

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
CBRNE/IED Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes
February 6, 2023, 10:00 am

Subcommittee members present: Jon Davine (Northampton Fire), John Dearborn (WMFCA), Tom Grady (BCSO), Tim Nelson (D4 Hazmat),

Non-members present: Raine Brown (FRCOG), Scott Flebotte (MEMA), Nick Licata (HMCC/FRCOG), Rachel Mason (FRCOG), Daryl Springman (WMTRT), Eric Stratton (Western Regional Dive Team), Mike Westcott (Southwick PD),

Subcommittee members absent: Daniel Dupre (D4 Hazmat), Matt Kirchner (Pittsfield PD/BCSRT), Barry Ross (Hampden County Sheriff's Office), Alan Sirois (WMFCA/WMTRT), Sean Walker (Arson & Bomb Squad / Springfield Fire)

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

Open Meeting

John Dearborn called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Introductions followed.

Approval of Minutes

The committee reviewed the minutes from the April 7, 2022 meeting.

Motion: Tom Grady moved to approve the April 7, 2022 meeting minutes as submitted. Tim Nelson seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was held. John Dearborn, Jon Davine, Tim Nelson, and Tom Grady voted in favor. The motion was approved.

Review of Current Projects and Budgets

Raine Brown reported. An overview of current projects is in today's meeting packet. There is \$27,000 left from the Tech Rescue Team's water rescue training and \$75 left from JHIRT; those are the funds being considered today. Most projects are either complete or near complete. Some FFY22 projects are now underway and some have not started yet.

Southwick PD ROV Tablet & Scan 650 Request

Mike Westcott presented a request for a new tablet to run the side scan for the ROV. The tablet they have does not have the heat rating or size to work effectively. During trainings they had issues with overheating; at one of the trainings the tablet shut down and they could not use the side scan. Also, the ROV thrusters were blowing fuses in heavily weeded or high current areas. Obtaining a cable so the side scan can be operated independently of the ROV will help with the fuse issue.

Motion: Jon Davine moved to approve \$6,874.95 of the funds left from the water rescue allocation for a new tablet and cable. Tim Nelson seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was held. John Dearborn, Jon Davine, Tim Nelson, and Tom Grady voted in favor. The motion was approved.

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Regional Dive Team Presentation

Eric Stratton explained the composition of the Regional Dive Team and how they have grown to include more departments, adding additional divers, tenders, boats, dive platforms, and tech. They are now training on monthly basis. In the spring they will hold a joint operation with Fire and Police under bridges with the Sea Lion ROV and metal detectors. Chiefs of all departments that joined have purchased dry suits at around \$3,500 per suit. They have a sustainability plan in today's packet, but Eric acknowledged that they will likely come back to WRHSAC for additional funding as well. The main reason they developed the team was for regional assets. The Mass State Police team is not always available right away. They train with MSP when possible, as well as with the environmental police and others. They might extend into Franklin County.

Eric answered questions from committee members about activation, structure, governance, and other topics, asserting that everything is in place. The fiduciary is the Hampden County Sheriff's Department. They have MOUs signed with all of the departments and syllabi for all trainings. They are refining SOGs. The team includes both Law Enforcement and Fire capabilities, as they are trying to be a regional asset in most cost efficient way. Jon Davine added that Northampton often gets calls from the river and they have found that the State Police are stretched thin. He feels that this plan will work, and has made investments with divers, tenders, and a boat.

Additional discussion centered on the overlap with WMTRT and whether it would make sense to merge these capabilities for long term support rather than maintain two standalone entities. Daryl and Eric explained some of the logistical challenges to that but added that they have talked about the possibility of merging in the future, especially as the State's Tech Rescue Coordinating Council voted to accept dive under tech rescue. In the meantime, they will plan joint exercises as there are times when the dive team could benefit from the tech rescue team's equipment and expertise, e.g. to help with entry or exit from difficult to reach places. Tom noted that they have had a lot of similar discussion in Berkshire County with the tech rescue team and dive team; they are going to keep operations separate for now, but are cross training with tech rescue.

Business Unforeseen by the Chair

Tech Rescue Team Update and Requests

Daryl Springman provided an update on tech rescue team projects. They have some leftover funds, as they had a tough time getting bids and responses from vendors last year. Some pieces are still in progress. They finally got the surface water rescue equipment in and did the training, so they are now able to see what they are missing. They are building a request list for additional equipment. Their trench rescue shoring is out of date. They got approved to send some team members to a training, but there were no seats available. Daryl looked into bringing the training here, but the WMTRT lacks the equipment needed to meet the host requirements. They intend to re-approach the T&E subcommittee about sending members this year.

Daryl presented a request for shoring equipment and PPE. The cost listed on the request for the shoring equipment was for \$2,762, but that is a misprint as the quantity listed was 1. The amount they are requesting for that is \$13,056. The Council supported PPE purchases and structural collapse gear in the past and outfitted the whole team, but they now have new members and are

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requesting additional support. The trench rescue equipment is the top priority, but he noted that Paratech equipment usually takes a long time to come in.

Raine gave a breakdown of the money actually available from different sources, including the funds remaining from the TRT water rescue exercise (minus the ROV equipment approved above) and the funds that are likely to be left from the FFY19 spenddown once the concrete slabs and Conex boxes are purchased. Today's requests would be about \$1,000 over what we have available, though there may be that much remaining once the spenddown purchases are made. Another possible source of extra funds could be the \$2,400 that is currently allocated to TRT awareness briefings. Raine asked Daryl if they expect to do those briefings by June. Daryl replied that there have been many requests for the briefings, but he would rather re-allocate those funds to equipment at this point.

Raine also pointed out that there is \$35,000 allocated for a regional exercise in FFY21. It is not likely that such an exercise can take place within the timeframe of the grant, so she suggested that this could be a source of funding for sending team members to the trench rescue training, rather than having the team approach T&E for funding. There is an additional \$34,000 for a tech rescue exercise in FFY22, which runs through the end of July, 2024.

Daryl noted that they anticipate a mobilization exercise either in fall of 2023 or spring of 2024, which could use the FFY22 funds. Raine noted that the \$34,000 allocated had included backfill/OT, which will no longer be funded by the Council. Daryl agreed that without BF/OT they probably will not need as much as \$34,000 for the mobilization exercise.

Motion: Tom Grady moved to reallocate the \$2,400 from TRT awareness briefings to TRT equipment. Jon Davine seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was held. John Dearborn, Jon Davine, Tim Nelson, and Tom Grady voted in favor. The motion was approved.

Motion: Tim Nelson moved to approve \$39,756 for the requested TRT equipment, utilizing funds as described by Raine Brown. Jon Davine seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was held. John Dearborn, Jon Davine, Tim Nelson, and Tom Grady voted in favor. The motion was approved.

Motion: Tim Nelson moved to approve up to \$13,000 from the FFY21 regional exercise allocation to send TRT members to trench rescue shoring training. Jon Davine seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was held. John Dearborn, Jon Davine, Tim Nelson, and Tom Grady voted in favor. The motion was approved.

Raine noted that this leaves \$22,000 still allocated for a TRT regional exercise in FFY21. John Dearborn suggested that the committee reduce that amount and consider Eric's request for dive team equipment. Daryl noted that the TRT will not be asking for as much in equipment in the next fiscal year, and that he is ok with the \$22,000 going to the dive team. John Dearborn

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suggested pulling an additional \$15,000 from the FFY22 regional exercise allocation for a total of \$37,000 for the dive team.

Motion: Jon Davine moved to release \$22,000 from the FFY21 TRT regional exercise allocation and \$15,000 from the FFY22 allocation. Tim Nelson seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was held. John Dearborn, Jon Davine, Tim Nelson, and Tom Grady voted in favor. The motion was approved.

Motion: Jon Davine moved to allocate \$37,000 for regional dive team equipment purchases. Tim Nelson seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was held. John Dearborn, Jon Davine, Tim Nelson, and Tom Grady voted in favor. The motion was approved.

Eric Stratton will work with Mike Westcott and Billy Millin to put together a budget promptly. John Dearborn advised Eric that when we get into the new budget cycle the committee will probably have more questions about fine-tuning the activation procedures and addressing other concerns to ensure that the team will be successful.

Adjourn the Meeting

Motion: Jon Davine moved to adjourn the meeting. Tim Nelson seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was held. John Dearborn, Jon Davine, Tim Nelson, and Tom Grady voted in favor. The motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 11:17 am.

List of Documents Reviewed at the Meeting

- CBRNE Subcommittee Meeting Agenda for February 6, 2023
- CBRNE Subcommittee Meeting Minutes from April 7, 2022 (draft)
- WRHSAC FFY20 CBRNE budget through 2/2/23
- WRHSAC FFY21 CBRNE budget through 2/2/23
- WRHSAC FFY22 CBRNE budget through 2/2/23
- Project and Budget update for CBRNE Feb 6, 2023
- Proposal from Michael Westcott / Southwick PD dated 1/5/23
- Western Mass Regional Dive Team equipment list
- Regional Dive Team 10 year equipment maintenance cost
- Proposal from Daryl Springman / WMTRT for trench equipment and PPE

Respectfully submitted by:

Rachel Mason
WRHSAC Program Assistant
Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council
Franklin Regional Council of Governments

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March 16, 2023, 12:30 pm

Subcommittee members present: Jon Davine (Northampton Fire), John Dearborn (WMFCA), Tom Grady (BCSO), Tim Nelson (D4 Hazmat), Alan Sirois (WMFCA/WMTRT), Sean Walker (Arson & Bomb Squad / Springfield Fire)

Non-members present: Raine Brown (FRCOG), William Dubuque (Ludlow Fire / Hampden County MERT), Jeffrey Gawron (Chicopee Police), William Kimball (Greenfield Fire), Sean Knox (Ludlow Police), Rachel Mason (FRCOG), Laurie McComb (South County EMS), Peter McIver (Greenfield Fire), William Millin (Regional Dive Team / Northampton Fire), Dan Nietsche (FRCOG), Z. Smith (South County EMS), Daryl Springman (WMTRT), Bob Strahan (Greenfield Fire), Eric Stratton (Western Regional Dive Team / South Hadley Fire), Xander Sylvain (FRCOG/HMCC), Marc Wysocki (Sheffield Fire),

Subcommittee members absent: Matt Kirchner (Pittsfield PD/BCSRT)

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

Open Meeting

John Dearborn called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm.

Approval of Minutes

The committee reviewed the minutes from the February 6, 2023 meeting.

<p>Motion: Jon Davine moved to approve the February 6, 2023 meeting minutes as submitted. Alan Sirois seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was held. Jon Davine, John Dearborn, Alan Sirois, and Sean Walker voted in favor. The motion was approved.</p>

Introductions followed.

FFY23 Investment Planning Requests

John Dearborn explained that each request would be presented first, then the subcommittee would decide what recommendations to make to the Council. Details about requests are in today's meeting packet. Raine Brown informed the subcommittee that the total FFY23 grant will be \$1,146,637.68. In past years approximately \$250,000 has been allocated to this subcommittee.

Hampden SRT/MERT

Sean Knox presented an overview of the team and presented their requests, with additional input from Eric Stratton and William Dubuque. The primary request is for ballistics, as most of their current equipment is expired and they cannot deploy without it. Their second priority is breaching tools. Subcommittee members had several questions for the team and learned that they are currently on stand-down while they evaluate policies and procedures and draft new ones.

WMTRT

Daryl Springman presented requests from the team and noted that it is a smaller total request than in past years, as they have now taken on all disciplines they intend to. The first list includes

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missing equipment that they need for surface water rescue, including items they need to become FEMA deployable. The list also includes scaffolding related to trench systems, which did not make it onto last year's list. The second list is for additional equipment related to tower rescue.

South County EMS

Z. Smith and Laurie McComb gave an overview of South County EMS and presented a request for a cardiac monitor so that they can upgrade a third ambulance to ALS standards. They noted that mutual aid requests have been increasing and emphasized that this is a one-time purchase only, as they have the funding to maintain the equipment once purchased. Subcommittee members asked several questions and learned that South County EMS bills for services to cover about 60% of their budget. The agency has also submitted a request for an Assistance of Firefighters grant to fund the replacement of their two other monitors, which are seven years old.

Regional Dive Team

Eric Stratton addressed some of the questions and concerns that were brought up at the previous CBRNE meeting, and presented a request for additional equipment. Subcommittee members had several additional questions, including the status of SOGs and whether they have reached out to ascertain interest from Franklin County.

Sheffield Fire

John Dearborn explained that before considering this request, he wants to check where the existing fit testers are now and talk about relocating them. He suggested that some can be redistributed from the Western Mass Chiefs. Marc Wysocki noted that the goal is to have one in northern Berkshire County and one in the south. Tom Grady suggested that Marc make sure the Berkshire County Chiefs are aware of and supportive of this request.

Greenfield Fire

Bob Strahan presented the request for a fully equipped vehicle to support the drone program as well as the mobile health trailer, tech rescue trailer, and other missions. Subcommittee members noted that the full amount requested would be beyond the scope of what the Council could support. Bob responded by modifying the request to \$94,000 to cover just the vehicle with vehicle cap and warning equipment. He would then seek funding from the municipality or other sources for the additional components.

Hazmat

Raine Brown reported that the Hazmat team did not submit a formal funding request for FFY23, and noted that they currently have a lot of money rolled over from previous years. Generally this subcommittee gives them \$30,000, but this year \$15,000 would probably be sufficient.

Discussion

Motions were made on each proposal to begin discussion. The subcommittee's biggest concern about the Hampden SRT Request was that the team is not currently operational; they also expressed concerns about not having more solidified SOPs or sustainability plans.

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Motion: Tim Nelson moved to approve the Hampden County SRT request. Tom Grady seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was held. Alan Sirois, Sean Walker, John Dearborn, Jon Davine, Tim Nelson, and Tom Grady voted in opposition. The motion failed.

With regard to the South County EMS, subcommittee members noted several concerns, including that two of their ambulances already have the monitors and that this does not fit the profile of a regional asset that the Council should be funding.

Motion: Tim Nelson moved to approve the South County EMS request. Jon Davine seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was held. Alan Sirois, Sean Walker, John Dearborn, Jon Davine, Tim Nelson, and Tom Grady voted in opposition. The motion failed.

The Regional Dive Team's request was considered according to the phases and priorities listed.

Motion: Jon Davine moved to approve \$71,457 for phase 1 priority 2 of the Regional Dive Team's request. Sean Walker seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was held. Alan Sirois, Sean Walker, John Dearborn, Jon Davine, and Tim Nelson voted in favor. Tom Grady abstained. The motion was approved.

There was agreement to skip the Sheffield fire request and instead bring it to the Fire Chiefs.

The WMTRT and Hazmat allocations were approved without additional discussion.

Motion: Alan Sirois moved to approve \$24,087 for the Western Mass Tech Rescue Team request. Jon Davine seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was held. Alan Sirois, Sean Walker, John Dearborn, Jon Davine, Tim Nelson, and Tom Grady voted in favor. The motion was approved.

Motion: Jon Davine moved to approve \$15,000 for the regional Hazmat teams. Sean Walker seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was held. Alan Sirois, Sean Walker, John Dearborn, Jon Davine, Tim Nelson, and Tom Grady voted in favor. The motion was approved.

Discussion about the Greenfield Fire support vehicle centered on the question of whether it was truly a regional asset versus a municipal one. Bob Strahan reassured the subcommittee that the majority of drone deployments and other uses are outside of city limits, and that the vehicle will be used to tow other assets purchased by the Council, namely the tech rescue trailer and public health trailer, which are deployed throughout the region. John Dearborn suggested increasing the allocation to \$115,000 given that prices are likely to rise before these funds are available.

Motion: Jon Davine moved to approve \$115,000 for the Greenfield Fire support vehicle. Sean Walker seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was held. Alan Sirois, Sean Walker, John Dearborn, Jon Davine, and Tim Nelson voted in favor. The motion was approved.

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Raine noted that the total allocated for CBRNE projects in FFY23 now stands at \$225,534.

Business Unforeseen by the Chair

None.

Adjourn the Meeting

Motion: Jon Davine moved to adjourn the meeting. Alan Sirois seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was held. Alan Sirois, Sean Walker, John Dearborn, Jon Davine, and Tim Nelson voted in favor. The motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 2:09 pm.

List of Documents Reviewed at the Meeting

- CBRNE Subcommittee Meeting Agenda for March 16, 2023
- CBRNE Subcommittee Meeting Minutes from February 6, 2023 (draft)
- Request from Sean Knox / Hampden County Regional SRT, dated 1/30/23
- Request from Eric Stratton / Hampden County SRT/MERT, dated 2/1/23
 - Letter of support from Daniel Valadas / Ludlow Police, dated 1/23/23
 - Letter of support from Nicholas Cocchi / Hampden County Sheriff, dated 1/24/23
 - Letter of support from Robert Alberti / Easthampton Police, dated 1/24/23
 - Letter of support from Patrick Major / Chicopee Police, dated 1/23/23
 - Letter of support from G. Paul Connor / West Springfield Police, dated 1/23/23
- Request from Laurie McComb / South County EMS, dated 3/2/23
 - Letter of support from Matthew Shapiro / Baystate Health
 - Letter of support from Carl Cyr / Frontier Regional School, dated 3/7/23
 - Letter of support from Robert Flaherty / Hatfield Fire, dated 3/7/23
 - Letter of support from Eric Demetropoulos / Sunderland Police, dated 3/6/23
 - Letter of support from Geoff Kravitz / Sunderland Selectboard, dated 3/7/23
 - Letter of support from Brian Domina / Whately Town Administrator, dated 3/7/23
- Request from Western Mass Regional Dive Team
- Request from Marc Wysocki / Sheffield Volunteer Fire Department, dated 2/24/23
- Request from Daryl Springman / Western Mass Technical Rescue Team
- Request from William Kimball / Greenfield Fire, dated 3/10/23

Respectfully submitted by:

Rachel Mason
WRHSAC Program Assistant
Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council
Franklin Regional Council of Governments

Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council
CBRNE/IED Subcommittee Meeting
Tuesday, November 14, 2023, 1:30 pm

Subcommittee members present: BJ Calvi (Springfield Fire/WMFCA), John Dearborn (Longmeadow Fire/WMFCA), Tom Grady (BCSO), Matt Kirchner (Pittsfield PD), Tim Nelson (Amherst Fire/D4 Hazmat), John Paciorek (Deerfield PD), Alan Sirois (Agawam Fire),

Non-members present: Raine Brown (FRCOG), Jim Carmichael (FCSO), Shannon Guilbault (FCSO), Sandra Martin (BRPC), Rachel Mason (FRCOG), Nick Licata (FRCOG/HMCC), Brian Nichols (EOPSS/OGR), Randy Quarles (Westfield Fire, D4 Hazmat), Thomas Sammons (Pittsfield Fire), Jason Saunders (Lenox Fire), Daryl Springman (WMTRT), Bob Strahan (Greenfield Fire), Eric Stratton (South Hadley Fire/Regional Dive Team),

Subcommittee members absent: Sean Walker (Arson & Bomb Squad/Springfield Fire)

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

Open Meeting

John Dearborn called the meeting to order at 1:33 pm.

Approval of Minutes

The committee reviewed the minutes from the March 16, 2023 meeting.

Motion: Tom Grady moved to approve the March 16, 2023 meeting minutes as submitted. BJ Calvi seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was held. BJ Calvi, John Dearborn, Alan Sirois, Tom Grady, Matt Kirchner, and Tim Nelson voted in favor. The motion passed.

Introductions followed.

Review of Available Funds

Raine Brown reported. Just over \$480,000 is available. More details are in the meeting packet.

Additional funds needed for FCSRT FFY21 Equipment

Raine Brown reported. Some items came in more than anticipated, including gas masks, carriers, and filters, so the project is over budget by \$4,571. The drone is still at DHS for approval, but the vendor is a sole source vendor and has guaranteed the price, so that is in the budget.

Motion: Alan Sirois moved to allocate \$4,571 from FFY21 to cover the overages in the FCSRT project. BJ Calvi seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was held. BJ Calvi, John Dearborn, Alan Sirois, Tom Grady, and Tim Nelson voted in favor. The motion passed.

Requests

John Dearborn opened discussion on the new requests. There were a number of questions about the high water vehicle, including whether or not there may be other funding streams.

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Motion: Tom Grady moved to defer funding for the high water rescue vehicle. Tim Nelson seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was held. BJ Calvi, John Dearborn, Alan Sirois, Tom Grady, Tim Nelson, and Matt Kirchner voted in favor. The motion passed.

Greenfield Fire Regional Prime Mover – John Dearborn reminded the subcommittee that Chief Strahan brought this request before, but we were unable to fund it at that time. Bob Strahan explained that Greenfield hosts almost all of the regional assets in the county and is frequently asked to transport those assets, including the health trailer, tech rescue trailer, shelter trailer, light towers, signboards, and foam trailer. There is also an extensive drone program funded through multiple communities; this would be used for that as well. The request is modeled on several projects across the State that have been supported.

Motion: Tom Grady moved to approve \$129,390 for the Greenfield Fire Regional Prime Mover. Matt Kirchner seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was held. BJ Calvi, John Dearborn, Alan Sirois, Tom Grady, Tim Nelson, and Matt Kirchner voted in favor. The motion passed.

Pittsfield Fire Rescue/Dive Boat – Thomas Sammons presented the request. They have capital funding for a little less than half of the cost of the project, and are requesting the remaining \$46,332.95 from the Council. Their current boat has outlived its usefulness. The boat they are proposing to get is the same one that the Tech Rescue Team has. Chief Sammons, Tom Grady, and Eric Stratton answered questions about how the regional dive teams operate and reassured the subcommittee that this will be a useful regional asset.

Motion: Tom Grady moved to approve \$46,332.95 for the Pittsfield Fire Rescue/Dive Boat. Tim Nelson seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was held. BJ Calvi, John Dearborn, Alan Sirois, Tom Grady, Tim Nelson, and Matt Kirchner voted in favor. The motion passed.

Regional Dive Team Equipment – Eric Stratton explained that the equipment they are requesting today would close out their Phase 1 plan and would put 11 divers in the water. Alan Sirois asked about the pricing, which Eric agreed might be higher than what they will actually need to spend when the project goes out to bid. Further questions concerned the quantities being requested and what other assets currently exist in the region. BJ Calvi moved to table the project until we have more accurate pricing, but he withdrew the motion as John Dearborn, Tom Grady, and Raine Brown explained that the likely difference in price would not be worth postponing the vote or taking the risk of needing to request more funds to complete the project in the future. Tom Grady also noted that the State contractor for dive equipment tends to be more expensive than retail prices.

Motion: Tom Grady moved to approve \$116,727 for the Regional Dive Team Phase I Priority II Equipment. Alan Sirois seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was held. John Dearborn, Alan Sirois, Tom Grady, Tim Nelson, and Matt Kirchner voted in favor. BJ Calvi voted against the motion. The motion passed.

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Western Mass School Safety Taskforce Metal Detectors and Trailer – Jim Carmichael reminded the subcommittee that in 2013 WRHSAC purchased metal detectors and wands for use at schools. These were a tremendous success and have been used at schools and events around the region. However, they have reached end-of-life and at this point only two units are still functional. They requested four new units, plus a trailer for Hampshire County, which is the only county that does not currently have capacity to transport the new units. Following discussion about how these units are deployed and used, there was agreement that the units should be allocated in pairs, with a goal of two per county. The four metal detectors and one trailer requested today would therefore go to two counties, with four more metal detectors expected to be purchased next year for the other two counties. Raine noted that this project could also meet the need for the Council to have a soft targets project in FFY23.

Motion: BJ Calvi moved to approve \$85,790 for four metal detectors and one trailer for the Western Mass School Safety Taskforce. Tim Nelson seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was held. BJ Calvi, John Dearborn, Alan Sirois, Tom Grady, Tim Nelson, and Matt Kirchner voted in favor. The motion passed.

JHIRT Response Truck – Randy Quarles presented the request. The JHIRT unit has never had a way to move the equipment and personnel around other than in a personal vehicle. The Western Mass regional equipment is currently stored in Westfield; when a call comes out, two members first have to go get the equipment and load it into their personal vehicles, which are not equipped with emergency warning systems. Having a response truck would allow them to arrive more efficiently. The City of Westfield would take ownership of the vehicle, maintenance, fuel, etc. Discussion focused on whether this was an appropriate use of WRHSAC funds, as JHIRT is a State team. Randy acknowledged that ideally, the funding would come from DFS, but although the Fire Marshal is in support of this, they are not able to purchase a vehicle any time soon.

Motion: BJ Calvi moved to approve \$89,644.80 for the JHIRT Response Truck. Tom Grady seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was held. John Dearborn, Alan Sirois, Tom Grady, Tim Nelson, and Matt Kirchner voted in favor. BJ Calvi voted against the motion. The motion passed.

WMTRT Equipment

Trench Rescue – Daryl Springman explained that the team sent four people to an advanced shoring and trenching training with the intent to update their trench rescue systems and techniques. The items on this list came out of the training.

Motion: Tom Grady moved to approve \$2,677 for WMTRT trench rescue equipment. BJ Calvi seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was held. BJ Calvi, John Dearborn, Alan Sirois, Tom Grady, Tim Nelson, and Matt Kirchner voted in favor. The motion passed.

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Water Rescue – Daryl Springman presented the request. This equipment would strengthen the team’s water rescue capacity and bring them closer to Type 2. John Dearborn reminded the subcommittee that one of the goals of the team is to pursue typing to make them more deployable. This equipment and the high water rescue vehicle would help with that.

Motion: BJ Calvi moved to approve \$10,231 for WMTRT water rescue equipment. Tom Grady seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was held. BJ Calvi, John Dearborn, Alan Sirois, Tom Grady, Tim Nelson, and Matt Kirchner voted in favor. The motion passed.

WMTRT High Water Rescue Vehicle – Discussion on this request was deferred (see page 2).

Business Unforeseen by the Chair

None.

Adjourn meeting

Motion: BJ Calvi moved to adjourn the meeting. Tim Nelson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held. BJ Calvi, John Dearborn, Alan Sirois, Tom Grady, Matt Kirchner, and Tim Nelson voted in favor. The motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 2:54 pm.

List of Documents Reviewed at the Meeting

- CBRNE/IED Subcommittee Meeting Agenda for 11/14/23
- CBRNE/IED Subcommittee Meeting Minutes from 3/16/23 (draft)
- CBRNE Available Funds and Requests Summary, dated 11/14/23
- Proposal from Greenfield Fire for Regional Prime Mover
- Proposal from Pittsfield Fire for rescue/dive boat
- Western MA Regional Dive Team equipment request spreadsheet
- Proposal from Western MA School Safety Task Force for metal detectors
- Proposal from Jon-Randel Quarles / JHIRT West for JHIRT response vehicle
- Proposal from WMTRT for trench rescue equipment
- Proposal from WMTRT for water rescue equipment
- Proposal from WMTRT for high water vehicle

Respectfully submitted by:

Rachel Mason
WRHSAC Program Assistant
Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council
Franklin Regional Council of Governments