Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
CBRNE/IED Sub Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2017 at 10:00 am
Ludlow Fire Department
574 Center Street, Ludlow, MA

In attendance: Mark Babineau (Ludlow FD), Tom Grady (BCSO), Alan Sirois (Agawam FD), Paul Morrissette (East Longmeadow FD), James Machado (Ludlow FD), Dan Dupre (Chicopee FD), Tim Nelson (Amherst FD), Raine Brown (FRCOG).

The meeting was brought to order at 10:05 by Chief Mark Babineau.

A round of introductions was made.

The committee reviewed the minutes from the May 11, 2016 meeting.

Motion: Alan Sirois motioned to approve the May 11, 2016 CBRNE/IED minutes. Motion seconded by Dan Dupre. Voted unanimously.

Budget Review

Raine Brown reviewed the FFY2015 & 2016 budgets. \$13,695 is left over in FFY2015 from the fall session of the Structural Collapse Training. Raine has a request into EOPSS which would allow the team to utilize these funds for the upcoming April training sessions and then use an equal amount in FFY2016 to attend the statewide full-scale exercise in the fall.

A request for bids to obtain an instructor for both the April and fall session of Structural Collapse Training to be held jointly with the Central teams has been issued. Raine anticipates having a contract in place in early March. The FFY2016 line item for equipment is available. Raine anticipates starting to work with the teams on this in the spring.

Raine noted that two trainings have been scheduled for the Regional Hazmat Teams, one in clandestine labs and the other in homemade explosives. The trainings will be held in March and July. These training will utilize the balance in FFY2015 set aside for the teams. \$30,000 for training for the hazmat teams is available in FFY2016.

Requests & FFY17 Investment Plan

Raine reviewed the FFY2017 investment plan process with the committee. EOPSS has informed the Homeland Security Councils that it will need to have the Councils' plans prior to submitting the state plan to DHS, hence why we are focusing on FFY2017 now rather than in early summer as is the usual schedule. Raine noted that EOPSS doesn't yet have word on the exact amount to be awarded in FFY2017, so at this time they are advising the Councils to consider funding level to FFY2016, which is \$936,315 for the West. There is no competitive process as last year.

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Alan Sirois presented the requests from the Western Massachusetts Technical Rescue Team. The team is requesting \$38,500 in PPE equipment to include jacket, pants, overalls and gloves. They also would like \$50,000 to participate in the statewide tech rescue full-scale exercise in 2018, and an additional \$106,500 for structural collapse equipment.

The committee discussed training for the Regional Hazardous Materials Response Teams. The committee has supported the team with training funds over the last several grant years and this has been very helpful to the team. It was noted that there has recently been significant turnover on the teams due to retirements. The value of using the funds on both trainings brought to the team as has been done recently and also sending members out to specialized trainings in Colorado was also discussed. The committee recommended level funding at \$30,000 for hazmat team training.

Raine asked the committee to identify their priorities. Priorities were noted as follows:

- Tech Rescue Team PPE \$38,500
- Tech Rescue Team Statewide Full-scale Exercise 2018 \$50,000
- Regional Hazmat Team Training \$30,000
- Tech Rescue Team Equipment \$106,500

Mark noted that there may need to be some negotiation at the full Council meeting when all the subcommittees present their project recommendations. The committee agreed that Tech Rescue Equipment can be used as the area of negotiation.

Alan moved to approve the CBNRE subcommittee's FFY2017 project recommendations as noted above. Dan Dupre seconded the motion. Voted unanimously.

Items Unforeseen by the Chair

Mark noted this is likely his last CBNRE meeting as he will be retiring in May. He reviewed that John Dearborn of Longmeadow was recommended to replace Fran Nothe who retired in January on the Council, and Paul Morrissette of East Longmeadow is recommended to be Mark's replacement. Raine noted she has been communicating with EOPSS about the nominees and steps have begun to approve their membership.

There being no further business Mark Babineau moved to adjourn, and Tim Nelson seconded. Voted unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:44 AM.

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Respectfully Submitted by Raine Brown Homeland Security Program Manager Franklin Regional Council of Governments