



CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO
LT. GOVERNOR

TERRENCE M. REIDY
SECRETARY

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
Department of Fire Services
Massachusetts Technical Rescue
Coordinating Council
P.O. Box 1025 ~ State Road
Stow, Massachusetts 01775
(978) 567-3150 Fax: (978) 567-3155



CHIEF MATTHEW BELSITO
CHAIRMAN

IAIN MCGREGOR
VICE CHAIR

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, November 19, 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:

Iain McGregor, Chair
Mark McCabe
Tom Rinoldo

Professional Firefighters of Mass
Region 1
Region 3

Absent at the meeting were the following members:

Membership Subcommittee:

Shawn Simmons
Pat Sullivan
Robert Pensivy

Region 1
Region 3
Region 4

Training Subcommittee:

Paul Morrison
Steven Chandler

Region 2
Region 4

John Weir

Region 5

Deputy Director of Special Operations, Paul Betti

DFS

1. Meeting Opening and Introductions

Iain McGregor opened the meeting at approximately 1:09 p.m.

2. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting – October 8, 2024

Mark McCabe made motion, second by Iain McGregor. All in favor after roll call vote.

3. Discuss tech rescue sub-committee correspondence

Manning gave update on conversation with Paul Betti about some minor changes to the membership application that he had emailed the group. Manning send the updated document to both groups just prior to today's meeting. To summarize, current rank, candidate statement, and some minor formatting changes were added to page 2. Betti also wanted to share that soon we may be able to use D4H to input equipment, but members cannot be inputted into the system until legislation passes.

4. Old Business

- a. Review Training Sub-Committee specific of training requirements: Chandler

This was forwarded via email to the group and McGregor pulled it up on screen share. This document represents a baseline number of hours for proficiency in skills. Skills are generally not independent of each other and there are some overlaps between disciplines. McGregor reports that he will work on finishing this document over the weekend, adding the items necessary for water rescue. Additional (specialty) training needs may need to be addressed in the future by funding a special line item (i.e. tower rescue). The consensus is that once the document is finished, we will forward the document for review to the various regions/district teams to get feedback.

5. New Business

- a. Membership application form/scoring

Group reviewed the form, particularly pages 2 & 3 which outline membership qualifications and applicant information sheet.

The group discussed:

1. Proboard Certification will not be required – only certificates of attendance
2. Technician level certificates of attendance will be accepted for scoring, operations level certificates (if any exist from other non-MFA training activities) will not be accepted as meeting minimum standards.
3. Age of certificates of attendance – McCabe states that it may take a person 7-8 years to get all of the classes and education. The group agreed that certificates of attendance must be seven years or newer to be accepted for a member who is not already affiliated with a recognized regional team as of January 1, 2025. The latter shall be stated as part of the first paragraph on page 2 under *“For applications dated on or after January 1, 2025, applicants must meet the minimum requirements as listed below.”*
4. Dive Rescue Training shall be moved down to additional training and assigned 5 points. The specific dive training that should be accepted will come from a recognized agency used to certify public safety divers (i.e. Dive Rescue International or Lifeguard Systems).
5. If already affiliated with a recognized regional team, there will be a statement under paragraph 2 that states something to the effect *“Your team training records, including attendance to drills and responses shall be*

reviewed by the regional steering committee.” The group felt that the applicant could also use a letter of recommendation or other documentation from their leadership at their current regional team. Since there is going to be competition for slots, there needs to be a way to verify their attendance and response activity; might be a tie breaker.

6. Omit “current rank on fire department.”
7. On page 4, change wording from “*I am applying for members on a regional technical rescue team*” to “*state-regional technical rescue team.*”

6. Any matters not reasonably anticipated

None.

7. Tasks and Assignments

- a. Iain to finish NFPA matrix and email to group for circulation to regional technical rescue team leadership
- b. Manning will add changes to membership form as discussed and re-send to group.
- c. Manning will also work with Betti on creating on the excel scoring tool based on membership application

8. Future Agenda Items

- a. Finalize NFPA Matrix Document
- b. Review revised membership application
- c. Review draft scoring tool (excel spreadsheet)

9. Determination of future meeting dates

December 17, 2024 at 1 pm.