

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 17, 2012, 10:00am
WMEMS, 168 Industrial Drive, Northampton, MA

In attendance: Sue Brown (FRCOG), Gretchen Johnson (FRCOG), Thomas Grady (Berkshire County Sheriff's Office), Bob Hassett (SFD), Tom Lynch (BHS), Mary Kersell (HPHPC) proxy for Sandra Martin, Ann Carroll (MMC), Nicole Rohan (PVTA), Dennis Nazzaro (NFD/DFS), Melissa Nazzaro (Spfld Comm), John Fabiano (EOPSS), Pat Smith (FRCOG), Josh Shanley (NEM), Josiah Neiderbach (PVPC), Mark Maky (BRPC), Mike Wynn (PPD), Steve Kozloski (WM Chiefs), Russ Sienkiewicz (NPD), Linda Moriarty (WMEMS), Fran Nothe (WFD), Tom Lynch (BHS), Tom Barnaby (MEMA).

The meeting was brought to order at 10:05 am by Thomas Grady, Council Chair. A round of introductions followed.

The Council reviewed the minutes from the June 19, 2012 meeting.

<p>Motion: Tom Lynch moved to approve the minutes from the June 19, 2012 meeting as submitted. Russ Sienkiewicz seconded. Voted unanimously.</p>

Updates from Chair

Tom stated that there were three vendors that responded to the Threat Analysis Update issued by MEMA. All three will be interviewed. The work will need to be completed by the end of the year.

Updates from Disciplines

- FIRE: Fran Nothe stated that there will be a Fire Chief meeting next week.
- POLICE: Russ stated that a new Colonel for MSP has been appointed. Tom welcomed Chief Wynn to his first Council meeting as a voting member.
- EMS: Linda Moriarty stated that the State EMS Director has resigned. The position has not been filled yet.
- EMD: none
- PUBLIC HEALTH: none
- TRANSPORTATION: none
- DPW: none
- CORRECTIONS: Sue stated that the purchase order has been issued for the Hampden County WMSIN project.

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- **COMMUNICATIONS:** Russ stated the Melissa Nazzaro was nominated for and won the 911 Grossman award for outstanding work in communications. A round of applause followed.
- **HOSPITALS:** none
- **MUNICIPALITIES:** none
- **Massachusetts State Police (MSP):** none
- **MEMA:** none
- **EOPSS:** John Fabiano stated that Steve Staffier was appointed as the Statewide Interoperability Coordinator.

Planning /Pandemic Flu:

Mary Kersell stated that the Planning Subcommittee has twelve active projects. All of them are moving forward. Josiah Niederbach stated that a portion of the September Preparedness month project is promoting events in as many communities as possible in our region. Suggestions for events are included in the meeting packet. Josiah asked Council members to consider having an event in their communities. Sue stated that the calendar of events is being prepared by PVPC and will be shared.

Interoperability/Information Sharing:

Russ stated that the Interops Subcommittee met immediately following the last Council meeting. Russ stated that Hampshire Hills project Phase I is almost completed. The second phase of the Hampshire Hill project previously approved requires an additional \$48,500.

<p>Motion: Russ Sienkiewicz moved to approve additional funding for the Hampshire Hills Phase II in the amount of \$48,500 from FFY10 System Hardening. Linda Moriarty seconded. Voted unanimously.</p>
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The PSIC Regional project has been completed. This was a huge accomplishment that would not have happened without Sue Brown's dedication and hard work. It was literally completed on the final day of the contract. All of the other projects are moving along.

Melissa Nazzaro stated that the TacStac update has been completed and will be released in September as part of Preparedness month. The MIFOG printing has been completed. A resource guide will also be distributed digitally that can be printed and added to the MIFOG. As of July 1st it is required that all PSAPs be emergency medical certified or have a certified agency to take medical calls. Priority Dispatch, which many of our communities are depending on as their certified agency, has some contractual issues that are being resolved. Discussion followed.

Russ stated that the Regional TICP final drafts have been distributed.

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Training and Exercise:

Tom stated that the subcommittee met just prior to this meeting.

Tom Grady stated that the Distant Storm exercise previously approved was cancelled due to the Police Officer Ambrose's funeral in Springfield. The exercise has been rescheduled for October 20, 2012

Motion: Tom Grady motioned to approve \$16,737.00 from FFY10 Exercises for the Distant Storm Exercise. Linda Moriarty seconded. Motion passed. Bob Hassett abstained.

Tom stated that the HazMat Awareness and Mass Decontamination Unit Training is to fill a gap in MDU training for volunteer services. The training will be open to all four counties. A flyer will be sent to Sue for distribution.

Motion: Tom Grady motioned to approve \$7,900 from FFY08 Training for the HazMat Awareness and Mass Decontamination Unit Training. Russ Sienkiewicz seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Equipment/PPE:

Sue stated that the traffic safety trailers contract has been awarded. The Sheriff's Departments will receive them soon. The remaining shelter equipment replacement items have been ordered and are expected soon. The Technical Rescue trailers have been approved by EOPPS. Chief Van Gorden is working on the specifications. The signs for the shelter trailers have been installed. The Bearcat is expected to be delivered in October.

CBRNE/IED:

No update was given.

Fiduciary Report:

Sue stated that the Homeland Security funding for 2012 has been cut by 50%. The timeframe for the funds has also been condensed. The funds will need to be spent by September 2014. Guidance on the funding is expected in August and the funding plan will be due in October. We need to decide how to prioritize the funding. All of the subcommittee chairs should be prepared to discuss which ongoing projects will need funding. Russ requested a breakdown of funding by each subcommittee for the past few years. Sue stated that she will distribute that information prior to the next meeting.

Mary Kersell proposed using some of the existing funds to pursue other outside grants to carry on the work of the Council and the subcommittees. Sue stated that she was not sure that would be an allowable use of funds. John Fabiano said he would look into it and report back. Melissa suggested that WMRIC bylaw could be modeled in a way to encompass the council and the

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subcommittees with the FRCOG as the fiduciary. Tom stated that the sustainability of any project is the responsibility of the subcommittee. Discussion followed.

Old Business:

Sue stated that last month she announced that a meeting location was needed for the September meeting. Russ has graciously offered a space at the Northampton Police Station. Russ suggested the parking garage because the first hour is free and on street parking is very limited.

Sue stated there is a save the date flyer in the meeting packet for the Social Media trainings. The dates are firm but a location has not been finalized yet.

New Business:

Sue stated that she will be on vacation from August 9th to the 13th.

Tom stated that there is a chairs meeting with Secretary Schwartz next week. A bill recently passed that mirrors the state police id project and opens statewide ID effort to Sheriff Offices and other law enforcement. Tom is going to propose that the Councils fund expanding the police id project to the sheriff offices, as they funded the police ID push.

John stated that EOPSS is offering a new grant for equipment or training for police and fire. The applications are due by August 30th. Sue sent information about the grant yesterday.

Business Unforeseen by Chair

No unforeseen business was presented.

Next Steps/Future Meetings

The next meeting of the Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council will be held on Tuesday, August 21st at 10:00am at WMEMS.

There being no further business Russ Sienkiewicz moved to adjourn. Mary Kersell seconded. Voted unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 am.

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