

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MITIGATION EMERGENCY RESPONSE ADVISORY BOARD

May 21, 2018

10:00 a.m.

DRAFT MINUTES

Department of Fire Services
Boards and Commissions Room A101

Board Members Attending:

Chief Tim Bailey, Chairman
David Clemons, Operations Section Chief
Chief Bob Czerwinski
Robert Rooney
John McCarthy

Fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts
Department of Fire Services
Fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts
Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Association of Hazardous
Materials Technicians

Board Members Absent:

Designee Nick Childs

Department of Environmental Protection

DFS Employees Attending:

David DiGregorio
Timothy Gallagher
Korina Senior

Director, Hazardous Materials Response
Deputy Director, HazMat
Program Coordinator

Guests Attending:

None

Monthly Board Meeting

Agenda Item #1:

► **Call to Order and Introductions – 10:10 a.m.**

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

Agenda Item #2:

► **Approval of March 19 Commission Meeting Minutes**

A Motion to accept the Meeting Minutes from March 19, 2018 was offered by Robert Rooney. The motion was seconded by David Clemons. All were in favor.

Agenda Item #3 New Business:

► **a. Vote to appoint new HazMat Technicians to fill team vacancies.**

DiGregorio states we received a letter from the District 2 steering committee recommending David Bishop from the Chelsea Fire Department.

A motion to accept the new member was made by Robert Rooney. Motion was seconded by Jack McCarthy. All were in favor.

DiGregorio states we received a letter from District 3 steering committee recommending Adam Salmon of Milford.

A motion to accept the new member was made by Robert Rooney. Motion was seconded by Jack McCarthy. All were in favor.

► b. Vote to waive requalification class for instructors.

Jason Wilson requested a waiver for his Hazmat Tech instructor hours. A total of 56 hours was confirmed by the Hazmat Training Division. A motion to waive the requalification class was made by Robert Rooney. Motion was seconded by Chief Czerwinski. Chief Timothy Bailey abstained Jason Wilson is a member from his department. All were in favor.

Timothy Casey requested a waiver for his Hazmat Tech instructor hours. A total of 64 hours was confirmed by the Hazmat Training Division. A motion to waive the requalification class was made by Robert Rooney. Motion was seconded by Jack McCarthy. All were in favor.

David Clemons questioned the maximum and minimum required to waive the requal class. David DiGregorio recommends 40 hour minimum based on the number of hours for the requalification class. No maximum.

► c. Announcement of vacancies filled. The members have passed their medicals and are currently on the team.

District 2: William Brown of Revere FD.

District 3: William Collins of Milford FD and Andrejs Sterns of Worcester FD.

District 6: Philip Brady of Gardner FD.

► d. End of year stipends and available drills.

There are several members that are below 72 hours and may not receive their stipend for the year. A drill was held in Lowell on May 10th for any district to attend. There is also a drill today in Stow for all members. We do everything we can to help the technicians have enough opportunity to receive their stipend.

► e. Candidate selection process.

This topic is no longer needed. The district worked out a solution.

► f. Event Coverage: Boston Fourth of July.

DiGregorio states Hazmat will be involved in the same capacity as the previous year.

► g. Training: Vigilant Guard.

DiGregorio states the Vigilant Guard exercise is a major exercise in November. HazMat will be involved in 2 scenarios. Locations will be at Joint Base Cape Code and Gillette Stadium. Those involved in the planning will not be allowed to participate in the drill.

Agenda Item #4 Old Business:

► a. Status of members.

DiGregorio states a member of district 6 has missed his physical and is not current on his training hours. We have given him plenty of opportunity to get it done. He does not want to take a leave of absence. He has been spoken to and told it needs to be done by tomorrow, May 22, 2018. Another member has been on hold for

over 2 years. He resigned from Hazmat and will be retiring from his Fire Department soon.

► b. Discuss changes on the requalification of prospective Hazmat team applicants.

DiGregorio states if he wants to keep the same standards. All discussed different options/ideas. All agree not to decrease the standard. Clemons states the Chiefs knowingly let them take the class and they can stay on the wait list for years. DiGregorio asks if it is possible to have a part hands on and part online class. Conclusion: If people want to be on the team they will need to take the requal. Some members do it on their own time if the Chief does not want to pay to send the Technician. Notify Chiefs in the letter that if they are going to send someone to the Tech class they will need to take the requal class. Rooney says if they are interested enough in being on the team they will go on their own to the Annual requal. Discuss further in the June meeting. Motion to discuss at the June meeting made by Robert Rooney. Motion was seconded by Jack McCarthy. All in favor.

► c. Fentanyl Issue: Meeting with the Lab & Further Discussion

Director DiGregorio mentioned he met with the State Public Health Lab. The meeting went well and they will be working together to come up with a statewide guidance. It is big and we are seeing cases. Chief Czerwinski brought up a video for first responders about what to wear / touch etc.

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

1. No additional matters to discuss.

Agenda Item 6:

► Next Meeting Date

Monday, June 18, 2018

Agenda Item #7:

► Adjournment 10:41 am

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

Prepared by:

Korina Senior

June 5, 2018