



# NORTHEAST HOMELAND SECURITY REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

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## Full Council Meeting

### Minutes

*October 10, 2024*

*1:00pm*

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

- **Call to Order**
  - Chief J. Gilliland called the meeting to order at 1:02pm.
- **Approval of Minutes from the June 13, 2024 Meeting**

MOTION put forth by S. Morrison.

  - Approve the June 13, 2024 meeting minutes.
  - Seconded by N. Hovey.
    - In Favor: All
    - Opposed: None.
    - Abstain: None.
  - The motion passed.
- **EOPSS/OGR Updates**
  - S. Malloy provided the following updates:
    - Reported that the Concord and Lexington 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary public safety working committees are well coordinated.
    - EOPSS is seeking feedback on the Stakeholder Preparedness Review.
    - The FFY24 HSGP awards are waiting for confirmation from governor's office.
- **MAPC Updates**
  - A. Reilly provided the following updates:
    - MAPC is in the process of hiring for the open Program Specialist position as well as a Financial Specialist.
- **Budget Updates**
  - FFY20 – Grant End Date: June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
    - All grant funding dedicated to projects was spent down to \$0.
    - There was a delay in EOPSS' receipt of MAPC's last reimbursement request for travel costs so \$1,727.63 will need to be sent back.
    - The Council previously voted to allow swaps as needed to close out the FFY20 grant by the deadline. The list of closeout transfers made is on p.9 of the meeting packet.
  - FFY21 – Grant End Date: June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025
  - FFY22 – Grant End Date: June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025
  - FFY23 – Grant End Date: July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025



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- **Project Updates**

- *Beverly Dive Team Equipment*
  - This project in NERAC's FFY23 Plan funds 12 dry suits and buoyancy compensators for the Beverly Dive Team.
  - MAPC submitted the PJ, received EOPSS approval, finalized specifications, and conducted the RFQ.
  - Quotes were due last Friday and MAPC will issue a PO to Undersea Divers, LLC.
- *Cybersecurity Incident Response Project*
  - This project hired a consultant to conduct cybersecurity assessment reports, develop incidence response plans, conduct a validation exercise with template for regional use, and complete an after action report for 7 participating municipalities.
  - The PO was issued on July 2<sup>nd</sup> to Securance.
  - The initial meeting was held on July 18<sup>th</sup> with Securance, NERAC's Cyber Reps, and MAPC.
  - The kickoff meeting with representatives from participating municipalities was held on August 27<sup>th</sup>.
  - Task 1: Assessment Reports is almost complete. An executive summary will be shared with the Council.
- *District 6 JHIRT Equipment*
  - Atlantic Tactical delivered some wrong equipment to Wilmington.
  - Coordinating to exchange for the correct items has been difficult.
  - MAPC was going to cancel the remainder of the order and run another procurement, but Chief Cavanaugh preferred to continue working with AT to correct the issues and is awaiting delivery of the correct items.
- *Merrimack Valley Camera System Expansion*
  - In June, the Council voted to set a deadline of September 2<sup>nd</sup> for the project contacts to receive approvals from National Grid.
  - Lt. Rogers informed MAPC they would not make that deadline as they have to get past projects up to compliance and negotiate a new system for approvals/payment with National Grid.
  - \$120,000 in FY21 needs to be re-allocated.
- *NEMLEC Ballistic Helmets*
  - An RFP was conducted for the 60 helmets, with proposals due June 18<sup>th</sup>.
  - The evaluation committee reviewed and scored 4 proposals and determined the most advantageous was from Body Armor Outlet.
  - The PO was issued in August. Sizing was conducted and delivery is expected in January.
- *NEMLEC Ballistic Shields*
  - This is NEMLEC SWAT's next priority project, to replace ballistic shields that are well past their expiration dates.
  - Their original request was \$55,000 for 6 shields, but the Council only funded it at \$30,000 (3 shields).
  - Chief Nix requests reallocation of balances from completed NEMLEC projects (helmets and headsets) towards shields.



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MOTION put forth by N. Hovey.

- Reallocate \$5,452.00 from FY22 E.01 Helmets and \$2,699.90 from FY22 E.02 Headsets to support the purchase of FY23 B.03 NEMLEC SWAT Ballistic Shields.
- Seconded by J. Fisher.
  - In Favor: All
  - Opposed: None.
  - Abstain: None.
- The motion passed.

- **Project Requests**

- *High Water Rescue and Response Transport Vehicle*
  - The Council was reminded of a request for \$122,525 for the vehicle, which was placed on the FFY24 B-List.
  - Newbury Police Chief Patty Fisher confirmed the vehicle is still a need, but pricing may have increased, and she hasn't received an updated quote or timeframe yet.
- *Pre-Hospital EMS Blood Transfusion Program*
  - Paul Brennan of Lawrence General Hospital presented a request for \$9,167.29 for specialized equipment to administer pre-hospital EMS blood transfusions, and confirmed the equipment would be available to any municipality in the NERAC region.
- *Portable Morgue Expansion Cube*
  - The Council reviewed a request for \$34,490 for Morgue CUBE as a regional cache item, available to any hospital in the region in case of morgue surge.

MOTION put forth by N. Hovey.

- Reallocate funding from FY21 K.01 Merrimack Valley Camera System project to fund the Pre-Hospital EMS Blood Transfusion Program and Portable Morgue Expansion Cubes, as requested.
- Seconded by J. Fisher.
  - In Favor: All
  - Opposed: None.
  - Abstain: None.
- The motion passed.

- **Open Fire Services Seat**

- MAPC advertised the open Fire Services seat to the region.
- 2 candidates were approved by EOPSS, their resumes and interview questions in packet:
  - Lexington Fire Chief Derek Sencabaugh
  - North Andover Fire Chief John Weir – nominated by ECFCA

MOTION put forth by T. Judge.

- Appoint Lexington Fire Chief Derek Sencabaugh to the open Fire Services Seat on the NERAC council.
- Seconded by H. Tecce.



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

- **Inventory Updates**

- *Disposal Requests*

- MAPC tracks thousands of NERAC-funded items throughout the region and is working through a comprehensive inventory update across the region.
    - MAPC is also working to familiarize new department/municipal leadership with NERAC and the benefits and responsibilities of being the custodian for NERAC funded items.
    - This is an ongoing project, MAPC has visited 52 municipalities so far, and will have additional disposal requests as we continue working on this major update.
    - Most of the equipment is in good condition and often used or ready to deploy but item lists were provided in the meeting packet for the Council to consider for disposal for a variety of reasons.
      - The “Request to Dispose for all 85 NERAC Communities” chart lists 7 items that most communities have one or more of from past equipment distribution projects which are low value, at least 10 years old, and there is a consistent pattern that they have been consumed, end of life, obsolete.

MOTION put forth by N. Hovey.

- Approve the disposal of all units of the listed items on the “Request to Dispose for all 85 NERAC Communities” list as included in the meeting packet, and request EOPSS approval when applicable.
- Seconded by E. Christensen.
  - In Favor: All
  - Opposed: None.
  - Abstain: None.
- The motion passed.

- “NERAC Inventory Requests for Disposal” chart lists additional items which are all 10+ years old for the Council to consider for disposal for various reasons including obsolete/end of life, used/consumed, repairs not cost effective, component of another item, PFAS contaminated foam trailers (Ayer/FD-6) (Hudson/FD-14)

MOTION put forth by N. Hovey.

- Approve the disposal of the listed items on the “NERAC Inventory Requests for Disposal” list as included in the meeting packet, except for the Consolettes requested by C. Ryan to be transferred, and request EOPSS approval when applicable.



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- Seconded by E. Christensen.
  - In Favor: All
  - Opposed: None.
  - Abstain: None.
- The motion passed.

- **Committee/Working Group Updates**

- *Training & Exercise*
  - Topsfield Fair MCI Functional Exercise
  - Fenway Park Tech Rescue Training Day
  - School Safety Seminar
- *Interoperability/ Info Sharing*
  - When service was impacted by hurricanes, T-Mobile got temporary FCC approval to turn on satellite capabilities.
  - There was recap of the 4.9 GHz spectrum convo from committee meeting.
  - An update was provided on the revision of the plans for the NERAC Radio Programming Initiative.
- *Regional Equipment Cache*
- *Evacuation/Sheltering*
- *Concord and Lexington 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Public Safety Preparations*
  - Planning work continues with Arlington, Lincoln, Concord, Lexington, The National Park Service, and other entities.
  - Expecting 10k – 250k attendees at various events.
  - Public safety, EMS, JHIRT, and bomb squad resources will be needed for the marathon too. MEMA has been supportive assuring they can provide additional resources and has a full time planner assigned to the event.
  - Developing a sufficient plan to coordinate transportation is expected to be a challenge.

- **Discipline & State Agency Liaison Updates**

- *Discipline Updates:*
  - Emergency Management:
    - The Mystic Region held a successful TTX with involvement from the state hazmat team involving a truck carrying hazardous materials.
    - Communities are not properly reporting to the EPA on hazardous materials in their jurisdiction.
  - Cybersecurity:
    - Newer phones have the capability to do SOS calls directly through satellite.
  - Emergency Medical Services:
    - An IV fluid medical supply factory was hit by hurricane in NC so potential shortages are expected.
- *State Agency Liaison Updates*
  - Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency



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- On Nov 12 MEMA is hosting a SERC (State Emergency Response Commission Conference).
  - There is a CPOD workshop scheduled in Gloucester, Oct 22 -23.
  - October 30 is the deadline for the EMPG subgrant.
  - HMEP grant Hazmat grant was released.
  - EOC is in Topsfield for fair, and will be at Lowell Bay State Marathon on Sunday.
  - David Rodham was introduced as a MEMA local coordinator.
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- **New Business Unforeseen by the Chair**
    - None.

MOTION put forth by N. Hovey.

- Adjourn the meeting.
- Seconded by E. Christensen.
  - In Favor: All
  - Opposed: None.
  - Abstain: None.
- The motion passed.

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

## 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  
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  
Ryan Knowles: City of Gloucester Information Services  
Chief John LeLacheur: Beverly Police Department  
Heather Tecce: Lowell Emergency Management  
Dr. Scott Morrison: Tri Town School Union  
Christopher Ryan: North Shore Regional 911 Center  
Dave Spinosa: Essex County Sheriff's Department

## ABSENT – COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Paul Cohen: Town of Chelmsford  
Bill Klag: Emergency North Shore Medical Center  
Dave Ouellette: Dracut Public Health  
Dr. Stephen Zrike: Salem Public Schools

## ATTENDEES – OTHER

Paul Brennan: Director, Lawrence General Hospital EMS  
Sarah Malloy: EOPSS



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Amy Reilly: MAPC

David Rodham: MEMA

Lauren Sacks: MAPC

Lauren Sardella: MEMA

Chief Derek Sencabaugh: Lexington Fire Department

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

- October 2024 Meeting Agenda
- June 2024 Meeting Minutes
- FFY20-23 Budget Updates
- High Water Rescue and Response Transport Vehicle Project Request
- Pre-Hospital EMS Blood Transfusion Program Project Request
- Portable Morgue Expansion Cube Project Request
- Chief D. Sencabaugh Fire Services Seat Application
- Chief J. Weir Fire Services Seat Application
- Request to Dispose for all 85 NERAC Communities List
- NERAC Inventory Request for Disposal List