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Meeting: Mass Tech Rescue Policy/SOG Subcommittee
Tuesday, December 20, 2022 at 1300
Approved February 15, 2023

A regular virtual meeting of the Mass Tech Rescue Policy/SOG Subcommittee was called to order at 01:04 pm by Chairman, Chief Matthew Belsito.

Members Present: Chief Matthew Belsito-Sutton Fire; Linda Crowley-DFS; Lt. Jonathan Martin-Auburn Fire; Deputy Chief Rob O'Brien-Hanson Fire; Deputy Chief David Randolph-Brookline Fire; David DiGregorio-DFS and Firefighter Daryl Springman. Deputy Chief Barry Aptt-Gloucester Fire signing on a short time later.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion: A motion to approve the minutes of the November 22, 2022 meeting was made by Jon Martin. The motion was seconded by Chief O'Brien. With no further discussion a unanimous roll call vote was completed: D. DiGregorio, aye; Jon Martin, aye; R. O'Brien, yes; D. Randolph, aye; Daryl Springman, aye and M. Belsito, aye.

Tech Rescue Correspondence: none.

Old Business:

Discussion-SOG's

Tiered Responses-As indicated in the previous meeting, all agreed to use the HazMat policy as a starting point. Daryl hasn't anything new to present to the committee but he would keep everyone apprised of any updates as he completes them. Dave DiGregorio added that like the HazMat policy you wouldn't have to commit to a specific number for the response, you could use a range. He added that for HazMat there are five tiers.

Tier 1 would allow for a 1 -5-member response, Tier 2 would be a 15 to 20-member response for a single operation, Tier 3 would be for multi operations, Tier 4 would be for multi operations involving multiple districts and Tier 5 would be for Armageddon with every team responding.

New Business

After Action Policy-The Committee had decided to table this at the last meeting until Chief O'Brien could be present. Chief O'Brien stated that he felt that formatting was a priority, as it ensures that the proper information needed for EOPS and funding is gathered.

- a. Operations-Chief O'Brien stated that this was a big one. EOPS likes to see lessons learned and comments.
- b. Equipment Notes-This is also one that EOPS likes; who attended; was the FD found lacking.

He added that it wasn't so much the content but the different highlighted areas and the flow. EOPS is very familiar with the current format being used. This is beneficial for justification for equipment and training funds. David Randolph stated that he has read what was presented and feels it was good.

Motion: David Randolph made the motion to forward the current format to the Council for review with the understanding that the Letterhead would be changed. It was added that the New Deputy Director would be charged with cleaning up the policies. The motion was seconded by Jon Martin. With no further discussion a unanimous roll call vote was completed: D. DiGregorio, aye; Jon Martin, aye; R. O'Brien, yes; D. Randolph, aye, B. Aptt, yes; Daryl Springman, aye; and M. Belsito, aye.

Confined Space-Barry reports that he has completed a draft only. He asked if anyone on the committee would like to add to or subtract from the policy.

Daryl stated that he had read it and it looks good. He did question whether they should add "or accepted industry standards" to the SOG's. Again the membership stated the newly appointed Deputy Director would be responsible for tightening up the verbiage and making it uniform. This person will also have access to all of the HazMat SOG's for reference.

Dave DiGregorio also added that another way to make changes would be to put out a directive that would be in place for one year, allowing that if changes needed to be made to an SOG, it could be done within that time frame. Daryl questioned whether there should be a minimum amount of trained people on site of an incident. Chief O'Brien stated that you'd have to be careful with being that specific. He feels that the Tiered system would be less restrictive. D. DiGregorio agreed. It was also questioned whether or not the policies should be SOG's vs SOP's. All agreed that for this committee's purpose it was fine to have a gray area.

Motion: Daryl Springman moved to accept Barry's draft for Confined Space Policy. The motion was seconded by Jon Martin. With no further discussion a unanimous roll call vote was completed: D. DiGregorio, aye; Jon Martin, aye; R. O'Brien, yes; D. Randolph, aye, B. Aptt, yes; Daryl Springman, aye; and M. Belsito, aye.

New Policies

Tiered Response-Daryl is still working on the rough draft of the Tiered Response policy.

Chief Belsito stated he wasn't sure how many more policies are needed. He asked how many HazMat policies there were. D. DiGregorio stated that there are about 50 or 60 and that they are actually going through all of them to clean them up. This number would include policies for things like maintaining equipment, credentialing, pay, they cover the gamut. Chief Belsito will ask the Council how deep they want this committee to go with SOG's. Jon advised that District 7 has about a dozen. Others stated they had from a dozen to a couple dozen. D. DiGregorio stated that some of the policies would fall back on what the State already has in place. D. Randolph agreed, why reinvent the wheel if the State already has policies in place. D. DiGregorio stated that it should be stressed to the new Deputy Director the need for him/her to work closely with the committee and going forward to prioritize those policies that should be put out there first.

Discussion-Required Gear-Chief O'Brien asked "If you were going from one district to another what gear would you bring with you?" Personal Stuff? Team Stuff?

D. Randolph stated that FEMA has a 24-hour bag that is filled and ready to go with the contents being specific to the season and your particular discipline. Chief O'Brien stated the committee could take from the FEMA policy and customize it to our needs.

SOG's- Daryl feels that the committee should continue as they have been so that they do not lose momentum and wait until the new Deputy Director comes on Board to get into more details.

Google Matrix-Daryl stated that he would add on to what he has then share it with everyone.

Next Meeting-The next virtual meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 18, 2024 at 1:00 pm.

Chief Belsito wished everyone a Merry Christmas and invited everyone to attend a Zoom meeting for Mobex 24 Planning tomorrow at 3:00 pm.

As there is no further business before the committee, Rob O'Brien made the motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Jon Martin. A unanimous roll call vote was completed: D. DiGregorio, aye; Jon Martin, aye; R. O'Brien, yes; D. Randolph, aye, B. Aptt, yes; Daryl Springman, aye; and M. Belsito, aye.

Meeting adjourned at 01:44 p.m.