

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
CBRNE/IED Sub Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2012 at 10:00 am
Longmeadow Fire Dept., Longmeadow, Ma.

In attendance: Eric Madison (WMFCA), Duane Nichols (D-4 Hazmat), Daniel Dupre (D-4 Hazmat), Sean Walker (Springfield Arson & Bomb Squad), Charles Van Gorden (WMFCA) Stewart Pease (D-5 Hazmat), Tom Grady (BCSO), Matt Kirchner (PPD, BCSRT), Sue Brown (FRCOG), Tim Nelson (D-4 Hazmat).

The meeting was brought to order by Eric Madison at 10:00 am.

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the January 5, 2012 CBRNE/IED meeting.

<p>Motion: Tom Grady motioned approve the January 5, 2012 CBRNE/IED minutes. Motion seconded by Duane Nichols. Voted unanimously.</p>
--

Budget Review

The committee reviewed the '09, '10, and '11 CBRNE budgets. Sue explained the recent changes in the budgets that were made to accommodate the drop-dead end dates of '08 and '09 grants. CBRNE equipment projects, including Bomb Squad equipment, Regional Hazmat Equipment and the Bearcat, were moved to FFY09 to facilitate the spend down of those funds, while training & exercise funds from '09 were moved to '10 & '11. The committee reviewed their intention of use of the FFY2011 Tech Rescue funds, whether those were set aside for more training or for equipment.

The committee discussed the option of asking the Training & Exercise subcommittee for T&E funds to cover the proposed FFY2011 Tech Rescue and SWAT training, thereby freeing up the FFY2011 CBRNE funds to be used to purchase tech rescue equipment.

Tech Rescue Team Equipment

Charles Van Gorden shared an updated tech rescue equipment request with the committee. The Tech Rescue Team equipment committee reviewed their original proposal with the Rope Rescue trainers and has revised the list to better represent the needs of the team as it serves western Massachusetts. The proposed equipment will be helpful for wilderness rescue, bridge rescue, trench rescue and confined space rescue.

The project would purchase three trailers to be located Berkshire, Hampden and at a shared location for Franklin/Hampshire Counties. The locations will most likely be Gt. Barrington, Holyoke, and Northampton but this is still being discussed by WMFCA. Equipment will be owned by the department where located. Each trailer needs to be inspected yearly. WMFCA will work out ownership, equipment maintenance and regular inspection before the equipment is purchased. The equipment and trailers will cost approximated \$200,000.

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
CBRNE/IED Sub Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2012 at 10:00 am
Longmeadow Fire Dept., Longmeadow, Ma.

The following motions were made:

Motion: Tim Nelson moved that the CBRNE committee approach the Training & Exercise subcommittee to request training and exercise funds to cover the planned next level of Tech Rescue training and the SWAT training. Sean Walker seconded. Voted unanimously.

Motion: Tim Nelson motioned to approve, pending the previous proposed approval from the Training & Exercise subcommittee, up to \$200,000 from FFY2011 CBRNE for Tech Rescue Team equipment and trailers. Sean Walker seconded. Voted unanimously.

This motion will utilize funds that had been placed in the line item of CBRNE first responder training. This leaves &27,253 in FFY2011 CBRNE funds.

Berkshire County Special Response Team Equipment

Matt Kirchner presented a request for equipment for the Berkshire County Special Response Team (BCSRT) request to purchase SWAT team helmets, ballistic shields, and secure communication equipment. This request is part of a statewide effort of regional SWAT teams to seek funding from their respective Homeland Security Councils to standardize equipment across the state. It is anticipated that this equipment will cost an average of \$3,000 per person. The BCSRT is seeking equipment for at least 30 personnel at the cost of \$90,000. The Pittsfield Chief has asked that the request be estimated up to \$100,000 to cover equipment needs.

Matt indicated that in addition to the above equipment the BCSRT is also in need of updated ballistic shields and night vision equipment. The team's shields are at least fifteen years old. The shields are intended for a five year life cycle. The team currently does not have any night vision equipment and the majority of their calls take place during hours of darkness. The shields cost \$1,825 each and the night vision equipment cost approximately \$3,750 each. The team is asking for two of each piece of equipment.

Discussion followed regarding other special response teams in the region. Matt noted that there are some other teams, but the Berkshire team is the only one that will respond regionally. There was discussion about other teams and WMLEC.

Matt was asked if he thought this request met the needs of the team. It was suggested that four shields might better meet the team's needs.

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
CBRNE/IED Sub Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2012 at 10:00 am
Longmeadow Fire Dept., Longmeadow, Ma.

Motion: Daniel Dupre motioned, pending the previous proposed approval from the Training & Exercise subcommittee, to approve \$14,800 from CBRNE FFY2011 for four shields and two night vision monoculars for the BCSRT. Tim Nelson second. Voted unanimously.

Motion: Sean Walker motioned to approve up to \$100,000, utilizing remaining CBRNE funds from FFY09, 10 and 11, and from a source to be determined by the Council, in support of the statewide purchase of standardized helmets, gas masks, and secure communication equipment for BCSRT. Duane Nichols seconded. Voted unanimously.

Eric asked two requests from Matt. He asked for a member of the Berkshire County Special Response Team to commit to being a member of the CBRNE committee. Secondly he noted that the Berkshire team has been coming to the committee with unanticipated requests and he seeks the assistance from BCSRT to incorporate any further needs into the long term prioritization planning of the subcommittee. Matt will take these requests back to the team.

Regional Bomb Squad Equipment

Sean Walker provided an update on the bomb equipment. All equipment has arrived and is in place. They had to exchange one of the medium suits for a large suit. This has been completed. The Bomb Squad is willing to offer demonstration either at Springfield or at other locations. Tom asked how the training went. Sean stated that the training was for the new xray equipment and it went very well. The equipment preforms much quicker and is clearer than their older equipment. A member of the MSP squad attended the training.

Sue informed the committee that with the flipping of funds to different years and some differences in updated quotes there are a couple of votes needed to clarify allocations.

Motion: Tim Nelson motioned to approve the transfer of \$1,049.02 from FFY09 Regional Bomb Squad Equipment to FFY09 Regional Hazmat Team Equipment. Daniel Dupre seconded. Voted unanimously.

Motion: Tim Nelson motioned to approve the transfer of funds from FFY2010 Regional Hazmat Team Equipment to FFY2010 Regional Bomb Squad equipment to cover the difference to replace the medium suit with a large suit. Dan Dupre seconded. Voted unanimously.

This will leave just over \$15,000 in FFY2010 CBRNE and \$893.98 in FFY09 CBRNE.

IRTB Training

Sue reviewed the challenges that have recently arisen to deliver the Incident Response to Terrorist Bombing (IRTB) and Prevention and Response to Suicide Bombing Incidents (PRSBI).

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
CBRNE/IED Sub Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2012 at 10:00 am
Longmeadow Fire Dept., Longmeadow, Ma.

The school in New Mexico recommends that IRTB is taken as a prerequisite to PRSBI. This project intended to send some of 30 personnel to IRTB and some to PRSBI. Sue asked if the committee wanted to push to try to still do this in spite of the recommended prerequisite, or if they wanted to send 15 to IRTB and the same 15 to PRSBI, or to send 30 to IRTB. A discussion ensued and the committee decided to focus on sending 30 personnel to IRTB as there isn't enough time to send them to the IRTB training and then the other.

This will change the focus also of the regional delivery of the courses. It was intended to offer to short version of each course. The project will now offer a shortened version of IRTB only, but can increase the number of offerings.

The committee recommended that any law enforcement personnel to be sent to New Mexico should already have MPTC certification and that all fire personnel should be at least fire instructor one level.

Sue recommended that someone from CBNRE committee attend T&E subcommittee meeting on April 17th at 9:30am at WMEMS. Duane Nichols will attend.

Sue and Matt provided update on Bearcat. Matt said anticipated delivery is mid-July to August.

Sue will ask Steve White about lettering on Bearcat to indicate that it was purchased with Homeland Security funds from WRHSAC.

No new or unforeseen business.

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 11:02 am.

Respectfully Submitted by
Susan L. Brown
Homeland Security Program Manager
Franklin Regional Council of Governments