

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MITIGATION EMERGENCY RESPONSE ADVISORY BOARD

May 10, 2021

11:00 a.m.

APPROVED MINUTES

WebEx Conference Call

Remote locations

Board Members Attending:

Chief Tim Bailey, Chairman

Chief John Dearborn

David Clemons, Director of Operations

Nicholas Childs, Designee

John McCarthy

Fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts

Fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts

Department of Fire Services

Department of Environmental Protection

Massachusetts Association of Hazardous
Materials Technicians

Board Members Absent:

None

DFS Employees Attending:

David DiGregorio, Director

Korina Senior, Program Coordinator

DFS, Hazardous Materials Response

DFS, Hazardous Materials Response

DFS Employees Absent:

None

Monthly Board Meeting

Agenda Item #1:

► **Meeting Opening and Introductions – 11:01am**

Chief Bailey began opening the meeting and introductions were made by attendees stating their presence and capacity.

Agenda Item #2:

► **Approval of March 8, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

A Motion to accept the Meeting Minutes from March 8, 2021 was offered by Jack McCarthy. The motion was seconded by David Clemons. No discussion. Roll call taken, all were in favor.

Agenda Item #3 New Business:

► **a. Welcome Chief John Dearborn of Longmeadow Fire Department.**

Chair Bailey welcomes Chief Dearborn to the Hazardous Materials Mitigation Emergency Response Advisory Board.

► **b. Discuss and potential vote on team appointments and/or transfers.**

DiGregorio states we have an appointment letter from District 3 Chief DiFronzo. The letter recommends Kimberly O'Brien of Auburn Fire Department to replace Michael Kilgallen.

Motion made by Jack McCarthy to accept the recommendation made by the steering committee. Motion seconded by Chief Dearborn. No discussion. Unanimous vote.

Derek Hirons of Charlton Fire will be transferring to Westborough Fire Department. We have the application with the Chief and Unions approval. Motion made by Jack McCarthy to accept the transfer. Motion was seconded by Chief Dearborn. No discussion. Unanimous vote.

► c. Stipends.

Director DiGregorio states that due to COVID the stipends will be paid to members that meet the activation response requirements. The training requirements are waived until June 30, 2021. FY22 starting July 1, 2021 we should be back to all normal requirements including attending 1 incident.

► d. JSMACCS.

Director DiGregorio states the JSMACCS is a way of keeping members current on sampling techniques. The training was to start in 2020-2021 but COVID capacity restrictions prevented this from happening. One of the main creators of the program, Tom O'Connell, suddenly passed away this Saturday. Tom was a great asset to the HazMat office and will be missed. He worked with Cheryl Gauthier to create the program. We will work on getting this implemented for the next fiscal year.

► e. Discuss recent purchases and the training and deployment of each.

Director DiGregorio discusses recent purchases:

Rigaku to replace the old Ramen technology. The new Rigaku's allow for testing under fluorescent light.

Vorbek Camera Systems allow a live feed down range to the safe zones. This gives the capability for outside subject matter experts to join in to assist with major incidents.

Zumro Tents are a much easier to use for sampling away from the environment and press.

Mobil Testing Unit plans are in process. The specifications are being developed for purchase. The vehicle will allow for large multiple sample tests.

Also will have the ability to use the mobile EOC through Special Ops that is in process of being ordered.

Agenda Item #4 Old Business:

► a. Discuss vehicle locations.

Director DiGregorio states we currently have a home for all vehicles. Leominster is now housing Squad 64. Belmont will be housing 21 and 61 will then move into Wilmington. Truck 71 will be moving to Springfield.

► b. Discuss dispatch.

Director DiGregorio states effective July 1 dispatch will be transferred to MEMA. We have been working We will no longer have Hazmat East (Holbrook) and Hazmat West (Amherst). The number will be the same to call in but we will no longer have 1 for the East calls and 2 for West calls.

► b. Discuss the Academy Hazardous Materials course.

Director DiGregorio the current class 25A for pro-board certification is in its' final week. There will be 23 members pro-board certified from this course eligible to take the MA Hazmat application portion of the training.

Agenda Item #5 Any matters not reasonably anticipated by the Chair:

Question was asked whether the next June meeting will be held in person or virtually. We need to wait and see what the Governor announces.

Agenda Item #6:

► **Next Meeting Date**

Thursday, June 24, 2021 at 10:00am.

Agenda Item #7:

► **Adjournment 11:26 a.m.**

■ *A Motion to adjourn was offered by Jack McCarthy. Adjournment seconded by Chief Dearborn. No further discussion. Roll call was taken by unanimous vote. Meeting adjourned.*