



NORTHEAST HOMELAND SECURITY REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Full Council Meeting

Minutes

June 13th, 2019

1:00pm

Burlington Town Hall

29 Center Street, Burlington, MA

Call to Order

- The June 13th, 2019 NERAC Full Council meeting was called to order by Chair Chief Jason Gilliland at 1:00pm. He asked for approval of the minutes from the April 25th and May 9th, 2019 meetings.

MOTION put forth by R. Day.

- Approve the April 15th and May 9th meeting minutes.
 - Seconded by J. Brickett.
 - All in favor.

EOPSS/MAPC Update

EOPSS

- V. Mboka-Boyer was not be able to attend the meeting. EOPSS is currently conducting a FEMA Grants Management training in Milton, MA.
- Adrian Santiago is moving on from his position of Director of the Homeland Security Division at EOPSS. Sonya Schey will serve as the acting Director until a permanent replacement is found.
- No updates regarding Council member nominations/confirmations.

MAPC

- C. Graham and A. Reilly were also both attending the FEMA Fundamentals of Grants Management training.
- A. Murray and C. Graham will be attending the 2019 National Homeland Security Conference in Phoenix, AZ next week (June 17th – 20th). A report will be made to the Council at a future meeting that will encompass any particularly relevant or interesting topics that were seen at the conference.
- There is an extension in progress for FFY17 funds to December 31st. NERAC will most likely only need to take advantage of around 1-2 months of that extension.

FFY17/FFY18 Budget Update

- Each Council member was provided with a budget update for FFY17 and FFY18.

Project Updates

Natick Mall Full Scale Exercise

- The Natick Mall FSE was conducted on June 2nd at the Natick Mall and a few other sites in the surrounding area.
- Several Council/Committee members attended to observe, as did members of the EOPSS Homeland Security Division. MAPC participated in the Simulation Cell, along with representatives from MEMA, CMED, and several other departments and agencies.
 - A special thanks to Chief T. Judge for participating as the Fire Services simulator, and to CMED for enabling Rich Patterson to participate.
- The After-Action Meeting will not take place until August 6th due to scheduling conflicts with Chief Hicks and the Natick planning team. The T&E Committee will be presented with the AAR at either the August or September meeting.

NEMLEC SWAT Ballistic Vests

- Purchase orders have been issued for both the armor plates and the vest system, with delivery expected in the coming weeks.

Essex County RECC Communications Shelter

- The RFQ for the foundation and trenching work associated with the shelter will close on June 20th.
- The anticipated ship date for the shelter is August 12th.

Fire District 6 Communications Feasibility Study

- A purchase order will be issued in the coming days for the Fire District 6 Communications Feasibility Study. Communications Design Consulting Group was the low bidder for the project with a price of \$22,500.00.
- The study will identify and resolve issues caused by removal of copper lines used by the Fire District 6 communications system.

CMED MUX Upgrades

- CMED withdrew the MUX request that was originally on the agenda. Hospitals can either wait for the FFY19 funding to come through or they can purchase the equipment on their own.

Fire District 14 Dive Team Equipment

- Each Council member was provided with a list of the equipment that the Fire District 14 Dive Team will be requesting funds to purchase.
- MAPC reminded the Council that the project to supply FD14 with upgraded equipment for their Dive Team was originally placed on the “B” List while the FFY18 Regional Plan was being developed. All Council members will be provided with a copy the project description from the FFY18 Plan.
 - The actual request was for less than the \$19,000.00 initially anticipated.
- Two members of the FD14 Dive Team were in attendance to explain the request in more detail, both Lieutenants with the Framingham Fire Department—Vincent Zanella and Thomas Rinoldo.
 - The FD14 team was recently expanded (from 20 to 60 members in recent years) and it’s trying to outfit each of the squads with matching equipment.

MOTION put forth by J. Brickett.

- Allocate \$14,000.00 from FFY17 Line Item I MAPC Program Management for the purchase of dive rescue equipment for Fire District 14.
 - Seconded by J. Costanzo.
 - All in favor.

Committee/Working Group Updates

Training & Exercise

- Chief J. Gilliland provided the following update:
 - The Natick Mall FSE was conducted on June 2nd at the Natick Mall and a few other sites in the surrounding area. Several Council/Committee members attended to observe, as did members of the EOPSS Homeland Security Division. MAPC participated in the Simulation Cell, along with representatives from MEMA, CMED, and several other departments and agencies. Additional funds were allocated for BF/OT reimbursement for participants.
 - The LEPDTA Train-the-Trainer course was held on May 21st – 22nd in Westford. The course was well-received by the handful of participants who completed the evaluation forms.
 - The Initial Planning Meeting for the Topsfield Fair MCI TTX was held on May 13th.
 - The project kickoff call was held on June 6th for the Wenham Gas Pipeline Explosion TTX with the planning team and Ascentra, Inc.
 - 18 people have registered for the Field Communications Unit training, which will teach fire department personnel how to operate Field Comm vehicles.
 - Additional funds were allocated to the AAIR trainings happening in July and August in Georgetown and Weston, respectively.
 - Two AARs and four ERRs submitted by the NEMTRT were approved. A request to lift the \$35.00/hr. cap for the team's facilitators was rejected.

Interoperability/Info Sharing

- The June 11th Interoperability Committee was cancelled.

Regional Equipment Cache

- The Committee met on June 6th.
- The Committee discussed which type of generator to purchase, and settled on the Kohler.
- Traffic cones for special events are needed. MAPC agreed to keep this in mind if there is any leftover funds in FFY18 or FFY19.
- Scott Wright will be the new POC for the Framingham Cache Site as Fred Davies is retiring.
- The next Cache meeting will be held on August 27th in Framingham.

Evacuation Planning

- No update.

Regional Shelter

- The shelter trailer will be delivered in the coming days.

STARS

- No update.

Hospitals

- No update.

New Business Unforeseen by the Chair

- The Chairs of the each of the Homeland Security Councils will be holding monthly meetings with the Undersecretary and EOPSS moving forward.
- The Council will discuss the possibility of raising the BF/OT reimbursement limit from \$35.00/hr., as that policy was developed over five years ago.

MOTION put forth by J. Brickett.

- Adjourn.
 - Seconded by R. Day.
 - All in favor.

ATTENDEES- COUNCIL MEMBERS

Chief Jason Gilliland, Chair: Marblehead Fire Department

Joe Costanzo, Vice-Chair: Administrator, MVRTA

Engrid Backstrom: Endicott College

John Brickett: Executive Director, Northeast EMS

Paul Cohen: Town Manager, Town of Chelmsford

Richard Day: Health Director, Town of Chelmsford

Chief Tom Judge: Concord Fire Department

Chief Brian Moriarty: Lawrence Fire Department

Chief Robert Picariello: Marble Police Department

Dave Spinosa: Communications Director, Essex County Sheriff's Department

ABSENT- COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mark Foster: Director, Beverly Emergency Management

Sheriff Kevin Coppinger: Essex County Sheriff

Chief Richard McLaughlin: Belmont Police Department

Christopher Malone: Superintendent, Tewksbury Public Schools

Charlotte Roy: Hospital Safety Officer, Newton-Wellesley Hospital

Christopher Ryan: Deputy Director, Essex County RECC

John Sanchez: Director, Burlington Public Works Department

Chief Roy Vasque: Lawrence Police Department

ATTENDEES- OTHER

Felicia Balbi: Senior Preparedness Planner, Department of Public Health

Theophilos Kuliopulos: North Reading Emergency Management

Austin Murray: MAPC

Heather Tecce: MEMA