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*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*  
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CHIEF KEVIN NORD  
CHAIRMAN

IAIN MCGREGOR  
VICE CHAIR

**MASSACHUSETTS TECHNICAL RESCUE  
COORDINATING COUNCIL**

**April 1, 2021**

**Approved**

The Massachusetts Technical Rescue Coordinating Council held a meeting on Thursday, April 1, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. via WebEx Meeting per Governor Charles D. Baker’s Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, s.20 signed and dated March 12, 2020.

**Present** at the meeting were the following Council members:

Chief Kevin Nord	Fire Chiefs Association of Mass.
Iain McGregor	Professional Fire Fighters of Mass.
Jeanne Benincasa Thorpe	Undersecretary for Homeland Security, EOPSS
Maribel Fournier, Deputy Fire Marshal	Department of Fire Services
Chief Michael Mansfield	Fire Chiefs Association of Mass.
Peter Jerusik	Professional Fire Fighters of Mass.
Russell Lewis	Member of the Statewide Tech. Rescue Team

**Absent** from the meeting were the following Commission members:

NONE

**DFS Employees in Attendance:**

David Clemons, Director of Operations	Department of Fire Services
Steven Rourke, Esq.	DFS General Counsel and Legal Counsel to the TRCC
David DiGregorio, Director	Hazardous Materials Response and Special Operations

Korina Senior, Program Coordinator

Hazardous Materials Response and  
Special Operations

**Other Attendees**

Robert O'Brien	Region 1
Mark McCabe	Region 1
Neil Tuepker	Region 1
Shawn Simmons	Region 1
Lt. Francis Otting	Region 2
FF Ronnie Hampton	Region 2
FF Jason Tierny	Region 2
David Randolph	Region 2
Matt Belsito	Region 3
Sean Smith	Region 3
Chief James Vuona	FCAM Region 3
Alan Sirois	Region 4
Steven Chandler	Region 4
Daryl Springman	
Robert Pensivy	Region 4
Mike Russas	MEMA

**1. Meeting Opening and Introductions**

Chief Kevin Nord, Chairman, opened the meeting at approximately 10:03 a.m. The Chairman introduced himself, followed by the introductions of the Council members, Department of Fire Services' employees, and public members in attendance.

**2. Approval of February 17, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

Chief Mansfield made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from the previous meeting held on February 17, 2021. The motion was accepted by Lt Francis Otting. The motion was seconded by Chief Mansfield. Motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting was approved by unanimous roll call vote of the Council.

A revote was taken at the April 28, 2021 meeting. Chief Mansfield made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from the previous meeting held on February 17, 2021. The motion was seconded by Peter Jerusik. Motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting was approved by unanimous roll call vote of the Council.

**3. Discuss Tech Rescue Correspondence.**

- a. There is an issue with two email addresses are not being sent due to errors.
- b. Director DiGregorio introduces Linda Crowley as the liaison for the Massachusetts

Technical Rescue Subcommittee meetings.

c.

#### 4. **Old Business**

##### a. **Discuss filed budget Legislation.**

The legislation is at the State House with Senator Timilty. Docit 2308. A decision should be made within the next 45 days.

##### b. **Discuss amphibious vehicles.**

No responses received for amphibious vehicles. The expense, housing, and additional training are too costly at this time.

##### c. **Fire mobilization.**

The Fire mobilization Plan was organized to be broad, but descriptive enough to be added to the plan. We are looking for approval from the Chiefs and then will share the document with the Counsel next meeting. The turnaround should be quick.

#### 5. **New Business**

##### a. **Discussion Committee meeting reports.**

The subcommittees are membership, equipment, training, and policy/SOG. The goal is to build a book by July. Each subcommittee is a chapter in the book to summarize Statewide Technical Rescue. The book will create the foundation for the funding needs. David Clemons has been working with Fire Mobilization Chair and Chiefs to get Technical Rescue included in the Fire Mobilization plans.

Director DiGregorio reminds the Subcommittees that all notes will be taken by an assigned scribe from each group. Subcommittees are listed on the website and Steering Committees are in the process of being added.

Chief Mansfield held an Equipment Subcommittee meeting. In the meeting they discussed equipment lists, quantity, age, the owner of the equipment, estimated replacement costs, and storage locations. A few districts have a need for vehicles, Suggest have all regions go to D4H program to utilize for tracking events and equipment with the regional teams. Requested all regions submit their equipment lists by April 20<sup>th</sup> to get started. Region 2 discusses they have a representative and their equipment list readily available. Chief Mansfield did not have the region 2 and 4 representatives. Chair Nord request the contact list is up to date and send to everyone.

Iain McGregor asks what the process is we are supposed to be following. The subcommittee is required to comply with the open meeting law. Informational packets and videos have been sent out to comply with the open meeting laws. Linda will be

assisting with the subcommittee meetings. March 8<sup>th</sup> an email went out with the information. Vice Chair McGregor questions the timeline. The timelines accommodate the Hazmat office to be able to post and follow the open meeting law. The administrative duties have been added to Hazmat and DFS is asking for assistance to be able to help with the administrative needs. Deputy Marshal Fournier clarifies that internally for DFS boards we follow this timeline to hold a pre-meeting to discuss the needs of the next meeting.

Motion made by Iain McGregor that all subcommittees with provide a minimum of 7 days. The motion was seconded by Undersecretary Jeanne Benincasa Thorpe. The counsel approved by unanimous vote.

**b. Regional operational funding.**

Applications are due to OGR for funding this month on April 9th. State share funding is in May. Suggested having OGR attend the next meeting and provide a short presentation on funding. Have Kevin Stanton attend the meeting the end of April.

**c. Code of conduct.**

David DiGregorio shares the National USAR Urban Search and Rescue code of conduct. He will send it to the Policy/SOG Chair, Russel Lewis to incorporate into the next policy meeting.

**6. Any matters not reasonably anticipated by the Chair.**

1. Chair Nord shares data showing the trends in Technical Rescue responses.
2. Discussion on Steering Committees' needs. In Hazmat we do not get involved with the Steering Committees at all. Do the Steering Committees need to follow the open meeting law? Discussion to be made offline to determine the interpretation and come back with guidance. Suggested to follow the open meeting law until the needs are determined.

**7. Future agenda items.**

Kevin Stanton and new business items.

**8. Determination of future meeting date(s).**

Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. to allow subcommittees time to meet.

Chair Nord made motion to adjourn. Chief Mansfield seconded. Roll call vote was made unanimously. Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:15 a.m.