



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

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CHAIRMAN

CHIEF MICHAEL MANSFIELD
VICE CHAIR

**MASSACHUSETTS TECHNICAL RESCUE
COORDINATING COUNCIL
September 22, 2021
DRAFT**

The Massachusetts Technical Rescue Coordinating Council held a hybrid meeting in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. c. 30A § 20 on Wednesday, September 22, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. and open to the public in the Boards and Commissions Room A101, at the Department of Fire Services, State Road, Stow, MA or WebEx videoconference.

Present at the meeting were the following Council members:

Chief Kevin Nord	Fire Chiefs Association of Mass.
Iain McGregor	Professional Fire Fighters of Mass.
Jeanne Benincasa Thorpe	Undersecretary for Homeland Security, EOPSS
Peter J. Ostroskey	State Fire Marshal
Chief Michael Mansfield	Fire Chiefs Association of Mass.
Peter Jerusik	Professional Fire Fighters of Mass.
Russell Lewis	Member of the Statewide Tech. Rescue Team

Absent from the meeting were the following Commission members:

None

DFS Employees in Attendance:

David Clemons, Director of Operations	Department of Fire Services
David DiGregorio, Director	Hazardous Materials Response and Special Operations
Korina Senior, Program Coordinator	Hazardous Materials Response and Special Operations

Other Attendees

Neil Tuepker	Region 1
Paul Morrison	Region 2 Cambridge Fire

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

Lt. Francis Otting	Region 2
Matt Belsito	Region 3
Sean Smith	Region 3
Thomas Rinaldo	Region 3

1. Meeting Opening and Introductions

Chief Kevin Nord, Chairman, opened the meeting at approximately 10:02 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 June 30, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Peter Jerusik made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from the previous meeting held on June 30, 2021. The motion was seconded by Iain McGregor. No discussion, unanimous vote.

3. Discuss Tech Rescue Correspondence.

None

4. Old Business

a. Discuss and potential vote on Fire Mobilization.

The meeting is scheduled tomorrow and has not happened yet.

b. Discuss and potential vote on Training Subcommittee letter from June meeting.

Training Subcommittee looked at the minimum number of hours for each work group and how many overlapped to get an annual total of 80-hour minimum training hours for each member to maintain core disciplines. Added 24 hours of Water, Dive, and other specialty. Used JBRs and discussed what the teams are currently using for training now. One thought for training is to be cautious of the minimum training requirements. The letter is a draft for review, as the Council moves forward with funding and implementation of members, we can include the requirements.

Motion made by Chief Mansfield to accept recommendation from the training subcommittee as presented by Iain McGregor for the minimum required hours. Motion seconded by Russ Lewis. Discussion the document as a recommendation and not a mandate. Clarification to the motion is to Recommend the minimum annual training hours as illustrated in the subcommittees work. Motion was accepted and unanimously voted.

c. Discuss the D4H approved awaiting funding.

Need a sustainable budget to support annual subscription for the personne, inventory, and reporting system. D4H has an annual fee plus a one time setup cost. Need a line item in the budget to move forward with D4H. Need to showcase the need for Tech Rescue through the number of times Technical Rescue is called out for assistance.

d. Discuss the CONOPS book.

The Concept of Operations book is a reference document for the Council to give a broad overview with various sections to understand the layout of the Tech Rescue Program. Input will be needed from the subcommittees such as the training subcommittee recommendation made during this meeting.

5. New Business

a. Discuss structural collapse.

Marshal discussed the availability and needs with USAR Task Force 1. All steps are implemented to be able to call for their structural engineers if needed. Interest in training with them to make sure everyone is well aware of responsibilities. Plan in progress for Academy training in tech rescue and structural collapse.

b. Recap on storm mobilization Henri.

Commend the agencies that worked together to track the storm and respond accordingly to any issues.

c. Discuss HART Annex.

Want to make sure all teams are aware of the resources available through the Annex. The Council will work with MEMA to make an announcement.

d. Vote on Chair and Vice Chair.

Chair Nord is stepping down as Chair of the Council.

Motion made by Chief Mansfield for Iain McGregor as Chair. Motion seconded by Russell Lewis. Iain McGregor accepts the nomination as Chair. Unanimous role call vote.

Motion made by Chief Nord to Vice Chair. Motion seconded by Marshal Ostroskey. No other nominations. Chief Mansfield accepted the nomination as Vice Chair. Unanimous role call vote.

The new Chair Iain McGregor will close out the remainder of the meeting.

6. Any matters not reasonably anticipated by the Chair.

None.

7. Tasks/Assignments.

Subcommittees will continue to meet and work on the CONOPS.

Reminder all subcommittees schedule the meetings through the Hazmat office Korina/Linda. Korina will send out the timeline as a reminder.

8. Future Agenda Items.

Items tabled during the meeting.

At present, the board can determine on a meeting-by-meeting basis to decide to have in person or virtual meetings.

9. Determination of future meeting date(s).

Try to maintain the 4th Wednesday of the month. The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 27, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Hybrid meeting virtual and in person.

Closing – Iain McGregor thanks Chief Nord for all of his time and work with the Tech Rescue Coordinating Council. Going to keep him involved.

Fire Marshal Peter Ostroskey made motion to adjourn. Vice Chair Mansfield seconded. Roll call vote was made unanimously. Meeting adjourned at approximately 12:00 p.m.