMMUNICATIONS: No update was given.
- HOSPITALS: Tom Lynch stated that Mercy Hospital had an active shooter drill. Bob Hassett stated that the drill had good participation. Paul D'Auteuil stated that there were some good lessons learned from the exercise.
- LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Carolyn Shores Ness stated that the RPAs have been attending local meetings throughout the region to show the videos on Homeland Security programs.
- Massachusetts State Police (MSP): Paul D'Auteuil stated that the Hells Angels picnic is scheduled for April 25th and the Westover Air Show will be May 16th and 17th. There will be many players involved for both events. Paul stated that the Mercy Sunday event was well handled. It is estimated that about 20,000 people attended. Tom stated that an incident command post was utilized and the event was run as an operation. Linda Moriarty stated that the EMS was impressed with the downlink capabilities.
- MEMA: Bob Barry stated that the quarterly EMD training will be held on April 27th during the day and in the evening.
- EOPSS: Michelle Goldman stated that the EOPSS update was covered earlier in the meeting. Michelle introduced Sonja Schey. Sonja is covering for David Cruz while he is out. Tom welcomed Sonja.

Planning /Pandemic Flu:

Linda Moriarty stated that the subcommittee projects are moving along.

Interoperability/Information Sharing:

Russ Sienkiewicz stated that the projects are ongoing. The consultant contract will be discussed at the Interops meeting at 12:30. Russ announced that Steve Kozloski is the new chair of WMLEC. WMLEC has nominated John Paciorek of Deerfield as the new Police representative to the Council. The nomination has been forwarded to the Massachusetts Chiefs for recommendation to EOPSS. Russ stated that many of the Mobile Command/Communication Unit vehicles are in the parking lot.

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Russ stated that a multi-coupler receiver has been damaged and needs to be replaced at the Butternut WMLEC site.

Motion: Mark Babineua moved to approve up to \$6,000 to purchase a multi-coupler receiver. Ed Lesko seconded. Motion passed.

Training and Exercises:

Tom Grady stated that the Training and Exercise Subcommittee met prior to the Council meeting. Tom stated that he attended the Berkshire County Anti-Terrorism Exercise on April 8th. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. The DHS team has done a phenomenal job. There are over 80 participants signed up for the Franklin County Exercise and about 50 participants for both the Hampshire and Hampden County Exercises. Tom encouraged Council members to promote these exercises. The level of federal and state players in the room is unusual. It is a great opportunity to create and strengthen relationships.

Tom stated that there were two requests made at the meeting. The first is a training that will enhance communication between EMS and fire with police to balance the need for patient care with preservation of evidence.

Motion: Tom Grady motioned to approve \$6,000 to develop a Crime Scene Preservation Training. Linda Moriarty seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

The second request was for position specific NWMIMT Training. NERAC is offering position specific training and has invited the NWMIMT team. Twelve team members would like to go. The trainings occur throughout May and June. The team is requesting backfill and overtime and hotel accommodations. Bob Barry stated that MEMA is very supportive of the NWMIMT Team. They have been very responsive regionally and statewide.

Motion: Tom Grady motioned to approve up to \$7,022 to send twelve NWMIMT members to position specific training contingent on available room in the trainings. Ed Lesko seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Equipment/PPE:

No update was given.

CBRNE/IED:

Mark Babineau stated that the CBRNE Subcommittee met on March 24th to discuss the additional Tech Rescue Equipment request. Mark stated that the Team feels that funds set aside for confined space training would be better utilized toward tower rescue training and structural collapse training. Some members have been able to attend open enrollment MFA classes for confined space training. The tower training classes are not available through MFA. The proposal is to send 12 team members to a train the trainer tower rescue training and use a phased approach to send 4-5 members to a building collapse training with the available FFY14 funds.

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Motion: Carolyn Shores Ness motioned to adjust the funding so that the tower training and building collapse training money are available in FFY14. Motion seconded by Melissa Nazzaro. Voted unanimously.

Mark explained that the Team would like to purchase a metal whaler kit. A metal whaler kit has metal beams that serve the function of 6x6 wooden beams but are significantly lighter and are sectional.

Motion: Carolyn Shores Ness motioned to approve up to \$8,732 FFY13 funds to the Council to purchase a metal whaler kit. Motion seconded by Ed Lesko. The motion was voted unanimously.

Carolyn Shores Ness asked that there be some cross training with the DPW Departments. Chris Bouchard stated that DPW can receive training for 50-75 people through OSHA.

Fiduciary Report

Raine Brown stated that all projects are moving forward and there are no concerns about timelines. There will likely be between \$2,000 and \$3,000 unallocated leftover funds in June. Raine stated that she is working with Linda Gross to adjust project funds between FFY13 and FFY14 as leftover funds become available.

Old Business

No old business was discussed.

New Business:

FFY15 Priority Project Development

Raine Brown stated that EOPSS has requested the FFY15 Project Development but only the Planning/Pan Flu Subcommittee has had a chance to meet. A list of their project recommendations was included in the meeting packet. Most of the projects listed are a continuation of ongoing projects. The Training and Exercise Subcommittee meeting met this morning. Their investment areas include Masscare and Services, CBRNE/WMD, Emergency Preparedness and Interagency Communications. Mark Babineau stated that CBRNE will also continue with the existing investment categories. Russ Sienkiewicz stated that the Interops Subcommittee will discuss this at their meeting later today.

Business Unforeseen by Chair

Tom Grady reminded everyone that the Chairs meeting will be next Friday. Tom stated to contact himself or Raine with any issues that should be brought up.

Russ Sienkiewicz stated that police are trying to find a way to replace the heroin medication because the price has increased by 140%. Linda Moriarty stated that the Governor has a Task Force working on this problem. Michelle Goldman suggested reaching out the Attorney General's office. Amy Reilly stated that MAPC is working on a grant for a few towns to be able

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to swap the medication if the patient is admitted to the hospital. Sandra Martin stated that some Health Departments can bill for the medication. Fran Nothe stated that a legislative bill is being prepared to be filed in regards to this topic.

Russ stated that the drug drop boxes are filling up two times per week and are only picked up once a month. Northampton Police are looking for an alternate solution. It is a great program but it is under funded.

Amy Reilly passed out a handout regarding the procurement payments. The findings are similar to the last report. MAPC is working on refining the procurement process. Tom thanked Amy for her level of communication and great work.

Next Steps/Future Meetings

Tom Grady stated that there will be a demonstration in the parking lot of Mobile Command/Communication Units immediately following the meeting.

The next meeting of the Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council will be held on Tuesday, May 19th 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 11:06 am.

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