



# NORTHEAST HOMELAND SECURITY REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

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## Full Council Meeting Minutes

*February 8, 2024*

*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 1:00 PM
  
- **Approval of Minutes from the January 11, 2024 Meeting**

MOTION put forth by B. Moriarty.

  - Approve the January 11, 2024 meeting minutes.
  - Seconded by N. Hovey.
    - In Favor: All
    - Opposed: None.
    - Abstain: None.
  - The motion passed.
  
- **EOPSS/MAPC Updates**
  - EOPSS – S. Malloy provided an update. Municipal Cyber Grant applications are due in March. Recipients of the Commonwealth Non-Profit Security Grant were announced by the Healy administration, some of which are in the NERAC region. Applications for the additional available funding are due in March.
  
- **“The Future of Learning and Training: Extended Reality (XR)”**
  - Hakan Satiroglu of XR Terra gave a presentation on ways that XR capabilities are expected to grow and expand training opportunities for public safety.
  
- **Council Membership Update**
  - All 20 Council seats are now filled, with 5 new Council members added in the last 3 months.
  - MAPC program managers and Chief J. Gilliland are holding virtual orientations for new members.
  
- **Budget Updates**
  - Council members were provided with copies of the FFY20 – FFY23 budgets in the meeting packet.
    - FFY20 – Grant End Date: June 30, 2024
      - MAPC expects to be able to close this out FFY20 shortly with some invoices that came in and the Council’s previous vote allowing transfers of even swaps for closeout.
    - FFY21 – Grant End Date: June 30, 2024
    - FFY22 – Grant End Date: July 31, 2024
    - FFY23 – Grant End Date: July 31, 2025
  
- **FFY24 Planning**



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- EOPSS has instructed Councils to develop preliminary FFY24 plans now, planning for level funding and similar requirements as FFY23 until further instructions are released.
- MAPC will send project request forms out to the region next week, due by February 29<sup>th</sup>, for the Committees and Council to review at their March meetings.
  
- **Project Updates**
  - *NEMLEC Ballistic Helmets*
    - The PJ was submitted and approved.
    - MAPC is working with Chief S. Nix on specifications for procurement.
  - *Merrimack Valley Camera System Expansion*
    - Installation was added back into the scope which raises additional questions and may require further approvals.
    - MAPC is determining if SIEC approval, a revised EHP and municipal approvals, and/or approval from utility companies are required.
  - *District 6 JHIRT Equipment*
    - The team received additional equipment from Atlantic Tactical, but sizes and colors of the vests and helmets were not what was ordered.
    - MAPC is arranging for an exchange so the team receives the correct items.
  - *FD-14 Tech Rescue Equipment*
    - POs were issued and some equipment has arrived (communications devices and some carabiners).
    - MAPC is processing payment for those items and tracking the rest (more carabiners, clutch, etc.)
  - *Cybersecurity Incident Response Project*
    - The Council's 3 cybersecurity representatives met to discuss the scope and sent some revisions back to MAPC which are being reviewed.
    - The project will hire a consultant to develop a cybersecurity assessment report and a cybersecurity incident response plan for each participating community, and hold a tabletop validation exercise for them.
    - The scope was increased to add creation of a template incidence response plan that can be shared, an exercise scenario that would be repeatable by other NERAC municipalities, and to add Marblehead as a participating community now that they have joined the North Shore IT Collaborative.
    - The PJ amendment to add Marblehead has been approved by EOPSS.
  
- **Relocation of NERAC Sheltering Trailers**
  - The sheltering trailers in Lexington and Beverly need to be relocated because the Lexington cache site has closed and Beverly no longer has space.
  - It was proposed to spread them out for better accessibility throughout the region, and so no one entity has to make space for them all.
  - The Council determined that the Sheltering Committee should be reinstated to handle this.
  
- **Committee/Working Group Updates (1:55pm – 2:05pm)**
  - *Training & Exercise*
    - AAIR trainings will be conducted in March in Bedford.
    - The Topsfield Fair Functional Exercise planning is underway with dates set for planning meetings and the exercise in June.
    - 2 ERRs and 2 AARs were approved in total for the FD-14 and NEMTRT technical rescue teams.
  - *Interoperability/ Info Sharing*



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- SIEC approved the language to expand NERAC Radio Communications Initiative scope.
- *Regional Equipment Cache*
  - The Cache has been supporting communities' needs to respond to extreme rain and flooding.
  - The Committee is working on closing out the cache fee funds through the purchase of gator utility vehicles.
  - Trash Pumps Disposal Request
    - M. Collins requested approval to dispose of old, non-working trash pumps.
      - N0038, s/n T05121206 purchased in 2005 for \$1,886.50.
      - N0087, s/n 10149 purchased in 2006 for \$1,974.10.

MOTION put forth by J. LeLacheur

- Approve the request for the Cache to dispose of the two noted trash pumps.
- Seconded by P. Cohen.
  - In Favor: All
  - Opposed: None.
  - Abstain: None.
- The motion passed.

- *Evacuation/Sheltering*
  - (Currently inactive.)

- **Discipline & State Agency Liaison Updates**

- *Discipline Updates:*
  - Fire Services – the deadline for vaccine requirement documentation is coming up which has been controversial.
  - Emergency Management – 26 communities of the Mystic REPC submitted Tier 2 reporting, but missing information from public works facilities. A. Alpert reminded the Council of the OSHA and EPA requirements for facilities that have gasoline, sand, lead/acid batteries on the premises, and fines for failure to report.
  - Cybersecurity – C. Cousens testified at the State House in support of the Future Tech Act, and spoke about cyber work done by the Northshore IT Collaborative and NERAC.
  - Hospitals – Regions 3 and 4 are in Tier 3 of response for respiratory illnesses, which includes masking in patient interactions and level loading throughout the region. Weekly meetings are being run by HMCC, and delaying elective surgeries is being considered.
  - Public Safety Communications – the PSAP Op Division (POD) moved into a new building in Milford along with the 911 training center.
- *State Agency Liaison Updates*
  - Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency
    - None.

- **New Business Unforeseen by the Chair**

- None.

MOTION put forth by B. Moriarty.

- Adjourn the meeting.
- Seconded by M. Collins.



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- In Favor: All
- Opposed: None.
- Abstain: None.
- The motion passed.

**\*\*Next Meeting: March 14, 2024\*\***

**\*\*Maybe picture day!\*\***

## ATTENDEES – COUNCIL MEMBERS

Chief Jason Gilliland, Chair: Marblehead Fire Department  
Chief John Fisher, Vice Chair: Bedford Police Department  
Allan Alpert: City of Melrose Emergency Management  
Eric Christenson: Northeast EMS  
Paul Cohen: Town of Chelmsford  
Mike Collins: Beverly DPW  
Colby Cousens: Town of Danvers Information Technology  
Dorinda Goodman: Town of Lexington Information Technology  
Chief Neal Hovey: Topsfield Police Department  
Chief Tom Judge: Concord Fire Department  
Bill Klag: North Shore Medical Center Emergency Preparedness  
Ryan Knowles: City of Gloucester Information Services  
Chief John LeLacheur: Beverly Police Department  
Chief Brian Moriarty: Lawrence Fire Department  
Dr. Scott Morrison: Tri Town School Union  
Dave Ouellette: Dracut Public Health  
Christopher Ryan: North Shore Regional 911 Center  
Dave Spinosa: Essex County Sheriff's Department  
Heather Tecce: Lowell Emergency Management

## ABSENT – COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Sheriff Kevin Coppinger: Essex County Sheriff  
Dr. Stephen Zrike: Salem Public Schools

## ATTENDEES – OTHER

Matt Kolhonen: MEMA  
Sarah Malloy: EOPSS  
Lauren Sacks: MAPC  
Hakan Satiroglu: XR Terra  
Chief Derek Sencabaugh: Lexington Fire Department/EMD  
Avery Serra: MAPC

## **The following documents were used/referenced during the meeting:**

- February 2024 Meeting Agenda
- January 2024 Meeting Minutes
- FFY20-23 Budget Updates
- FFY2024 NERAC Project Request Form
- Project Request Evaluation Criteria