

Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council
All Hazards Planning and Equipment Subcommittee Meeting
Tuesday, June 3, 2025, 9:00 am

Subcommittee members present: Michael Archbald (Whately BOH/MAPHCO), Jeanne Galloway (West Springfield), Larry Holmberg (HREPC), Nick Licata (HMCC/FRCOG), Sandra Martin (BRPC), Carolyn Ness (Deerfield)

Non-members present: Raine Brown (FRCOG), Rachel Mason (FRCOG), Brian Nichols (EOPSS)

Subcommittee members absent: Loren Davine (HPHPC/MRC), Tom Grady (BCSO), Samantha Kittle (BRPC), Xander Sylvain (HMCC/FRCOG)

**This meeting was conducted remotely on Zoom. The meeting was recorded.*

Call Meeting to Order

Larry Holmberg called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

Approval of Minutes

The committee reviewed the minutes from the May 6, 2025 meeting.

<p>Motion: Sandra Martin moved to approve the May 6, 2025 meeting minutes as submitted. Carolyn Ness seconded the motion. Larry Holmberg, Sandra Martin, Jeanne Galloway, and Carolyn Ness voted in favor. The motion was approved.</p>
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Introductions followed.

Public Health/Flu Update

Sandra Martin reported that we may be in a lull between the bad air from Canada and the new strain of Covid.

Current Projects

Raine Brown reported on the status of the current projects.

FFY21: Cybersecurity Spenddown – We are waiting for the project in Pittsfield to wrap up, which should happen by June 26. That will zero out FFY21.

FFY22: Fairground Security Planning – Subcommittee members shared their feedback on the employee handbook and pocket guide. There was some positive feedback, but overall there was agreement that the documents were too long to be useful, and the maps were not clear enough to read and lacked important locations such as gates and evacuation points. Subcommittee members with more detailed feedback will send their comments to Rachel Mason in the next day or two, and she will send it to Tony. Larry will reach out to Michael Nelson to ask that he also make some comments on it.

FFY23 & FFY24: Election Security – The portable barriers should be coming later this month. Raine will add them to the resource list when they arrive and will put it in the next newsletter.

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Budget Review

Raine reported that things are looking good for All Hazards. FFY22 is zero'd out, and FFY21 will be as well by the end of June. In FFY24, we have spent the election security amount. We still have \$106,050 for the fairground project continuation or another soft target project. We should connect with Michael Nelson and Mike Perkins to see what would be helpful for next steps. The money doesn't have to stay with this project; it could go to other soft target projects.

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Items unforeseen by the chair

Sandra asked Brian Nichols if he had any updates on the next round of grants. Brian replied that at this point they have no information on any FFY25 grants. Raine added that MA is on the list of 11 states that are considered noncompliant because they are identified as sanctuary states; word on the ground is that they are highly scrutinizing whether the State will get any Homeland Security money. Larry noted that North Carolina was denied FEMA benefits. Brian predicted that disaster grants are probably going to go away.

Next Meeting

The next All Hazards Planning and Equipment subcommittee meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 1, at 9:00 am, as a virtual meeting.

<p>Motion: Carolyn Ness moved to adjourn. Sandra Martin seconded the motion. Larry Holmberg, Sandra Martin, Jeanne Galloway, Nick Licata, Michael Archbald, and Carolyn Ness voted in favor. The motion was approved.</p>
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The meeting adjourned at 9:24 am.

List of Documents Reviewed at the Meeting

- All Hazards Subcommittee June 3, 2025 Meeting Agenda
- All Hazards Subcommittee May 6, 2025 Meeting Minutes (draft)
- WRHSAC FFY22 All Hazards Budget Report through 5/30/2025
- WRHSAC FFY23 All Hazards Budget Report through 5/30/2025
- WRHSAC FFY24 All Hazards Budget Report through 5/30/2025
- Franklin County Fair Employee Handbook and Pocket Guide (draft)

Respectfully submitted by:

Rachel Mason, Program Assistant
Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council

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Franklin Regional Council of Governments