



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**

March 30, 2026

Approved

The Massachusetts Technical Rescue Coordinating Council held a meeting in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. c. 30A § 20 on Monday, March 30, 2026, 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.
Iain McGregor, Vice Chair	Professional Fire Fighters of Mass.
Jason Saunders	Professional Fire Fighters of Mass.
Mark McCabe	Regional Technical Rescue Team
Jon Davine	State Fire Marshal
Susan Terrey	Deputy Secretary for EOPSS

Absent from the meeting were the following Council members:

DFS Employees in Attendance:

Maribel Fournier	Deputy State Fire Marshal
David Clemons	Director of Operations
Glenn Rooney	Legal Counsel to the Board
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
Garth McNamara	Region 1
Francis Otting	Region 2
Mike Lydon	Region 2
Sean White	Region 2
Shawn Green	Region 3
Peter Ostroskey Jr	Region 3

Daryl Springman
Paul Jacques
Janice Corkhum
Jay Moltenbrey
Jason Tierney

Region 4
PFFM
MA TF1
MA TF1
MAARNG

1. **Meeting Opening and Introductions**

Chief Matthew Belsito, Chairman, opened the meeting at approximately 11:05 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 February 25, 2026, seconded by Mark McCabe, no further discussion.

3. **Discuss Tech Rescue Correspondence**

None

4. **Subcommittee Reports**

- a. Equipment – Jason Saunders stated that the team is pairing down the vehicle list removing anything that is law enforcement or dive team. The next meeting is scheduled for April 1st.
- b. Membership – Deputy Chief Manning reported that the team met about a month ago, next scheduled meeting is April 7th. Team is still working on job descriptions for team director and training coordinator, as well as assistant team director and assistant training coordinator.
- c. Training – Vice Chair McGregor explained they were working on finishing the training matrix, last step is tweaking the boat operations section.
- d. Policy/SOG – no meeting this month, planning a meeting for April.
- e. MOBEX – Vice Chair McGregor explained that the last meeting was on March 9th. This was a brainstorming session where they planned to pick up where they left off as the concepts and objectives were already completed. Need to have follow-up discussions on funding. Plan is still to do a joint exercise with National Guard. Going to reach out to FCAM and DFS to get support before they schedule more meetings.

5. **Regional Reports**

- a. Region 1 – Mark McCabe gave an update on the 5 county teams. Barnstable County did rope training, and they had a call out for a dog trapped in a sinkhole in Falmouth. Bristol County had a monthly training on confined space and 1 large animal rescue. Dukes County has no update. Norfolk County had large animal and confined space training. They had a tier 1 response for a car into a building. Plymouth County did diver training and SCT training on search cameras and listening devices. They had a call out for a missing child in Marshfield.
- b. Region 2 – Francis Otting reported that Boston completed confined space training for 150 members. They also had many blind shaft elevator

rescues. Paul Morrisson from Cambridge is in Las Vegas teaching elevator rescue. Cambridge responded to a car into a building, with a medical. They had to provide medical services to the victim, safely remove the car and perform shoring. Chelsea had a successful bridge rescue using a rigging system from a tower bucket where the state trooper was able to retrieve the victim. Captain Halloran in Somerville completed a week long structural collapse training class. Elevator blind shaft rescue training was also completed.

- c. Region 3 – Shawn Green reported that D14 had a trench drill in Westboro. This was T style trench with collapse on both sides with 2 victims. The team had a choice of what type of whalers to use and what type of patient packaging. They used the Westboro ladder truck as a high point anchor. Everyone worked together to have a good drill. No call outs for the month.
- d. Region 4 – Daryl Springman stated that the team had 2 call outs this month. The first for the rescue of a hiker in Stockbridge with a leg injury. They used a 3-rope system and spent about 3-4 hours to perform the rescue. The 2nd call out was to Westfield for a victim in the river on a steep embankment, they were cancelled enroute. For training they did confined space and elevator shaft rescues. They also hosted 2 classes funded by Homeland Security Council on man versus machine rescue for 25 technicians. They also received funding to send 2 technicians to the upcoming medical specialist class in Beverly. They have 12 technicians going to water tech class and 12 technicians going to boat operations class. They are taking possession of their new truck tomorrow. For their EMAC joint effort with D7 the planning is going very well. They met with the western mass chiefs to discuss financial support for an EMAC deployment; they are forming a subcommittee to look into this.
- e. Region 5 – Vice Chair McGregor stated that they did trench training this month. They used an L style trench; they were given less whalers than they needed but had to figure it out. They used a cantilevered system and an end-to-end wall shoring system. A bigger discussion was around Homeland Security funding used for backfill & overtime must now be funded at 100% per EOPSS decision. This means there is no longer enough funding to cover all drills for the year. For now, April will be the last drill funded by Homeland security until July. Decision is with county chiefs now to make decision on how to proceed.
- f. MA TF1 – Janice Corkhum updated the council on the medical specialist class coming up at the end of April. There are 2 people from Region 4 that need to register and 2 out of the 8 in D7 that need to register and complete the CBT.

6. Old Business

a. Legislation update

Glenn Rooney stated that there was no change, Senate Bill 1742 was referred to Senate Committee Ways and Means on January 22nd and it remains there. The companion bill, House Bill 2565 remains with House Ways and Means as of September 22nd 2025.

b. Review of Steering & Subcommittee membership

Paul Betti updated everyone on the status of the steering committees. Region 2 Francis Otting is working on their updates. For Region 3, Chair Belsito and Paul Betti met with Chief Sullivan and Chief Sullivan at FCAM in February. Their plan will probably happen around the June timeframe as Chief Smith would move into Chief Sullivan's

position and then Chief Smith would vacate the slot for technician at large. Then somebody from D7, D8 or D14 would have to fill the open slot. 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 also need confirmation on all other slots. The last 2 open Mobex subcommittee spots were filled for Region 3 D8 & D14. Dave Chapin took the D8 slot, and Matt Boland took the D14 slot.

7. **New Business**

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

Paul Betti reminded the team that there were a couple council members that still needed to complete the mandatory conflict of interest training that Mary Lynch sent out.

Chair Belsito brought up the FIFA games coming up in June in Foxborough and the risk with current world situation. Are there any plans to pre-stage tech rescue teams for field force extrication (FFE). It would be quite difficult to get assets there if not already staged due to the crowd size/traffic. Deputy Secretary Terrey said she has been active in the planning and that she would be happy to bring it up. The team is working closely with Chief Kelleher and state police, but as of now this topic has not come up. Mark McCabe added that the Norfolk County team, working through their liaison is also working on a plan. Mike Lydon also added that Boston deputy in charge of field services is working on a plan for the city.

9. **Future Agenda Items**

10. **Determination of future meeting date**

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 22, 2025, at 11:00 am held virtually.

Mark McCabe made a motion to adjourn; Deputy Chief Manning seconded the motion. Roll call vote was made unanimously. The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:42 am.