



NORTHEAST HOMELAND SECURITY REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Training and Exercise Committee Meeting

Minutes

November 18, 2021

12:00pm

Grand View Farm

55 Center Street, Burlington, MA 01803

Remote Participation Option:

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 985 6657 7948

Passcode: 436594

Dial In: 646 876 9923

Call to Order

- Chair Chief J. Gilliland called the meeting to order at 12:20pm.

Approval of Minutes from the October 14, 2021 Meeting

MOTION put forth by Chief B. Moriarty.

- Approve the October 14, 2021 meeting minutes.
- Seconded by J. Brickett.
 - In favor: J. Brickett, Chief J. Fisher, M. Foster, Chief T. Judge, B. Klag, Chief B. Moriarty, Chief N. Hovey.
 - Opposed: none.
 - Abstain: none.
- The motion passed.

Budget Update

- Committee members were provided copies of the FFY2019 and FFY2020 budget updates. This information is presented differently than in the past, in an effort to address questions about the budget that were discussed at last month's meeting. The new format includes Training and Exercise and Technical Rescue Drill line-item budget details.

Project Updates

- Burlington Mall Full-Scale Exercise
 - The initial planning meeting was conducted on October 20, 2021. The midterm planning meeting was this morning at the Burlington Mall. Planning is progressing well and the expected date of the exercise is January 23 or January 31, 2022 depending on the mall's availability.
- Domestic Water Supply TTX

- EOPSS has approved the ERR and MAPC is in the process of procuring the services of a consultant to conduct this exercise, which will take place in January/February 2022.
- Salem Haunted Happenings Tabletop Exercise
 - A meeting took place on November 10, 2021 to discuss the draft AAR/IP.
 - The final AAR/IP from Ascenttra was included in the meeting packet.
 - The major strengths included:
 - The appointment of “shelter in place” officers and pre-assigning keys to emergency shelters for each sector.
 - The NIMC/ICS command structure.
 - The preparedness and implementation of the traffic control plan – though there was also advice to ensure those plans are coordinated among the sectors.
 - Suggestions for improvement included:
 - Holding a series of drills annually for the Haunted Happenings event for all mutual aid partners involved.
 - Developing a comprehensive Crisis Communications Plan for events.
 - Ensuring there are backup communication plans when bandwidth is saturated, and sufficient interoperable communications among law enforcement and fire/EMS.
- MAPC has received one BF/OT request from Salem Police Department in the amount of \$1,050.

MOTION put forth by Chief J. Fisher.

- Approve the Salem Haunted Happenings Tabletop Exercise AAR/IP.
 - Seconded by J. Brickett.
 - In favor: J. Brickett, Chief J. Fisher, M. Foster, Chief T. Judge, B. Klag, Chief B. Moriarty, Chief N. Hovey.
 - Opposed: none.
 - Abstain: none.
 - The motion passed.
- SMART Large Animal Rescue Training
 - The training will take place on November 29, 2021 from 8:30am to 4:00pm (flyer included in the meeting packet).
 - Registration is still open and spots are available. The course is for 40 participants, and we currently have 25 registrations from NERAC communities, and 5 people from outside of the NERAC region who expressed interest if space is available.
 - Per discussions at previous committee meetings, we sent out the training information to animal control officers, police, and fire who also forwarded to Animal Control Officers, Large Animal Veterinarians, and their relevant contacts who would be called to respond in large animal rescue scenarios.
- CLSW Rescue Task Force Training
 - This will be a practical hands-on training that will allow all Concord, Lincoln, Sudbury and Wayland Fire and Police personnel to train together on the concept of a Rescue Task Force.
 - A planning meeting took place on November 26, 2021 and MAPC staff were in attendance and discussed the BF/OT procedure, as well as the EHP process.

- The next planning meeting will take place on November 30, 2021 and MAPC staff will be in attendance.
- The TRR is being finalized pending information from the planning team and will be submitted as soon as we have that information.
- Basic Disaster Life Support Course Evaluations
 - The National Disaster Life Support Foundation sent us the evaluations completed by the attendees.
 - Summary of responses:
 - Questions on the course objectives and educational value had average ratings of 4.5 or above (on a scale of 1-5).
 - Many comments noted that the instructors were knowledgeable and dynamic.
 - Some said that the course content was more basic level than they expected, but that it was still a good review. There was interest expressed for an ADLS course for more advanced information.
 - Most stated that they did learn something from the course that will change current practices – many specifically noted that they will look into implementing the SALT method of triage that was discussed in the course.
- Advanced Disaster Life Support Course
 - The ADLS course builds on BDLS (BDLS is a pre-requisite) and was approved in the FFY20 plan. B. Klag suggested May/June for the timeline, and MAPC has contacted the vendor for a quote and will work on required approvals.

Technical Rescue Teams

- Northeast Massachusetts Technical Rescue Team (NEMTRT)
 - The ERR amendment for the concrete delivery was approved by EOPSS, and that Structural Collapse drill is being held today.
 - The ERR and EHP for the November-December Rope Rescue Drill were approved by EOPSS.
 - The September Trench Rescue and Squad Multi Skills Drill AARs were approved by EOPSS and MAPC will process the reimbursements.
- Fire District 14 Technical Rescue Team
 - Chief T. Judge reported that if NERAC does vote to support the District 14 Technical Rescue Team, we can expect 100% of the participating departments to submit BF/OT reimbursement requests.
 - The District 14 Tech Rescue Team has existed for years and trains on the same skillsets that NEMTRT does, but has been unable to grow to its membership goal due to lack of funding.
 - Funding to support the team could come from the current Technical Rescue line items in FFY19 and FFY20 (~\$160,000). It is not expected that NEMTRT will expend these funds within the next 12 months. Funding the District 14 team would ensure these allocations are used for their original intent of supporting BF/OT for Technical Rescue Drills and future funding needs of both teams can be supported through FFY22 funds.
 - Chief T. Judge requested that a plan is considered for long-term funding, as well, and included in budgeting for the FFY22 plan.
 - A. Reilly suggested that we request a drill schedule from both teams in order to ensure appropriate funding levels.

- BF/OT reimbursement requests for NEMTRT since January 2021 have not exceeded \$8,000 per drill.

MOTION put forth by Chief J. Fisher

- For the next 12 months, allocate up to \$8,000 per drill for each Technical Rescue Team (District 14 and Northeast Massachusetts) from the FFY20 and FFY21 Technical Rescue line items, and include Technical Rescue Funding on the agenda when discussing plans for the FFY22 budget.
- Seconded by Chief B. Moriarty.
 - In favor: J. Brickett, Chief J. Fisher, Chief T. Judge, B. Klag, Chief B. Moriarty, Chief N. Hovey.
 - Opposed: none.
 - Abstain: none.
- The motion passed.

New Business Unforeseen by the Chair

- Chief J. Gilliland reported that at the Council Chairs meeting, Undersecretary J. Benincasa-Thorpe noted that SHSP funding had decreased and requested strong Project Justifications be submitted so that she can advocate for more funding.
- Two priorities noted at the Council Chairs meeting were cybersecurity and infrastructure.

MOTION put forth by J. Brickett.

- Adjourn the meeting.
- Seconded by Chief B. Moriarty.
 - In favor: J. Brickett, Chief J. Fisher, Chief T. Judge, B. Klag, Chief B. Moriarty, Chief N. Hovey.
 - Opposed: none.
 - Abstain: none.
- The motion passed.

**** Next Meeting: December 9, 2021****

ATTENDEES – COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chief Jason Gilliland, Chair: Marblehead Fire Department*
 Jon Brickett: Executive Director, Northeast EMS*
 Chief J. Fisher: Carlisle Police Department*
 Mark Foster: Director, Beverly Emergency Management*
 Chief Thomas Judge: Concord Fire Department*
 Bill Klag: Emergency Preparedness Director, North Shore Medical Center*
 Chief Brian Moriarty: Lawrence Fire Department *
 Chief Neal Hovey: Topsfield Police Department*

ABSENT – COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chief John LeLacheur: Beverly Police Department*
 John Sanchez: Burlington Public Works*

ATTENDEES – OTHER

Rosemary Volinski: MAPC
Lauren Sacks: MAPC
Amy Reilly: MAPC
Vicky Mboka-Boyer: EOPSS
Jim McLoughlin: MEMA Training Coordinator

The following documents were used/referenced during the meeting:

- October 14, 2021 meeting minutes
- November 2021 Budget Updates
- Large Animal Rescue Training Flyer
- Salem Haunted Happenings Tabletop Exercise AAR/IP.