**Massachusetts Tech Rescue Policy/SOG Subcommittee**

Approved Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 8, 2023 at 11:19 a.m.

Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

A regular meeting of the Massachusetts Tech Rescue Policy/SOG Subcommittee was called to order by Chief Matthew Belsito on the above noted date and time.

Members in attendance remotely. Roll Call taken:

Linda Crowley, DFS;

David Clemons, DFS;

Lt. Jonathan Martin-Auburn Fire

Deputy Chief David Randolph-Brookline Fire;

Chief Robert O’Brien-Hanson Fire;

Chief Matthew Belsito, Chairman-Sutton Fire

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion:** A motion was made by Lt. Jon Martin to accept the minutes of the February 15, 2023 meeting. The motion was seconded by Chief O’Brien and with no further discussion was passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Chief Belsito, yes; Deputy Chief Randolph, yes; Chief O’Brien, yes; Lt Jon Martin, yes and David Clemons, yes.

**Tech Rescue Policy/SOG Subcommittee Correspondence:**

None.

**Old Business:**

**Review of Old Items for SOG/SOP:**

Chief Belsito stated that this meeting was to review the Tiered Response SOP/SOG that was to be created by Daryl Springman. Chief Belsito shared the spreadsheet with those in attendance and asked that they review those that are listed and confirm that the list is accurate. Chief Belsito was hoping to add to the list and possibly make assignments to the membership.

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**New Business:**

**New SOP/SOGs**

There was a lengthy discussion on how much further the council wants the committee to go, specifically with regards to new SOP/SOGs; should the SOP/SOGs be more in line with what the Feds are doing and what is the official definition of a Tech Rescue incident. The question was asked if the Council had put forward what, if any, specific SOPs they are looking for. The committee currently has a good baseline.

**Incident Reporting and Tracking:**

Discussed how Incident Reporting will be key to funding. It was stated that the Council originally only wanted reporting on incidents with a team response. Some communities are handling incidents, which could be considered a Tech Rescue Incident, in house. There is a need to determine what is to be considered a Tech Rescue Incident.

**Additional Discussion**:

* Should Incident Reporting go into D4H. D4H has its own IR module. Dave Clemons thinks that teams should continue to submit in MFIRS, allowing us to continue to pull data.
* Do we need to be Federally compliant?
* Would DFS want us to push it up to a Federal level?
* Pulling data to support funding. As teams become formalized, there will probably be a need for more reporting to support funding initiatives.
* An Operational Mission needs to be established first.
* Dave Clemons was asked if there was something more the Committee could do to secure funding. He stated that legislation needs to be changed so that monies can be transferred for use.

Chief O’Brien discussed seeking reimbursement through the Feds to set up packages for deployment. He stated that it would make it easier for an EMac Deployment. South Eastern Mass already has an EMac package set up. He would like to create a policy for Council review that would set up a standard addressing this. He will send this to Chief Belsito for dissemination.

**Chief Belsito will bring to the next Council meeting:**

* How far does the Council want this Committee to go with regards to creating additional SOP/SOGs.
* If Council would agree to a standard for reimbursement for EMac packages.

**Next Meeting:**

The next meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, July 13, 2023.

**Adjourn:**

Deputy Chief Randolph made the motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Lt. Martin. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote:

Chief Matthew Belsito-yes; Lt. Jon Martin-affirm, Chief O’Brien-yes, David Clemons-affirm and Deputy Chief Randolph-yes.

Meeting adjourned at 1155. Minutes prepared by Cheryl Barker