

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council  
CBRNE/IED Sub Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
November 30, 2017 at 10:00 am  
Longmeadow Fire Department  
44 Williams Street, Longmeadow, MA

**In attendance:** Tom Grady (BCSO), Alan Sirois (Agawam FD), Dan Dupre (Chicopee FD), Duane Nichols (Northampton FD), Matt Kirchner (Pittsfield PD), Sean Walker (Springfield FD), Roger Tucker (Wilbraham PD), Joe Brewer (Wilbraham PD), Robert Zollo (Wilbraham PD), Raine Brown (FRCOG), John Dearborn (Longmeadow FD), Ann Dunne (FRCOG)

The meeting was brought to order at 10:00 am by Chief John Dearborn

A round of introductions was made.

The committee reviewed the minutes from the February 17, 2017 meeting.

<p><b>Motion:</b> Tom Grady motioned to approve the February 17, 2017 CBRNE/IED minutes. Motion seconded by Matt Kirchner. Voted unanimously.</p>
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*Budget Review FFY16 & FFY17*

Raine Brown reviewed the FFY2016 & 2017 budgets.

The FFY16 funds are divided between the western and central region for training and equipment for the Tech Rescue Teams. Most of the reimbursement requests have been received for the final session of structural collapse training. Raine estimates approximately \$80,000 remain. She suggested rolling the remaining training funds into the equipment line for both Tech Rescue Teams.

Raine reported that from the non-competitive FFY2016 funds \$4,551.00 remains in training for the Regional Hazmat Teams.

The FFY17 contract runs through July 2019. It is in the final stages of being finalized.

The allocated projects are:

- Tech Rescue Team PPE - \$38,500.00
- Tech Rescue Team Statewide MOBEX - \$50,000
- Tech Rescue Team Structural Collapse Equipment - \$70,000
- Regional Hazmat Team Training - \$30,000

Alan Sirois noted that the Tech Rescue Team has identified onsite medical responses and triage as an area of enhancement for the team. Raine noted there are some rumors that the MOBEX may not take place in 2018, if so the funds allocated for the exercise could be used for other training and exercises.

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*FFY2018 Project Planning*

Raine reviewed the budget and projects from recent grant years, and asked the subcommittee to identify their priorities to be presented by Chief Dearborn at the WRHSAC December meeting. EOPSS expects the grant to be level funded at \$901,230, and the funds will be available in late 2018 through July 2020. Tom Grady asked the subcommittee to follow EOPSS priorities, and to finish existing projects before considering new projects. The FFY2018 Homeland Security Priorities are:

- Preventing, Responding to and Recovering from an Active Shooter Incident/Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attack.
- Enhancing Cyber Security
- Preventing, Responding to, and Recovering from a Radiation/Nuclear Attack

The full investment plan is due to EOPSS by February 2018.

Joe Brewer, Wilbraham PD presented his proposal for the Wilbraham PD Explosives Detection Unit. The Wilbraham PD transitioned its K-9 program in December 2016 to an Explosive Detection Dog (EDD) program to better address the needs of the four counties of western mass. The goal is to enhance the regional security of critical infrastructure and schools located within the region. Joe is requesting funding to purchase an appropriate vehicle to facilitate responses and training of the EDD asset at \$50,995.80, explosive training aid kit at \$3,495.00, and an inspire drone at \$2,671.00 .

After a brief discussion, the following motion was made:

Dan Dupre moved to support the application as presented. Sean Walker seconded the motion.

Concerns were expressed about the proposal supporting the State's strategies and how it provides a regional solution, also noted were the costs involved in the maintenance and sustainability of the asset long term. Given the request will need approval from the Council and from EOPSS , Tom Grady recommended seeking letters of support from the MSP, ATF and the State Fire Marshal, and local agencies.

After a lengthy discussion on the various components of the proposal, the subcommittee decided to table the motion, to allow Joe time to revise his request before the next meeting.

Dan Dupre moved to table the motion, to allow Wilbraham PD time to revise their proposal before the next meeting. Alan Sirois seconded. Vote was unanimous.

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The Regional Hazmat Team requested \$30,000 to continue training.

Duane Nichols moved to allocate \$30,000.00 funds for the Regional Hazmat Team Training. Alan Sirois seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Raine outlined the list of projects from The Tech Rescue Team:

- MOBEX funding \$50,000 / 2019
- Build onsite medical response capability into the team training
- Structural collapse training
- Add a water rescue exercise

Alan noted the Tech Rescue Team will meet on December 11, 2017, in the morning and he will bring their funding requests to the next subcommittee meeting. The committee agreed to meet on Monday, December 11, 2017 at 1pm.

The committee discussed the proposal from the Wilbraham Police Department Explosives Detection K9 Unit, and requested the following documents to support the application.

- Provide letters of support from the Fire Marshall, MSP Bomb Squad, the Regional LECs, and the ATF.
- Provide EDD certification documents.
- Remove the inspire drone.
- Provide more detail and justification for the explosive training aid kit

Raine will follow up with Joe Brewer to include the above requirements in the revised proposal for the next meeting.

Given the success of the Six Flags Exercise, Tom suggested planning additional multi-agency full-scale regional exercises. The subcommittee will add this request to their list of recommendations for the Council.

There being no further business Tom Grady moved to adjourn the meeting. Matt Kirchner seconded. Voted unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Ann Dunne  
Franklin Regional Council of Governments