



NORTHEAST HOMELAND SECURITY REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Training and Exercise Committee Meeting

Minutes

November 13, 2025

12:00pm

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

- **Call to Order**
 - Chair J. Gilliland called the meeting to order at 12:02 PM
- **Approval of Minutes of October 9, 2025 Meeting**

MOTION put forth by N. Hovey.

- Approve the October 9, 2025 meeting minutes
- Seconded by J. Fisher.
 - In Favor: All
 - Opposed: None
 - Abstain: None
- The motion passed.
- **Budget Updates**
 - FY23 Grant End Date: July 31, 2026
 - FY24 Grant End Date: June 30, 2026
 - FY25 – NERAC’s plan was submitted to EOPSS in August, MAPC is awaiting guidance.
- **Project Updates**
 - *ASIM and Reunification Training and Equipment*
 - The ASIM Basic Train-the-Trainer is being planned for January 2026, and the SAAVEIM Train-the-Trainer is being planned for Spring 2026.
 - MAPC is working with Sgt. Holcroft to develop the application process to ensure the spots are filled strategically, with a scope of expectations that participants will then conduct trainings for the region. MAPC is finalizing the applications for both the trainer and participant applications, and those should be going out shortly.
 - *Hamilton-Wenham Active Shooter Functional Exercise*
 - This exercise occurred on September 16th in Hamilton.
 - There were approximately 75–100 participants from law enforcement, fire, EMS, emergency management, dispatch, and public safety command staff across Essex County.



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- The AAR is included in the meeting packet for review, but Officer Santarelli was unable to attend today's meeting.
- He plans to attend in December to present; the Council could consider approving the AAR today so that BF/OT processing is not delayed.

MOTION put forth by N. Hovey.

- Approve the Hamilton-Wenham Active Shooter Functional Exercise AAR as presented.
- Seconded by M. Collins.
 - In Favor: All
 - Opposed: None
 - Abstain: None
- The motion passed.
 - ASHER Tabletop Exercise (Acton, Boxborough, Groton, Littleton)
 - There is \$38,000 allocated in FFY23 to hire a consultant to facilitate a 2-day HSEEP aligned Active Shooter TTX for approximately 40 participants.
 - MAPC has reached out to project lead Chief Arnum of Acton to kick things off and determine a timeframe, ideally prior to May 2026.
 - Discussion occurred on whether ASHER is an outdated term for trainings, as N. Hovey noted that EOPSS adopted ALERRT AAIR as the standard for Massachusetts.
 - MAPC confirmed they will reach out to EOPSS for guidance on the matter.
 - Cape Ann ALICE and WAVR-21 Training
 - There is \$66,500 allocated in FFY24 to fund trainings for Essex, Gloucester, Manchester-by-the-Sea, and Rockport.
 - The ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) training would be provided to 298 general government employees.
 - The WAVR-21 (Workplace Assessment of Violence Risk) training would be for 26 municipal leaders.
 - MAPC has reached out to project lead Robert Craig of Rockport to kick things off and determine a timeframe, ideally prior to May 2026.
 - MetroWest ASHER/MCI Exercise Series
 - There is \$87,500 allocated in FFY24 to facilitate an exercise series for the MetroWest REPC communities of Ashland, Framingham, Holliston, Hopkinton, Natick, and Sherborn.
 - MAPC has reached out to project lead Chief Cassidy of Holliston to further discuss their vision and needs.
- **Technical Rescue Teams**
 - *Update on EHP Delays from EOPSS/FEMA*



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- MAPC was notified last week by EOPSS that due to the government shutdown, FEMA is not reviewing or approving EHPs. We promptly notified both technical rescue teams of this development, since both teams were scheduled to have drills this week. Without approval of EHPs from FEMA, EOPSS cannot approve ERRs for drills.
- We are hoping that FEMA is able to get through their backlog prior to the NEMTRT December drill date, as to not further impact their drill schedule.
- *Fire District 14 Technical Rescue Team*
 - ERR January 2026 Confined Space Drill
 - AAR October 2025 Structural Collapse Breaching/Breaking Drill
- *Northeast MA Technical Rescue Team*
 - ERR January 2026 Rope Skills Drill

MOTION put forth by N. Hovey.

- Approve the Technical Rescue ERRs and AARs as presented.
- Seconded by J. Fisher.
 - In Favor: All
 - Opposed: None
 - Abstain: None
- The motion passed.

- **New Business Unforeseen by the Chair**

MOTION put forth by N. Hovey.

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

****Next Meeting: December 11, 2025****

ATTENDEES – COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chief Jason Gilliland, Chair: Marblehead Fire Department*
Chief Neal Hovey: Topsfield Police Department*
Michael Collins: Beverly Department of Public Services*
Chief John Fisher: Bedford Police Department*

ABSENT – COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Bill Klag: Emergency North Shore Medical Center*
Chief John LeLacheur: Beverly Police Department*



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ATTENDEES – OTHER

Lauren Sacks: MAPC

Karla Kahale: MAPC

Connor Grenier: Northeast MA Technical Rescue

Thomas Rinoldo: FD-14 Technical Rescue

Shawn Green: FD-14 Technical Rescue

Vicky Mboka-Boyer: EOPSS

The following documents were used/referenced during the meeting:

- November 2025 Meeting Agenda
- October 9, 2025 Meeting Minutes
- FFY23-24 Budget Updates
- AAR Hamilton-Wenham Active Shooter Functional Exercise
- ERR FD-14 January 2026 Confined Space Drill
- AAR FD-14 October 2025 Structural Collapse Breaching/Breaking Drill
- ERR NEMTRT January 2026 Rope Skills Drill