



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*  
*Executive Office of Public Safety and Security*  
*Department of Fire Services*  
*Massachusetts Technical Rescue Coordinating Council*



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**MASSACHUSETTS TECHNICAL RESCUE  
COORDINATING COUNCIL**

**February 25, 2026**

**Approved**

The Massachusetts Technical Rescue Coordinating Council held a hybrid meeting in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. c. 30A § 20 on Wednesday, February 25, 2026, at the DCU center in Worcester at 11:00 a.m. and open to the public virtually through Microsoft Teams videoconference.

**Present** at the meeting were the following Council members:

Chief Matthew Belsito, Chair	Fire Chiefs Association of Mass.
Deputy Chief Kelly Manning	Fire Chiefs Association of Mass.
Jon Davine	State Fire Marshal
Glenn Rooney (Designee)	Legal Counsel to the Board

**Absent** from the meeting were the following Council members:

Iain McGregor, Vice Chair	Professional Fire Fighters of Mass.
Jason Saunders	Professional Fire Fighters of Mass.
Mark McCabe	Regional Technical Rescue Team
Susan Terrey	Deputy Secretary for EOPSS

**DFS Employees in Attendance:**

Maribel Fournier	Deputy State Fire Marshal
David Clemons	Director of Operations
Rachel Perlman	Deputy Legal Counsel to the Board
Tim Gallagher	Director HazMat & Special Operations
Paul Betti	Deputy Director Special Operations
Kerry Marcotte	Admin to HazMat & Special Operations

**Other Attendees:**

Neil Tuepker	Region 1
Chris Beal	Region 1
Francis Otting	Region 2
Jon Martin	Region 3
Shawn Green	Region 3
Peter Ostroskey Jr	Region 3

Daryl Springman  
Dan Kelleher  
Jason Tierney

Region 4  
Region 5  
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1. **Meeting Opening and Introductions**

Chief Matthew Belsito, Chairman, opened the meeting at approximately 11:03 a.m. The Chair introduced himself, followed by the introductions of the Council members, Department of Fire Services' employees, and public members in attendance.

2. **Approval of past Meeting Minutes**

Marshal Davine made a motion to accept the minutes from January 28, 2026, seconded by Glenn Rooney. Deputy Chief Manning abstained since she missed the last meeting, the remaining members voted in favor, no further discussion.

3. **Discuss Tech Rescue Correspondence**

None

4. **Subcommittee Reports**

- a. Equipment – no meeting this month
- b. Membership – Deputy Chief Manning reported that the team met about a month ago. Still working on team director and training coordinator job descriptions, it will take a little bit of time to finish these. Then they will be sent to the SOG subcommittee.
- c. Training – Deputy Chief Manning added that the training subcommittee is still working on the training hours for water rescue. Next scheduled meeting is March 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- d. Policy/SOG – no meeting this month
- e. MOBEX – next planned meeting is 3/4/26

5. **Regional Reports**

- a. Region 1 – Neil Tuepker gave an update on the 5 county teams. Barnstable County had ice rescue in Eastham, spanning 1 week. First call out 1 victim was found, 6 days later the 2<sup>nd</sup> victim was found. Training was done on Confined Space. Bristol County had a monthly training unknown topic. Dukes County did Confined Space training and they did standby for Eversource trench work. Norfolk County training got snowed out, they did have a large animal rescue, but they were cancelled prior to arrival. Plymouth County did equipment specialist dive class and their annual meeting.
- b. Region 2 – Francis Otting reported that they had a successful ice drill in Everett with several communities. Boston had several elevator rescues that were successful, they also staffed 2 high water vehicles for the last 2 storms. Boston R1 successfully responded to an entrapment under a train. Subway car was jacked up and stabilized. Patient extricated and transported for treatment.
- c. Region 3 – Jon Martin reported that D7 had an arborist come in to do training on tree rescue. 3 large animal rescues, 1 call required the horse to be put down. Shawn Green reported that D14 selected Matt Boland

from Ashland as the new assistant team director. For training they did wide area search, simulating a natural disaster with missing people. They used SARCOP software for mapping the search. They had no call outs this month.

- d. Region 4 – Daryl Springman that their training was on SCT & heavy lift. on annual rope skills. One call out for a large animal rescue. Also, a consultation on a high angle rescue from a bridge. Team is due to receive their new truck soon.
- e. Region 5 – No update

## 6. **Old Business**

- a. Legislation update

Glenn Rooney stated that there was no change, still sitting at House Ways and Means.

- b. Review of Steering & Subcommittee membership

Paul Betti updated everyone on the status of the subcommittees & steering committees. Region 1 & 4 confirmed that their steering committees are in order, Francis Otting is working on Region 2. There is one issue that must be fixed in Region 5 in that a technician at large spot is now being held by an officer that was promoted. We have the same issue in Region 3 in that the technician at large spot is held by an officer in D8. There are still 2 open seats on the Mobex subcommittee for Region 3 D8 & D14.

## 7. **New Business**

- a. Project update of MFA Bridgewater Tech Rescue prop

David Clemons shared the new prop drawing; the team is getting ready to go out to bid. David is asking for volunteers from each of the regions to sit on the project management team. You don't have to make every meeting but looking to get representation. Maribel Fournier added that this prop is just the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the project. This prop would be used by MFA but can also be used by the regions by just signing a user agreement. We want to build the prop for the needs of the future, not just what we are doing now but 5-10 years from now. David is asking to send the regional reps to Paul Betti. Paul Betti added that we have representation now from Region 1 & 5 but could use help from Region 2, 3 & 4. Francis Otting got us a new member of Region 2 in Captain Patrick Halloran from Somerville.

## 8. **Any matters not reasonably anticipated by the Chair**

Paul Betti asked Shawn Green to discuss his use of the SARCOP software for a Region 3 D14 team drill. Shawn Green was able to login as Region 3. The software has several great training videos & presentations online on how to use the software. Shawn built a training event in the sandbox. They were able to search and upload photos from the field as Shawn watched their movement on the computer which is great for wide area searches. Can copy information from CalTopo or SarTopo and upload it into SARCOP. Paul Betti added that this could be important in the future if we want to keep supporting EMAC requests as this is what the federal teams use for software. A suggestion was to see if the other regions would be interested in testing it out, all 5 regions are already built in the software.

Chair Belsito asked Glenn Rooney if the state Tech Rescue teams would be grandfathered from having to be boater safety certified (Hanson Milone law). Marshal Davine stated that we would not be required to have it.

## 9. **Future Agenda Items**

**10. Determination of future meeting date**

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 25, 2025, at 11:00 am held virtually. Chair Belsito is not available so Paul Betti will send out a poll to find a new date the following week.

Marshal Davine made a motion to adjourn; Glenn Rooney seconded the motion. Roll call vote was made unanimously. The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:34 am.