

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 27, 2013, 10:00am
Northampton Police Department, 29 Center Street, Northampton, MA

In attendance: Sue Brown (FRCOG), Gretchen Johnson (FRCOG), Thomas Grady (BCSO), Dennis Nazzaro (NFD/DFS) proxy for Melissa Nazzaro (Spfld Comm), Linda Gross (FRCOG), Josiah Neiderbach (PVPC), Pat Smith (FRCOG), Sandra Martin (BCBOHA), John Fabiano (EOPSS), Chris Norris (NFD) proxy for Linda Moriarty (WMEMS), Russell Sienkiewicz (NPD), Jamin Carroll (PVTA) proxy for Nicole Rohan (PVTA), Fran Nothe (WFD), John Pond (FD), Mark Babineau (WMFCA), Gail Bienvenue (MDPH) proxy for Tom Lynch (BHS), Chris Bruneau (MSP), Richard Rollins (MSP) Bob Hassett (SFD), Kristin Gorski (MAPC).

The meeting was brought to order at 10:03 am by Thomas Grady, Council Chair. A round of introductions followed.

The Council reviewed the minutes from the February 19, 2013 meeting.

<p>Motion: Russ Sienkiewicz moved to approve the minutes from the February 19, 2013 meeting as submitted. Bob Hassett seconded. Motion passed.</p>

Updates from Chair

Tom stated that the Chairs have not met with the Secretary yet this month.

Updates from Disciplines

- FIRE: Mark Babineau stated that the CBRNE Subcommittee met in Ludlow on March 15th. The tech rescue trailers have been delivered and the equipment has been coming in. John Pond stated that there will be a meeting to vote on leadership positions for the regional group tomorrow. There have not been any state Tech Rescue Team meetings yet this calendar year. Tom thanked Mark for agreeing to Chair the CBRNE Subcommittee.
- POLICE: none
- EMS: Linda Moriarty stated that a new State Director has been appointed. He will be in Holyoke for a meet and greet opportunity soon. EMS is moving to national standards. This will require additional continuing education credits. Discussion followed.
- EMD: none
- PUBLIC HEALTH: Sandra stated that the medical marijuana regulations have been drafted.
- TRANSPORTATION: none. Tom thanked Jamin for attending the meeting.
- DPW: none
- CORRECTIONS: none

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- COMMUNICATIONS: Dennis stated that MEMA is holding upcoming CommL, CommT and CommX trainings. Discussion followed.
- HOSPITALS: none
- LOCAL GOVERNMENT: none
- Massachusetts State Police (MSP): none
- MEMA: none
- EOPSS: John stated that EOPSS has not received any feedback yet on the THIRA. The information on the FY13 funds is expected to be released soon.

Fiduciary Report

Sue stated that the FFY09 contracts are active again. There is a balance of \$33,062 that is unallocated. The balance is from projects that have been completed under budget. The total balance of unallocated funds for all the subcommittees for FFY09 and FFY10 is \$161,562.

The Training and Exercise Subcommittee voted to move any unallocated funds to the Council. Discussion followed.

<p>Motion: Russ Sienkiewicz moved to move \$161,562.00 the balance of the FFY09 and FFY10 subcommittee to the Council unallocated fund. Sandra Martin seconded. Motion passed unanimously.</p>

Planning /Pandemic Flu:

Sandra stated that there are quite a few projects that are wrapping up. Sandra stated that sheltering equipment is always an option for the leftover funding. Some lead time is necessary to complete the purchases but the Subcommittee has a prioritized list of equipment from each of the regions.

Sue stated that BRPC requested an additional \$5,000 for the regional sheltering project. The Council granted the FRCOG additional funds for this project last month. Discussion followed.

<p>Motion: Gail Bienvenue moved to move to approve \$5,000 FFY09 unallocated funds to BPRC for the Regional Sheltering Project. Gail Bienvenue seconded. Sandra Martin abstained. Motion passed unanimously.</p>

Interoperability/Information Sharing:

Russ stated that the Hampshire Hills Project has been up and running for a month.

The FAA has approved the tower in Orange for the FCECS project. The tower will be required to be painted and lighted. Funding for those improvements have been secured.

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The WMLEC Expansion project has had some issues at Borden Mt. DCR has agreed to let us move forward on the project. The guy wire improvements to the tower were done in March. It will need to be determined what category the tower will be. An additional engineering review will be required.

The IMC Node Linking Project is moving forward. Testing will be conducted in June after the new software is released.

The WMRIC Project will hire a consultant to assist us in setting up a formal governing structure if the Homeland Security funds end.

There have been a few issues with the Reprogramming Grant. The project was sent out to bid but no bids were received. One vendor agreed to bid but it came in too high. We are currently negotiating.

Berkshire 385 Update Project was approved. Sue is working to hire a vendor to conduct the EHPs.

Tom thanked the Interops Subcommittee for their groundbreaking work that has brought huge benefits to this region.

Training and Exercises:

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

Amherst Fire Department – Current Threat Trends - \$19,365.00

Tom stated that the Amherst Fire Department is requesting funds to have a Current Threats Trends training. This will be a supplement to the New Mexico train the trainer training. The training can accommodate 45 participants. It will be held in Amherst. The training will be open to all of the disciplines.

<p>Motion: Tom Grady motioned to approve \$19,365.00 FFY11 Training funds for the Current Threat Trends training. Sandra Martin seconded. Motion passed unanimously.</p>

Hampshire EMS – PreHospital Trauma Life Support - \$45,000

Tom stated that this training was approved last month but got such a response they want to hold another one in June. The trainings were offered and were filled by the end of day three. The waiting list is 43 people. It will be held in June. Each County will be allotted a number of seats.

<p>Motion: Tom Grady motioned to approve FFY11 training funds in the amount of \$45,000 for a two Day PHTLS training. Sandra Martin seconded. Motion passed.</p>

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Belchertown Police Department – Active Shooter 2 Day - \$15,750

Tom stated that the Active Shooter training is facilitated by an ex-military personnel. It is a 2 day course that will be held in June. It will be open to all disciplines in all four counties. A minimum of 3 slots be held for each County.

Motion: Tom Grady motioned to approve \$15,750 from FFY11 Training and Exercise funds for the Active Shooter 2 Day training. Sandra Martin seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Belchertown Police Department – Active Shooter 3 Day - \$25,443

Tom stated that this is a 3 day training. Two day will be with live fire. It has been 10 years since this training has been offered. A minimum of four seats be reserved for each county and from different departments.

Motion: Tom Grady motioned to approve \$25,443 from FFY11 Training and Exercise funds for the Active Shooter 3 Day training. Sandra Martin seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Sue stated that after these motions there is a balance of approximately \$5,000 left unallocated for the Subcommittee. The FFY11 funds were the last funds that allow outside agencies to request funding. Unused backfill and overtime funds will be returned to the unallocated fund. The Subcommittee will meet as needed. Tom stated that the FFY12 funds will be used to conduct sheltering training. Discussion followed.

There will be two one day trainings offered at the Clarion on May 18th and 19th. The first part of the day will be Incident Response to Terrorist Bombing training and the second half of the day will be Prevention of and Response to Suicide Bombing Incidents. Both days can accommodate up to 100 participants. Thirty people went to the train the trainer training in New Mexico. Sue will set up a spreadsheet of the available trainers and WMFCA will administer requests for the trainers

Equipment/PPE:

No report was given.

CBRNE/IED:

Mark stated that the CBRNE Subcommittee met and approved two requests. The proposal is for portable metal detector and x-ray machines that can be deployed singly or as a group to any public or private building or venue. These units are currently being used in the eastern part of the state. The proposal is to purchase equipment for each county. The manufacturer will offer training on the equipment. The training will be open to all disciplines. Bob Hassett stated that the Springfield Bomb Squad may have a portable metal detector that they are willing to give away. Discussion followed.

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Motion: Mark Babineau motioned to approve \$106,000 from FFY09 & 10 unallocated funds for the MSP/Sherriff Portable Detector Request. Motion seconded by Dennis Nazzaro. Voted unanimously.

Hampshire and Franklin Fire Mobilization Kits

Mark stated that this is a small attaché that is well equipped. Hampden County created it and it is being recommended that each of the Counties are similarly equipped. The “go kits” will help facilitate a more organized and coordinated response. The “go kits” will be a regional asset.

Motion: Mark Babineau motioned to approve \$8,000 from FFY09 & 10 unallocated funds for the Hampshire and Franklin fire mobilization kits. Motion seconded by John Pond. Voted unanimously.

Old Business:

Kristin stated that the FFY08 grants have been closed out. The FFY09 contracts have been re-established. The FFY10 funds will end on June 30th. Discussion followed.

New Business:

No new business was discussed.

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, April 16th at 10:00am at WMEMS.

There being no further business Russ Sienkiewicz moved to adjourn. Dennis Nazzaro seconded. Voted unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 11:01 am.

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