

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MITIGATION EMERGENCY RESPONSE ADVISORY BOARD

September 22, 2020

10:00 a.m.

APPROVED MINUTES

Video Conference Call

Remote locations

Board Members Attending:

Chief Tim Bailey, Chairman

David Clemons, Director of Operations

John McCarthy

Robert Rooney

Fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts

Department of Fire Services

Massachusetts Association of Hazardous
Materials Technicians

Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts

Board Members Absent:

Nicholas Childs, Designee

Department of Environmental Protection

DFS Employees Attending:

David DiGregorio, Director

Timothy Gallagher, Deputy Director

Korina Senior, Program Coordinator

DFS, Hazardous Materials Response

DFS, Hazardous Materials Response

DFS, Hazardous Materials Response

DFS Employees Absent:

Monthly Board Meeting

Agenda Item #1:

► **Meeting Opening and Introductions – 10:06am**

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

Agenda Item #2:

► **Approval of June 22, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

A Motion to accept the Meeting Minutes from June 22, 2020 was offered by Robert Rooney. The motion was seconded by Jack McCarthy. No discussion. All were in favor.

Agenda Item #3 New Business:

► **a. Discuss the proposed incident response points system.**

DiGregorio states we are seeing trends in incident response loopholes. We have been trying to close some of the loopholes so others are not taking advantage of the Hazmat Response program. There are various reasons for their lack of response. District 5 would be exempt from this because they only have 2 or 3 incidents a year. District 2 is

the next district with lowest number of calls. Based on incident history, District 2 should have enough incidents for every member to attend 1 incident. We will review any cases that members did not attend an incident. Tier 1 & Tier 2 is 75% response. Tier 3, 4, and 5 is 100% response. Goal is to increase percentage of times people are responding. We notice people are putting unavailable as a response and then they change after the team has been chosen to get credit for the response. If response is changed there needs to be a reason why the response was changed.

Discussion on how many individuals are taking advantage of these loopholes. We do not have the numbers. We have spoken with team leadership to address the issues at least 3-4 times in the past few years. It is confirmed that leadership has spoken to these people and there is no change. There are no teeth so it is not changing. For those that are “good” there will be no problem. The point part of the system is not going into effect because it is really involved and a lot of work for the office. Dave is proposing the response level and 1 incident per year.

The proposed incident response plan will only effect those that have unexplained unexcused responses regularly. The new plan will go in effect in January. SOG will need to do the work and will become a policy. Vote on November. DD and TG will get out to each district by next meeting.

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

Director DiGregorio states current District 3 member Matthew D’Innocenzo has transferred from Natick to Framingham.

► c. Proposed meeting dates.

November 9, 2020

January 11, 2021

March 8, 2021

May 10, 2021

June 24, 2021

Agenda Item #4 Old Business:

► a. Vehicle Locations.

Director DiGregorio states TOMs 61 in Danvers and Squad 64 in Littleton needs to move. A couple of possibilities fell through. Very good possibility 64 will move to Stow for now. The only issue is security. 61 we are at a loss.

► b. Discuss the requalification process.

Online Requal up and running close to a month now. There are 15 people 7 more taking it now. A few more as of this morning. The practical day is September 29th. Several people are interested in taking the class. The academy is looking to do 1 or 2 more by January if they are needed. When it was first implemented there were a lot of bugs. This time they have not heard of any issues with the online class. Now we need to start working on the Tech class. The Tech class will have a part A and a part B. Part B being for those looking to apply for the Hazmat team.

► c. Discuss COVID19 missions.

Director DiGregorio states when COVID first became an issue we were assisting with the test sites, then added the prison missions. Right now we have not been tasked to assist with prisons. We are ready if needed but we are waiting for EOPPS for any other tasking.

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

All voting members stated there were no additional matters.

Agenda Item #6:

► **Next Meeting Date**

Monday, November 9, 2020 at 10:00am.

Agenda Item #7:

► **Adjournment 10:21 a.m.**

■ *A Motion to adjourn was offered by Robert Rooney. Adjournment seconded by Jack McCarthy. Approved. Meeting adjourned.*

Prepared by:

Korina Senior

November 2, 2020