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MASSACHUSETTS TECHNICAL RESCUE

COORDINATING COUNCIL

EQUIPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

June 10, 2024

Approved



MATTHEW BELSITO
CHAIRMAN

IAIN MCGREGOR
VICE CHAIR

The Massachusetts Technical Rescue Coordinating Council Equipment Subcommittee held a virtual meeting in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. c. 30A § 20 on Monday, June 10th, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., open to the public virtually through Microsoft Teams videoconference.

Present at the meeting were the following members:

Jason Saunders, Chair	Professional Fire Fighters of Mass.
Mike Moran	Region 2
Rob Rogowski	Region 3
Jesse Phelps	Region 4

Absent from the meeting were the following members:

Neil Tuepker	Region 1
Jon Burt	Region 5

DFS Employees in Attendance:

Paul Betti	Deputy Director of Special Operations
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Other Attendees

1. **Meeting Opening and Introductions**

Jason Saunders, Chairman, opened the meeting at approximately 3:03 p.m. The Chair introduced himself, followed by the introductions of the Council members, Department of Fire Services' employees, and public members in attendance.

2. **Discuss Tech Rescue Correspondence**

Some correspondence between Paul Betti to Jason Saunders, Chairman Belsito and Vice Chair McGregor regarding the restarting of the equipment subcommittee.

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3. New Business

Jason Saunders reviewed what the subcommittee had been working on prior to taking a hiatus last year. Primarily, the subcommittee had been using a SUSAR equipment cache list, obtained by Chief Mansfield, as a template for the types, quantities, and selection of equipment that may be required by DFS. This led to a discussion on typing, which has yet to be fully decided, as that will be a driving factor in determining the needs of the teams.

Paul Betti shared the Equipment and Maintenance section of the CONOPS document, which details the priorities of the subcommittee.

The Equipment Committee shall be responsible to advise the MTRCC for the following:

- The minimum quantity and type of equipment each regional team shall have.
- Oversight on the maintenance and repair of regional team equipment.
- Maintaining updated listing of each regional team's equipment.
- Oversee equipment update and replacement plans for each regional team.
- Recommend regional team equipment requests
- Maintaining and update listing of any additional Technical Rescue assts/equipment available in each region.
- Shall meet at a minimum, bi-annually.

Jason Saunders made the suggestion that the subcommittee begin by developing and distributing an equipment survey to each of the current teams. This has been done in the past, but should be refreshed to identify gaps in missing equipment and interoperability. Paul Betti asked if the team could begin with a survey of vehicles, to include trailers, so that future capital needs can be assessed. He reiterated to the committee that there is no capital funding included in the proposed budget. There was a discussion of the expectation that technical rescue equipment would be donated to DFS.

Jason Saunders will develop a draft vehicle survey form for the next meeting. Key points to be included in the survey:

- Basic information about the vehicle, e.g. make/model/year/type.
- Who purchased the vehicle?
- Where is it located?
- Is it used exclusively for TRT response, or is it also used for other missions?

Mike Moran asked if we need information on every single piece of equipment in Region 2. That list would likely be very long, as it would include units assigned to fire duty, as well as tech rescue response. It was decided that Region 2 will report basic information on units and capabilities, but it would not need to be as detailed as the other regions. He stated that Region 2 will still be committed to providing resources when requested. The difference will be that the request will follow standard mutual aid procedures, and be supported by on-duty members.

Paul Betti asked how each region determines where assets are located. Jason Saunders stated that a driving factor in determining cache locations is which Chief has the space and willingness to accept the equipment. Jason Saunders asked if DFS provided funds to host communities. Paul Betti stated that there is limited funding available for direct costs, such as electricity.

Jason Saunders asked about the D4H software, and when it would become available. Paul Betti stated that Special Operations is beginning to use the software, but there are no funds included in the FY2024 budget for tech rescue, as we are still waiting for the legislation to pass. We can begin collecting and formatting data now, to be entered into D4H at a later date. Identifying nomenclature will be a process, and should be completed prior to going online.

4. Future Agenda Items

Draft vehicle survey form.

5. Determination of future meeting date

Next meeting will be on Monday, July 15th, at 9:00am virtually.