

**Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
Training and Exercise Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
April 17, 2012, 9:30 am
WMEMS, 168 Industrial Drive, Northampton, Ma.**

Present: Sue Brown (FRCOG), Gretchen Johnson (FRCOG), Tom Grady (BCSO), Sandra Martin (BCBOHA), Dennis Nazzaro (DFS/NFD), William Schitze (NFD), Tom Lynch (BHS), Carolyn Shores Ness (Municipal Rep), Edward Oey (BPD), Josh Shanley (NEM), Soloe Dennis (PVPC), Linda Moriarty (WMEMS), Ann Carolyn (MMC).

Chairman Tom Grady brought the meeting to order at 9:31 am. A round of introductions followed.

Approval of Minutes

The committee reviewed the minutes from the March 20, 2012 meeting.

Motion: Linda Moriarty motioned to approve the minutes from March 20, 2012. Tom Lynch seconded. Unanimously approved.

Budget Review

Sue Brown briefly reviewed the motions made last month. There is over \$500,000 allocated to training and exercises that will need to be spent by February 2013. The subcommittee should consider alternative options for the funding such as purchasing equipment. Sue asked for proposals to be presented at the next meeting. Discussion followed.

Exercise Requests

Hampden County Regional Hazmat TTX– September 2012, \$25,000

Motion: Sandra Martin motioned to approve \$25,000 from FFY10 funding for the Operation Organic Storm tabletop exercise. Linda Moriarty seconded. Unanimously approved. Discussion outlined below.

Soloe Dennis stated that this exercise will consist of an ethanol release in the Town of Palmer due to a train derailment. A consultant will be hired to conduct the training. The training will be conducted in accordance with HSEEP criteria. Discussion followed.

Training Requests

Belchertown Officer Down Train the Trainer – June 2012, \$38,692

Motion: Linda Moriarty motioned to approve \$38,692 for the Belchertown Officer Down Train the Trainer training from FFY10 Training funding. Sandra Martin seconded. Unanimously approved. Discussion outlined below.

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Ed Oey stated that STS will conduct the training. There is a requisite that at least two of the three previous trainings have been completed by attendees. There has been multi-disciplinary attendance in the past to these trainings. Linda Moriarty asked that a thank you letter be sent to the trainer, Eric Stratton. An officer that had attended an Officer Down training put his training to use in a real life situation when an officer was shot recently in Chicopee. Discussion followed.

Sunderland Fire Department Active Shooter Response Training – September 2012, \$16,695

Motion: Dennis Nazzaro motioned to approve \$16,695 for the Sunderland Fire Department for the Active Shooter Response Training from FFY10 Training funding. Linda Moriarty seconded. Unanimously passed. Discussion outlined below.

Jim Tower stated that STS will be conducting the training. The training will be an eight hour class. Jim will try to have the training in Franklin County. Sue stated that this will be the third and final offering of this training.

Request from CBRNE Subcommittee
Tech Rescue & Swat Training - \$75,000 each

Motion: Linda Moriarty motioned to approve \$75,000 for the Tech Rescue Training from CBRNE to FFY10 Training funding. Sandra Martin seconded. Motion passed. Discussion outlined below.

Tom Grady stated that the CBRNE Subcommittee met last week. They have received additional equipment requests and have proposed moving their training budgets to this subcommittee in order to accommodate the equipment requests. There are no requests for the training and exercise funds at this time. Tom tabled the discussion to move the \$75,000 for SWAT training. Discussion followed.

BCSRT Equipment

Motion: Carolyn Shores Ness motioned to transfer \$71,653 from FFY10 Training funding to FFY2010 CBRNE to purchase equipment for the Berkshire County Special Response Team. Sandra Martin seconded. Motion passed. Discussion outlined below.

Tom Grady stated that this proposal is part of an effort to participate in a statewide procurement to standardize equipment for Special Response Teams. Discussion followed.

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MYTEP Efforts

Sheltering Exercises scope example

Sue stated that she included an example scope of work for this type of project for informational purposes only. There has been some interest in conducting training on sheltering. Mary Kersell and Pat Smith may be brining a project forward soon. There will be some IRAA exercises concerning sheltering as well.

Social Media Training

Sue stated that the other Councils were not interested in pursuing Social Media training at this time. We have \$25,000 set aside for Social Media Training. Sue will research trainings. It is a priority to have the trainings offered at different times of the day as well as offering a weekend training. Discussion followed.

Old Business

Smoke Generator

Sue stated that a smoke generator is not an allowable DHS expense. It is possible to seek a waiver. The Council sought a waiver for the bomb squad suits and it was granted. Discussion followed. It was determined that a waiver should be sought due to the usefulness of the equipment and the difficulty to find other funding to purchase it. Linda Moriarty stated that in the future requests similar to this need to be presented to the Western Mass. Fire Chiefs prior to coming to the Council for approval.

<p>Motion: Sandra motioned to seek a waiver to purchase the smoke generator equipment. Linda Moriarty seconded. Motion passed.</p>

New Business

No new business was presented.

Business Unforeseen by the Chair

There was no unforeseen business was discussed.

Next Steps/Future Meetings

The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 15^h at 9:30am at WMEMS.

There being no further business Linda Moriarty motioned to adjourn. Sandra Martin seconded. Voted unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:58 am.

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

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