



NORTHEAST HOMELAND SECURITY REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Full Council Meeting

Minutes

December 14, 2023

1:00pm

*MPTC Lynnfield Police Academy
425 Walnut St, Lynnfield, MA 01940*

- **Call to Order**
 - Chair Chief J. Gilliland called the meeting to order at 1:01pm.

- **Approval of Minutes from the November 09, 2023 Meeting.**

MOTION put forth by Chief B. Moriarty.

 - Approve the November 09, 2023, meeting minutes.
 - Seconded by Chief N. Hovey.
 - In Favor: All
 - Opposed: None.
 - Abstain: None.
 - The motion passed.

- **EOPSS/MAPC Updates**
 - EOPSS Update – S. Malloy provided an update. The FFY20 extension is still in process.
 - MAPC Update- A. Reilly provided an update. MAPC welcomes new staff members to the department, Sandra Baker & Brian Griffin.

- **Budget Updates**
 - Council members were provided with copies of the FFY20 – FFY22 budget in the meeting packet.
 - FFY20 – We have requested an extension, along with the other regions, to ensure close out in time. The extension was approved, and the contracts are being signed. New Grant End Date: June 30th, 2024
 - FFY21 – Grant End Date: June 30th, 2024
 - FFY22 – Grant End Date: July 31st, 2024
 - FFY23 – The NERAC plan was approved, and the contracts are signed. MAPC is working on developing the excel budget document to be included in future meeting packets. We will be focusing on completing earlier grant year projects before the FFY23 ones but will have the funding available if there are urgent FFY23 projects that need to be done sooner.

- **NERAC Bylaws Review**
 - The proposed amendments to the By-Laws, which were to remove the voting transit seat and add an additional Cyber seat (for a total of 3), were sent to Council and EOPSS after last month's meeting for review and for today's potential vote.

MOTION put forth by Chief B. Moriarty.

- Approve the amendments to the NERAC bylaws to remove the voting transit seat and add an additional cybersecurity seat.



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- Seconded by Chief N. Hovey.
 - In Favor: All
 - Opposed: None.
 - Abstain: None.
- The motion passed.

- **Open Council Seats**

- We have received candidates for the Public Schools and Emergency Management seats for the two council openings. We have submitted their information to EOPSS and have received their initial approval.
- NERAC has received 4 Public School candidates and 3 EM candidates. We recommend that the Council reviews their resumes to narrow down candidates.
- Public Schools
 - Brad Morgan, North Middlesex Regional School District
 - Steven Stone, Dracut Public Schools
 - Kristen Vogel, Lynnfield Public Schools
 - Stephen Zrike, Salem Public Schools
- Emergency Management
 - John Hubbard, Town of Ipswich
 - Heather Tecce, City of Lowell
 - Tom Walsh, Town of Wakefield
- The interview process will continue for the Public Schools and Emergency Management seats at next month's meeting.

MOTION put forth by C. Cousens.

- Appoint Dorinda Goodman to fill the open cybersecurity seat.
- Seconded by Chief B. Moriarty.
 - In Favor: All
 - Opposed: None.
 - Abstain: None.
- The motion passed.

- **Project Updates**

- NEMLEC Ballistic Helmets
 - We are still waiting to hear back from Chief Nix on specific information for the PJ before I can move forward.
- Merrimack Valley Camera System Expansion
 - The specifications are finalized, and we will be moving forward with the IFB.
- District 6 JHIRT Equipment
 - We are still waiting for the delivery of some of the remaining equipment. Atlantic Tactical's updated ETA is December 19th.
- FD-14 Tech Rescue Equipment
 - We finalized the specifications and conducted the procurement. We received only one quote back and are confirming the quoted details with Lt. Rinoldo before we issue the PO.
- North Shore IT Collaborative AARs and TTX
 - This project has been denied as written by EOPSS because they would like a consultant that specializes in cybersecurity issues to perform the work. If the



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Council would like to continue with this project, we can look to resubmit the ERR with a specialized consultant involved instead.

MOTION put forth by C. Cousens.

- Allocate the funding back toward the original Cybersecurity Incident Response Plan project that was previously approved by EOPSS.
- Seconded by Chief B. Moriarty.
 - In Favor: All
 - Opposed: None.
 - Abstain: None.
- The motion passed.

- **Committee/Working Group Updates**

- Training & Exercise

- Due to varying estimates of location insurance costs for the upcoming AAIR course on January 8th and 9th (which is before the next Council meeting) the T&E Committee requests the Council to allow Chief Gililand the ability to transfer funds up to an additional \$500 if needed for AAIR insurance costs.

MOTION put forth by Chief B. Moriarty.

- Allow Chief Gililand the ability to transfer funds up to an additional \$500 if needed for AAIR insurance costs
- Seconded by Chief N. Hovey.
 - In Favor: All
 - Opposed: None.
 - Abstain: None.
- The motion passed.

- The Committee would like to continue the School Safety Seminar Part 2.
 - The ideal timeframe would be Fall 2024. Late September, or early October.

- Interoperability/ Info Sharing

- The Interoperability Committee voted at their meeting this week to request Council approval to add Mike Kass as a voting Committee member.

MOTION put forth by M. Collins.

- Appoint Mike Kass as an official member of the NERAC Interoperability Committee.
- Seconded by P. Cohen.
 - In Favor: All
 - Opposed: None.
 - Abstain: None.
- The motion passed.

- The Committee is also working on a school radios best practices document.

- Regional Equipment Cache



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- We are moving forward with closing the cache fee accounts with gator purchases for the cache sites.
 - Evacuation/Sheltering
 - No update.
- Discipline & State Agency Liaison Updates (2:05pm – 2:20pm) – Chief J. Gilliland
 - Discipline Updates:
 - Cybersecurity- The Cybersecurity representatives are working on completing a report from their work on the Cybersecurity assessments and internship project.
 - Public Schools- MCI planning meetings have continued to further familiarize school staff with planning language and maps.
 - State Agency Liaison Updates
 - Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency
 - Emergency Management Performance Grant intent applications are due on December 29th.
- **New Business Unforeseen by the Chair**
 - The Council discussed that there is a general weakness in ICS.

MOTION put forth by Chief B. Moriarty.
 - Reinststitute the NIMS requirement for NERAC projects.
 - Seconded by D. Ouellette.
 - In Favor: All
 - Opposed: None.
 - Abstain: None.
 - The motion passed.

MOTION put forth by P. Cohen.
 - Adjourn the meeting.
 - Seconded by Chief N. Hovey.
 - In Favor: All
 - Opposed: None.
 - Abstain: None.
 - The motion passed.

****Next Meeting: January 11, 2024****

ATTENDEES - COUNCIL MEMBERS

Chief Jason Gilliland, Chair: Marblehead Fire Department
Chief John Fisher, Vice Chair: Bedford Police Department
Dr. Scott Morrison: Tri Town School Union
Chief Brian Moriarty: Lawrence Fire Department
Paul Cohen: Town of Chelmsford
Chief Tom Judge: Concord Fire Department
Colby Cousens: Town of Danvers Information Technology
Chief Neal Hovey: Topsfield Police Department
Mike Collins: Beverly DPW
Ryan Knowles: City of Gloucester Information Services



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Dorinda Goodman: Town of Lexington Information Technology
Dave Ouellette: Dracut Public Health

ABSENT- COUNCIL MEMBERS

Sheriff Kevin Coppinger: Essex County Sheriff
Dave Spinosa: Essex County Sheriff's Department
Eric Christenson: Northeast EMS
Christopher Ryan: North Shore Regional 911 Center
Bill Klag: North Shore Medical Center Emergency Preparedness
Allan Alpert: City of Melrose Emergency Management
Chief John LeLacheur: Beverly Police Department

ATTENDEES – OTHER

Lauren Sardella: MEMA
Sarah Malloy: EOPSS
Amy Reilly: MAPC
Rosemary Volinski: MAPC
Lauren Sacks: MAPC

The following documents were used/referenced during the meeting:

- December 2023 Meeting Agenda
- November 2023 Meeting Minutes
- FFY20, FFY21, FFY22 Budget Updates
- Proposed By-Law Amendments
- Candidate Resumes and Interview Questions
- December 2023 Project Status Updates