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VICE CHAIR

**MASSACHUSETTS TECHNICAL RESCUE
COORDINATING COUNCIL**
May 28, 2025
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, May 28, 2025, at 10:00 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.
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:

Jason Saunders	Professional Fire Fighters of Mass.
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DFS Employees in Attendance:

Maribel Fournier	Deputy State Fire Marshal
Glenn Rooney	Legal Counsel to the Board
Jeff Winn	Director of HazMat & Special Operations
Paul Betti	Deputy Director Special Operations
Kerry Marcotte	Admin to HazMat & Special Operations

Other Attendees

Neil Tuepker	Region 1
Francis Otting	Region 2
Paul Morrison	Region 2
Mike Lydon	Region 2
Dave Randolph	Region 2
Daryl Springman	Region 4

Administrative Services • Division of Fire Safety
Hazardous Materials Response • Massachusetts Firefighting Academy

1. Meeting Opening and Introductions

Chief Matthew Belsito, Chairman, opened the meeting at approximately 10:02 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 April 23, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Vice Chair McGregor made a motion to accept the minutes from April 23, 2025, seconded by Deputy Chief Manning. A unanimous roll call vote was completed, no further discussion.

3. Discuss Tech Rescue Correspondence

Chair Belsito discussed that FCAM has new elected officers, Chief Purcell is now president, Chief Nardelli is the 1st vice president and Chief Norris is 2nd vice president.

4. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Equipment – No one present from this team. Vice Chair McGregor reported that he is making progress finding a new team rep for Region 5, he will bring the name forward once the steering committee approves.
- b. Membership – Deputy Manning indicated that there was a meeting on 5/27. The membership application approval is part of new business. The team also reviewed the new version of the application scoring tool, this will be sent to the council sometime over the summer.
- c. Training – Vice Chair McGregor indicated that the team is continuing work on the matrix with the target of 88 training hours. All the core disciplines are done with the hour's breakdown and the associated NFPA JPR's. Working on building specialties like large animal rescue, tower rescue and field force extrication. The breakdown will include the mandatory categories and then the optional categories that are not required to be done every year.
- d. Policy/SOG – Chair Belsito indicated that the team did not meet in May.
- e. MOBEX – still on hiatus

5. Regional Reports

- a. Region 1 – Mark McCabe gave updates for all 5 counties. Plymouth county had a call out for high angle rescue of an arborist that was stuck. For training they did breaching & breaking and lifting & moving as well as dive rescue drill. Barnstable county completed tower rescue drill and had 1 call out for large brush fire at Joint Base Cape Cod to be the RIT for possible extrication. Dukes county assisted a local department with patient extrication from a 2nd story wall, they also completed low angle rescue drill. Bristol county had a call out for large animal rescue; training was done for swift water and boat operations. Norfolk county did large animal rescue training in conjunction with MSPCA, Plymouth, Bristol and Barnstable counties.
- b. Region 2 –Paul Morrison stated they did a 5-day structural collapse refresher for about 100 members. They focused on shoring, rope, lifting & moving. On May 21st they conducted a drill on Deer Island treatment facility, it is a 5-story indoor subterranean structure. They focused on rope work in that space and had 4 out of the 9 communities participate.
- c. Region 3 – Chair Belsito shared that D7 & D8 did a disaster drill on Saturday

May 10th. The weather was not favorable, but the teams still enjoyed the drill. It was in partnership with Beth Israel Deaconess medical center; the drill was called Operation Force. The mission was to rescue people trapped under 2 army personnel carriers. Deputy Chief Manning shared that D7 also had a dive team drill on the same day in Fort Devens for motorized boat operations with hurricane anchoring. Their next dive team training will be on June 1st.

- d. Region 4 – Daryl Springman shared that at the end of last month they completed their vendor class on swift water tech class and swift boat operations. They completed their regular monthly training on structural collapse, with shoring and breaching as well as confined space. The team assisted OSHA with a trench rescue stand down day with a local training partner. For team call outs there was one to assist the DFS fire investigators with a fatal fire.
- e. Region 5 – Vice Chair McGregor reported that they did their April drill on trench basics focusing on void shoring in the trench. In May they assisted Gloucester fire with their annual confined space refresher. Their next drill will be June 9th & 10th in Andover, focusing on water rescue. They onboarded 2 new members, bringing their total to 52. The steering committee sent letters to members not maintaining 80% of training and 50% of requested call outs, stating they would be going into non-operational status.

6. **Old Business**

7. **New Business**

- a. Review and approve of 2025 MTRCC annual report
Chair Belsito stated that Paul Betti shared this document with the team. No concern with this report, Deputy Chief Manning made a motion to accept as written that was seconded by Mark McCabe, vote was unanimous.
- b. Review and approve membership application
Chair Belsito commented that the membership application was sent to the team by Paul Betti. Deputy Chief Manning thanked the team for working on this document. The application was based on HazMat's with some slight variation around training requirements. The application does also consider years of experience from a regional, district or county team as well as the position held on that team. The candidates also can attach a brief statement on why they want to join the team. Paul Betti added that the items highlighted in yellow are waiting for legislation approval. Vice Chair McGregor added that this application was tailored towards existing members that have been the boots on the ground for years. The signature page has a place for union president, town manager or selectman approval. Chair Belsito asked if it needed legal counsel review, Gleen Rooney stated that he had reviewed it and that it is ready for a motion. Vice Chair McGregor made a motion to accept as written, it was seconded by Mark McCabe, vote was unanimous.

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

Vice Chair McGregor shared that MATRS had their meeting on May 22nd in Ludlow. They had a little snafu with the keynote speaker not being able to attend, so they did a roundtable discussion about the council that was well received. At the meeting they also announced the next upcoming challenge on 9/18 at Battleship Cove in Fall River. Bristol county will be hosting this challenge; this will be a similar event to what was done at Fenway Park and 6 Flags. Each region will be allowed to send 12 members. They are going to include a dive

component in this event. Classes and demos are being setup during the day, and a reception the night before on 9/17. There will be a VIP viewing and a tour.

Vice Chair McGregor added that he has been communicating with Paul Jacques and that PFFM is pushing hard to get our bill before the Joint Committee for Public Safety and Homeland Security.

Paul Betti and Chair Belsito shared that this was Director Jeff Winn's last meeting with the council as he is retiring on 5/30. Our thanks for his support of the council and the fire service.

9. Future Agenda Items

10. Determination of future meeting date

Next meeting will be on Wednesday, June 25, 2025, at 11:00 am held virtually.

Deputy Chief Manning made a motion to adjourn; Mark McCabe seconded the motion. Roll call vote was made unanimously. The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:37 am.