



# NORTHEAST HOMELAND SECURITY REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

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## Full Council Meeting

### Minutes

October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020

1:00 PM

[Zoom Link](#)

Remote Conference Call: 1-646-876-9923

Meeting ID: 981 7680 1850 / Password: 474657

### Call to Order

- The October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 meeting of the NERAC Full Council was called to order by Chair Chief Jason Gilliland at 1:00pm. He asked for approval of the minutes from the September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 meeting.

### MOTION put forward by Chief B. Moriarty.

- Approve the September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 meeting minutes.
  - Seconded by Chief J. Fisher.
  - All in Favor

### EOPSS/MAPC Updates

#### EOPSS

- V. Mboka-Boyer provided an update from EOPSS/OGR:
  - FEMA accepted the FFY2020 award, and EOPSS will be forwarding the contracts to MAPC shortly.

#### MAPC

- A. Murray provided the following updates from MAPC:
  - MAPC will be compiling the quarterly reports and submitting to EOPSS by 10/15 for the period covering July – September.
  - MAPC and EOPSS will be meeting to discuss the revised Cache Fee Policy later today (10/8). MAPC will likely need to draft a justification letter to FEMA outlining why the policy is needed and how it remains in compliance with federal grant rules.
  - DPH recently published a COVID-19 Community Impact Survey that will assist them in gathering data from the response to the outbreak earlier this year. MAPC will circulate that information since they are interested in hearing from first responders.
  - The SWAT/RRT equipment that was in the possession of the Cape Ann RRT was officially passed along to the NEMELC SWAT and IMAT teams on September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
  - Chief Gilliland provided an update on the HLS Council Chairs meeting with EOPSS/OGR staff to review the revised homeland security plan.

## **FFY18/FFY19 Budget Updates**

- All Council members were provided with FFY18 and FFY19 budgets.

## **Project Updates**

### *Portable AM Radio Station*

- Information Station Specialists has submitted the FCC application for the AM frequencies that will be used with the radio station.
- The physical equipment will be shipped to Beverly by the end of next month.

### *Communications Unit Upgrades*

- 2-Way Communications Service completed the installation of mobile APX8000 radios in the two Field Communication Units on September 28<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>.
- There is still ~\$20,000.00 allocated for upgrades to the Field Communication Units, and some of that remaining money will be used to purchase new all-band portable radios to be stored in the vehicles.
- At current prices, 2-3 APX8000 portable radios can be purchased with the remaining funds.

### *Portable Ventilators*

- A second IFB for the remaining 22 portable ventilators was closed on September 29<sup>th</sup>. The first IFB did not result in any acceptable/complete bid submissions.
- The apparent low bid was submitted by Trans Med USA, Inc. with a unit price of \$10,490.00.
- MAPC is in the process of finalizing the contract and issuing purchase orders.
- As a reminder, the new ventilators will be delivered to:
  - Newton-Wellesley: 7
  - North Shore Medical Center: 6
  - Beverly Hospital: 7
  - Lawrence General Hospital: 1
  - Anna Jaques: 1

### *Mobile Application*

- The new NERAC mobile app will be live in the coming days. The content has remained largely unchanged, but the provider has changed.
- Stakeholders will need to re-download an application and the three plans.
- MAPC will conduct outreach via email and social media in order to publicize the change.

## **Discussion on Excess Training and Exercise Funds**

- MAPC reminded Council members that there was a large amount of unallocated funding within the T&E line item, which will likely go unused due to the gathering restrictions in place because of COVID-19. In FFY19, there is \$66,165.49 unallocated.
- The Council discussed how to allocate the funds, including purchasing supplies to help support drive through testing or distribution sites.
- Each Council member was provided with a list of project ideas from recommendations from Council members and projects from past “B” lists.

## **Committee/Working Group Updates**

### *Training & Exercise*

- The October T&E meeting was cancelled due to a lack of project updates due to COVID-19 disruptions.
- The December ATIRC active shooter course has been officially cancelled.

### *Interoperability/Info Sharing*

- No updates were provided.
- The Interoperability Committee will meet next week on October 13<sup>th</sup>.

### *Regional Equipment Cache*

- J. Sanchez was unable to attend the meeting.
- No updates were provided that were not covered in the Project Updates section.

### *Evacuation/Sheltering*

- J. Costanzo can provide any updates.
- The Sheltering Committee met earlier on October 8<sup>th</sup>, and determined that an Evacuation Planning Guide would be useful since a full tabletop exercise won't be possible in the immediate future
- MAPC will develop the document and circulate it for comments in the coming weeks.

### *Hospitals*

- B. Klag provided an update on COVID response.
  - Hospitals are monitoring the community numbers for COVID and remain vigilant.
  - Hospitals are still attempting to stockpile respiratory equipment, right now most facilities are at 14-day levels.

### **New Business Unforeseen by the Chair**

#### *NEMLEC Vehicle Disposal Request*

- All Council members received a copy of a Disposal Request Letter for the NEMELC IMT to dispose of their NERAC-funded Tahoe in favor of a Sprinter van.
- Since NERAC funded the initial purchase of the current Tahoe, the Council will need to vote to approve the disposal via trade in.
- J. LeLacheur provided additional context and justification.

#### MOTION put forward by Chief Fisher.

- Approve of the disposal of the NEMLEC Tahoe, either to be donated to the Lawrence Fire Department or via trade-in.
  - Seconded by Chief LeLacheur.
  - All in favor.

#### MOTIONS put forth by Chief J. Fisher.

- Allocate \$7,000.00 for the purchase of 24 additional barricades for the Beverly cache site from the unallocated funds in FFY19 Training and Exercises.
- Adjourn.
  - Seconded by Chief B. Moriarty.
  - All in favor.

*Next Meeting*

- November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 @ 1:00pm

ATTENDEES - COUNCIL MEMBERS

Chief Jason Gilliland, Chair: Marblehead Fire Department  
Joe Costanzo, Vice-Chair: Administrator, MVRTA  
Paul Cohen: Town Manager, Town of Chelmsford  
Chief John Fisher: Carlisle Police Department  
Mark Foster: Director, Beverly Emergency Management  
Chief Tom Judge: Concord Fire Department  
Bill Klag: Emergency Preparedness Director, North Shore Medical Center  
Chief John LeLacheur: Beverly Police Department  
Christopher Malone: Superintendent, Tewksbury Public Schools  
Chief Brian Moriarty: Lawrence Fire Department  
Dave Ouellette: Dracut Public Health Agent  
Chief Robert Picariello: Marble Police Department

ABSENT- COUNCIL MEMBERS

John Brickett: Executive Director, Northeast EMS  
Christopher Ryan: Deputy Director, North Shore Regional 911 Center  
Sheriff Kevin Coppinger: Essex County Sheriff  
John Sanchez: Director, Burlington Public Works Department  
Dave Spinosa: Communications Director, Essex County Sheriff's Department

ATTENDEES- OTHER

Caroline Graham: MAPC  
Vicky Mboka-Boyer: EOPSS  
Austin Murray: MAPC