



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
Department of Fire Services

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CHIEF KEVIN NORD
CHAIRMAN

IAIN MCGREGOR
VICE CHAIR

**MASSACHUSETTS TECHNICAL RESCUE
COORDINATING COUNCIL
June 30, 2021
APPROVED**

The Massachusetts Technical Rescue Coordinating Council held a meeting on Wednesday, June 30, 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.
Jeanne Benincasa Thorpe	Undersecretary for Homeland Security, EOPSS
Peter J. Ostroskey	State Fire Marshal
Peter Jerusik	Professional Fire Fighters of Mass.

<u>Absent</u> from the meeting were the following	Commission members:
Chief Michael Mansfield	Fire Chiefs Association of Mass.
Iain McGregor	Professional Fire Fighters of Mass.
Russell Lewis	Member of the Statewide Tech. Rescue Team

DFS Employees in Attendance:

Maribel Fournier, Deputy Fire Marshal	Department of Fire Services
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

Administrative Services • Division of Fire Safety
Hazardous Materials Response • Massachusetts Firefighting Academy

Robert O'Brien	Region 1
Neil Tuepker	Region 1
Lt. Francis Otting	Region 2
Matt Belsito	Region 3
Mike Griffith	

1. Meeting Opening and Introductions

Chief Kevin Nord, Chairman, opened the meeting at approximately 10:05 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 May 27, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Marshal Ostroskey made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from the previous meeting held on May 27, 2021. The motion was seconded by Undersecretary Jean Benincasa Thorpe. No discussion, unanimous vote.

3. Discuss Tech Rescue Correspondence.

- a. Iain's presentation with suggested training times. It has been challenging to get quorum for meetings.

4. Old Business

a. Discuss Open Meeting Law.

The latest memo sent to board members dated June 16th. The emergency order is no longer in effect. Measures are still in place but there are modifications. The law allows the board to meet remotely but does not require remote meetings. The provision allows boards to meet without physical quorum present at the location. Boards are reviewing agendas on a case-by-case basis to decide whether the meeting would need to be in person or remotely. Option to meet in person and exclude public members from attending in person. The public would need to have access to a clearly audible meeting, a telephone line. Board can continue to meet in person. Extended until April 2022.

b. Discuss and potential vote on Fire Mobilization

The Fire Mobilization Plan is not complete currently. Topic to be tabled to the next meeting.

c. Discussion on Subcommittees

- **Policy/SOG** – had 2 meetings and made some headway on the safety office SOG. Did not have a quorum at the recent meeting. In the process of setting up another meeting to vote on the safety SOG and then the policy board will move on to the medical SOG.
- **Membership** – Table.
- **Training** – Table.

- **Equipment** D4H presentation.
- Request made by the Undersecretary to mandate the subcommittee groups formulate information for the Technical Rescue Group.

5. New Business

a. **Discuss Training Subcommittee Letter.**

Question on the number of hours of training. Will discuss at the next meeting when the representative from the subcommittee is present.

b. **View and Discuss D4H Presentation.**

The Council should be able to get funding from Homeland Security. Dave D. will be showcasing it to the Governor and could use state share funds. Mission manager is used in Region 1 and there is a lot of negative feedback. Motion to adopt D4H? Discussion do we need legislative fix to occur to get something like this? Have staff take a closer look at what this would look like. Get a better scope of up front and ongoing costs. Staff time would be needed and do not have that in our current position. Make motion to facilitate the inquiries for the application and acquisition of D4H. Motion to acquire data management system was made by Chair Nord. Motion was seconded by Peter Jerusik. No further discussion. Unanimous vote.

c. **Discuss Microsoft SharePoint.**

David Clemons shared information on how to use SharePoint for file/documentation sharing purposes. The application will allow a central location for all Council, Steering, and Subcommittee members to view information that is being worked on.

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

None.

7. **Tasks/Assignments.**

DFS to investigate D4H.

8. **Future Agenda Items.**

Items tabled during the meeting.

Determination of future meeting date(s).

Wednesday, September 22, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Hybrid meeting virtual and in person.

Chief Mansfield made motion to adjourn. Fire Marshal Peter Ostroskey seconded. Roll call vote was made unanimously. Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:33 a.m.