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MASSACHUSETTS TECHNICAL RESCUE
Joint Membership and Training Subcommittees
Approved

The Massachusetts Technical Rescue Joint Membership and Training Subcommittees held a virtual meeting in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. c. 30A sec. 20 on Tuesday, August 27, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. and open to the public virtually through Microsoft Teams videoconference.

Present at the meeting were the following members:

Membership Subcommittee:

Deputy Chief Kelly Manning, Chair
Francis Otting
Paul Pronco

Fire Chiefs Association of Mass.
Region 2
Region 5

Training Subcommittee:

Paul Morrison
John Weir
Deputy Director of Special Operations, Paul Betti

Region 2
Region 5
DFS

Absent at the meeting were the following members:

Membership Subcommittee:

Shawn Simmons
Pat Sullivan
Robert Pensivy

Region 1
Region 3
Region 4

Training Subcommittee:

Iain McGregor, Chair
Mark McCabe
Tom Rinoldo
Steven Chandler

Professional Firefighters of Mass
Region 1
Region 3
Region 4

1. Meeting Opening and Introductions

Kelly Manning opened the meeting at approximately 1:05 p.m.

2. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting – May 8, 2024 & June 18, 2024

Deputy Dir. Betti made motion to accept both, second by John Weir. All in favor after roll call vote.

3. Discuss tech rescue sub-committee correspondence

No correspondence for either training or membership.

4. Old Business

- a. **Review training sub-committee specific of training requirements: Chandler**
- b. **Training Hours based on specific training requirements**

Deputy Director Betti asks Weir and Pronco whether they have spoken to Chandler in regard to his progress on this item. They both report that they have not been in contact with Chandler about this. Manning states that she spoke to McGregor prior to meeting as to whether he had been working with Chandler on this and he reported he had not, but would touch base with him.

5. New Business

- a. **Membership road map moving forward with standing up teams**

Activation Flyer / Consultation / MOUs between other entities

Deputy Director Betti asks for clarification regarding whether this is something membership is proposing or were there desired changes to be made. Manning states that this was something we needed to continue to work on, i.e. creation of specific document for dispatchers, what a team consult would look like. Otting states that this is something that the TRCC asked this subcommittee to work on and was tabled until we had more guidance on the activation framework. Betti reports that there will be more discussion at tomorrow's TRCC meeting regarding how consultations would work and it is something that is being piloted in Region 1. Morrison reports that he loves the idea of doing consultations but he has had meetings with FEMA Team, specifically speaking to structural collapse – asks if there is plan for getting an engineer on a call out [list]. We would need to lean on structural collapse engineers, not building inspectors to determine if something was safe to work in. Betti states that we should bring up that question at tomorrow's meeting to Chief O'Brien. Betti reports that we have nothing on the training or response side. He states that TF1 has engineer on staff but we would have to figure out how we might be able to use them and compensation would have to be discussed. Morrison reports he has a model MOU between metro-Boston and TF1; he believes this is something that could be built off of for state-wide response. There are a very small subset of individuals that are willing certify a building that has been involved in a collapse. Morrison states that the MOU is a legal contract that talks about what services can be provided just up the point where a cost is incurred. Betti states that we are going to have to look at activation flyer again soon and figure out whether something like this could be built into the consultation line.

Sharepoint / Files

Morrison asks about the location of specific files pertinent to both subcommittees. Manning and Betti report that much of it is in the sharepoint, but may be mixed in amongst both subcommittees folders. The membership folder was looking pretty light; Betti stated that members may have documents that should be uploaded.

Team Membership Applications / Scoring Criteria

Betti asks about membership form we will use when people apply to the team. Manning states that she does not believe that the group has put forth a draft document to be voted on, but it is something that needs to get done. Manning believes that there is some form of a draft document and she would like to check with McGregor to see if he has a draft document that he was working from. Pronco states he does believe that Region 4 has a membership form with specific criteria with associated point values that they are using. Betti reports that he has created an excel sheet that has scoring criteria embedded in it [scoring matrix]. He states that this is not on the sharepoint, but shared it with the group on the call. He states the criteria likely came from this committee. Paul Pronco mentions he has the Western Mass. Application, does not believe it has been adopted by the group. Betti then pulls up another version of an application that he believes he used to make the excel spreadsheet scoring matrix. He isn't sure if this is the accepted application form. Betti states he will add all of these documents to sharepoint. Manning states that we should add team membership application / scoring as an agenda item for next meeting.

One question that was brought up in the discussion that will need to be answered by the equipment subcommittee: where the equipment caches are located? [or are going to be located], because home address distance in miles away is part of the scoring criteria.

6. Matters not reasonably anticipated by the chair

None at this time.

7. Tasks/Assignments

- Chandler needs to finalize training hours.
- Betti and Manning to upload documents pertinent to each subcommittee to sharepoint.
- Training and subcommittee members should review membership application and scoring criteria prior to next meeting

8. Future agenda items

Training

- NFPA Matrix/Training Hours

Membership

- Membership Application Form / Scoring

9. Determination of future meeting date(s)

Next meeting – October 1, 2024, 1pm. Betti makes motion to adjourn, seconded by Morrison. Meeting adjourned 13:56.