

**Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 21, 2013, 10:00am
WMEMS, 168 Industrial Drive, Northampton, MA**

In attendance: Sue Brown (FRCOG), Gretchen Johnson (FRCOG), Thomas Grady (BCSO), Melissa Nazzaro (Spfld Comm), Linda Gross (FRCOG), Josiah Neiderbach (PVPC), Pat Smith (FRCOG), Sandra Martin (BCBOHA), Russell Sienkiewicz (NPD), Tom Lynch (BHS), Carolyn Shores Ness (Municipal Rep.), Ann Shea (MMC), Josh Shanley (NEM), Linda Moriarty (WMEMS), Robert Barry (MEMA), Mark Babineau (WMFCA), Steve Kozloski (MPD), Brook Chipman (EOPSS), Chris Bouchard (MHA), Richard Rollins (MSP), Matt Kirchner (PPD), Cindy Hahn (ARC), Chris Kuczarski (SFD OEP/MMRS), Jamin Carroll (PVTA).

The meeting was brought to order at 10:08 am by Thomas Grady, Council Chair.

A round of introductions followed.

The Council reviewed the minutes from the April 16, 2013 meeting.

<p>Motion: Carolyn Shores Ness moved to approve the minutes from the April 16, 2013 meeting as submitted. Linda Moriarty seconded. Motion passed.</p>

Updates from Chair

Tom stated that there will be a Statewide Emergency Conference in Worcester on May 28th and 29th. A few of the Council chairs have been asked to participate in a panel. Bob Barry stated that the registration is full but anyone interested can be added to the wait list.

Updates from Disciplines

- FIRE: Mark stated that the tech rescue project has been complex and challenging. The group is meeting on a monthly basis. The Western Mass Technical Rescue Team should be up and running by the fall.

Mark stated that he recently went to Washington D.C. with a delegation of 10 fire fighters from Western Mass. Mark attended the first hour of the Boston bombing hearing. The message was clear that homeland security starts at home. The Boston incident had such a great response because they train together regularly. It was a good highlight of the good work of the Homeland Security Councils.

- POLICE: Russ stated that there is a 24-hour training mandated for police but the State budget has cut the funding. Discussion followed.
- EMS: Linda stated that the new EMS Director has been traveling around state holding meetings. The state is changing to the National EMT Registry system as of July 1st.
- EMD: Chris stated that the MMRS grant lines will be continued.

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- PUBLIC HEALTH: Sandra stated that different disciplines training and exercising together is very important. DPH is still providing behavior support in the Boston area.
- TRANSPORTATION: none.
- DPW: Tom welcomed Chris Bouchard as the new DPW Council Representative.
- CORRECTIONS: Tom stated that John Kenney is reviewing the Western Mass Sheriff Information system.
- COMMUNICATIONS: Melissa stated that the new date for the State 911 Department Annual Awards Ceremony is June 4th in Worcester at 10:00. Anyone interested in attending can RSVP through the 911 Dept. The Support and Incentive Grants have been released. Applications are due on July 1st.
- HOSPITALS: Ann stated that the Recovery Workshop will be held on May 31st from 9-11:30. Contact Ann if anyone would like to attend. The MDU exercise with the Springfield Fire Department will be on June 5th from 9 to noon. Contact Ann if anyone would like to be an observer.
- LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Carolyn stated that a technical subcommittee has been formed for Franklin County to reach out to other counties for assistance to figure out which system to use for the 911 dispatch. It has been very difficult to figure out Discussion followed.
- Massachusetts State Police (MSP): Richard stated that there have been budget cuts.
- MEMA: Bob stated that the Vermont Yankee bi-annual exercise is coming up. The MEMA quarterly EMD meeting will be held on June 19th with two sessions offered.
- EOPSS: Brook stated that the FFY10 funding will end on June 30th. An extension request was submitted. Additional clarification was requested. Sue was very helpful in providing specific details for projects.

EOPSS has not received the application for the FFY 13 state level funding yet. When it is distributed it is anticipated that there will be one month to respond. There will not be much time for outreach to the Councils but EOPSS will work with the Councils as much as possible. The guidance on how to develop regional plans for the FFY13 funding will also have a quick turn around time. It will likely be October or November before the funding is delegated. More information should be available next month.

Planning /Pandemic Flu:

Sandra stated that the subcommittee voted to return \$50,000 to the council. The funding had been allocated to a second phase of a pilot project that was decided not to be pursued.

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Discussion followed. Tom asked the Council to consider projects for the funding for next month. Sue stated that the funding ends on June 30, 2014.

Sandra stated that all of the Planning Subcommittee's other projects are moving along.

Interoperability/Information Sharing:

Russ stated that the upgrades to the Orange tower have been completed.

Melissa stated that the CMED project has been re-written and submitted to SIEC for consideration at their next meeting in two weeks. Sue stated that the project was sent to EOPSS yesterday.

Russ stated that the Interops Subcommittee will consider proposals from two consultants for the Gaps Analysis project.

The Subcommittee will also consider how to proceed on hiring a consultant for the WMRIC project as well as challenges with the Reprogramming project.

Russ stated that he is negotiating with DCR about the tower upgrades related to the WMLEC project. DCR has requested that homeland security funds pay for the category 3 upgrades to the tower. In order to meet the June 30, 2013 deadline the consultant has identified a work around to be able to bring the WMLEC project online.

Russ stated that the Subcommittee had a long meeting last month. Russ stated that an engineering study is being conducted on the Borden tower.

Motion: Russ Sienkiewicz motioned to move \$5,040 FFY10 Unallocated funds to FFY10 WMLEC Expansion for Ethernet cards and adapters at the Lenox and Borden sites. Linda Moriarty seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Carolyn Shores Ness motioned to \$1,500 FFY10 Unallocated funds to FFY10 WMLEC Expansion for a structural analysis of the Butternut tower as part of the WMLEC project. Mark Babineau seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Carolyn Shores Ness motioned to move \$4,044 FFY10 Unallocated to FFY10 WMLEC Expansion for electrical work at MSP shared sites. Linda Moriarty seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

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Motion: Russ Sienkiewicz motioned approve and move an additional \$251.00 FFY10 Unallocated funds to FFY10 WMFCA MDT/GIS to allow the purchase of 33 MDTs. Tom Lynch seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Carolyn Shores Ness motioned to move \$957.29 FFY10 Unallocated funds to FFY10 WMLEC Expansion for travel expenses for Melissa Nazzaro. Linda Moriarty seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Training and Exercises:

Tom stated that the subcommittee met just prior to this meeting. There were no motions. The Subcommittee does have \$50,000. The Subcommittee will decide where to allocate the funding next month. Sue put together a list of past popular and successful trainings. A few other training possibilities were also discussed.

Equipment/PPE:

Sue stated that there were no responses to the sheltering equipment RFB requesting cots, pillows, linens etc. MAPC has re-issued the RFB and has sent it directly to several vendors. Sue stated that there was a vendor that responded to the RFB for the portable generator. The bid will remain open for a year. The cost of the generator with trailer was about \$24,000.

CBRNE/IED:

Mark stated that the CBRNE Subcommittee met on May 3rd in Ludlow. There was one motion to bring before the Council.

Motion: Mark Babineau motioned to approve \$35,890 from FFY10 Unallocated to CBRNE to a purchase CBRNE Berkshire Special Response Team Tactical Body Armor. Carolyn Shores Ness seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Fiduciary Report

Sue stated that much of the fiduciary items have been covered. Sue stated that there is \$3,316.71 left in FFY10 funds that are unallocated. The Shelter Supplies RFB will be due on May 28th. The RFB was written so that the quote will be valid for a year. There is \$150,000 allocated to purchasing sheltering supplies

Motion: Sandra Martin motioned to allocate the remaining FFY10 unallocated funds to the Sheltering Supply project. Carolyn Shores Ness seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

No old business was discussed.

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New Business:

Josh stated that there was some confusion on how to request the foam trailers for a planned event. Tom stated that this was brought up at the CBRNE Subcommittee and all requests will be funneled through the Western Mass Fire Chief's Association. Sue stated that she will update the resource guide.

Melissa stated that she will be available for two more meetings and then she will be out for four months for maternity leave. A proxy to the Council will need to be appointed. Melissa suggested Dennis. Melissa stated that John Taylor will be her proxy for the SIEC meetings. Dennis also attends those meetings and can give updates to the Council.

Business Unforeseen by Chair

Tom stated that the Council is very fortunate to have the administrative support of Sue and her colleagues. They make many aspects of the Council run smoothly. It is important to acknowledge their good work. EOPSS has often commended Sue's prompt and thorough work.

Tom stated that multiple agencies in Berkshire County will be using the high risk transport training this week. A high profile Hells Angels member involved in murder case has a court date. A lot of preparation has been done for this transport that was learned from the training. It has taken a lot of coordination. This is a great example of the trainings being put to use and the good work of the Council.

Next Steps/Future Meetings

The next meeting of the Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council will be held on Tuesday, June 18th at 10:00am at WMEMS.

There being no further business Linda Moriarty moved to adjourn. Russ Sienkiewicz seconded. Voted unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 11:01 am.

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