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MATTHEW BELSITO
CHAIRMAN

IAIN MCGREGOR
VICE CHAIR

**MASSACHUSETTS TECHNICAL RESCUE
COORDINATING COUNCIL**
September 25, 2024
Approved

The Massachusetts Technical Rescue Coordinating Council held a virtual meeting in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. c. 30A § 20 on Wednesday, September 25, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. and open to the public virtually through Microsoft Teams videoconference.

Present at the meeting were the following Council members:

Chief Matthew Belsito, Chair
Deputy Chief Kelly Manning
Iain McGregor, Vice Chair
Jason Saunders
Mark McCabe
Jon Davine

Fire Chiefs Association of Mass.
Fire Chiefs Association of Mass.
Professional Fire Fighters of Mass.
Professional Fire Fighters of Mass.
Regional Technical Rescue Team
State Fire Marshal

Absent from the meeting were the following Council members:

Susan Terrey

Deputy Secretary for EOPSS

DFS Employees in Attendance:

Maribel Fournier
Glenn Rooney
Rachel Perlman
David Clemons
Jeff Winn

Deputy State Fire Marshal
Legal Counsel to the Board
Deputy Legal Counsel to the Board
Director of Operations
Director of HazMat/Special Operations

Other Attendees

Rob O'Brien
Francis Otting
Shawn Donovan
Tom Rinoldo
Daryl Springman
RJ Pensivy

Region 1
Region 2
Region 2
Region 3
Region 4
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 3:04 p.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 August 28, 2024, Meeting Minutes

Jason Saunders made a motion to accept the minutes from August 28, 2024, seconded by Iain McGregor. A unanimous roll call vote was completed, no further discussion.

3. Discuss Tech Rescue Correspondence

Some email communications between Jason Saunders and Rob O'Brien regarding water rescue equipment.

4. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Equipment – Jason Saunders reported that they didn't have a meeting. Still working on getting the equipment surveys back for the October 1st deadline. Region 1 provided detail on water rescue equipment for future survey.
- b. Membership – Deputy Chief Manning reported that the joint team didn't have a meeting in September, next meeting is scheduled for October 1st. The focus will be on the application form and scoring criteria.
- c. Training – same as above. Their specific focus will be on the JPR standard specific breakdown.
- d. Policy/SOG – Chair Belsito indicated that the team didn't meet yet as the meeting is scheduled for 9/26.
- e. MOBEX – still on hiatus

5. Regional Reports

- a. Region 1 – Mark McCabe reported the following details for each County team. Plymouth County had their regular monthly training and 2 call outs, 1 for wide area search and the other on a car rescue. The search and rescue was for a body retrieval for a deceased hunter. This complex rescue was a combination of trench & confined space in which the team did a great job. Norfolk County had no call outs but did training on boat operations and wide area search. Barnstable County no new info yet, will give update at next month's meeting. Bristol County did some trailer review and new membership training. Dukes County had no update.
- b. Region 2 – Shawn Donovan reported that Boston hosted the training event at Fenway Park event on 9/12. They had 2 blind elevator shaft rescues that were resolved without issue. A porch collapse that needed little response from Tech Rescue. A water response for a deceased person. Francis Otting reported that members started training with the state on swift water. A full training report will be given next month.
- c. Region 3 – Tom Rinoldo indicated they participated in the drill at Fenway Park, all teams did a great job. D14 training resumed with structural collapse breaching & breaking and lifting & moving drill. Recertified members on Field Forces Extrication (FFE). New trench rescue trailer going into service, purchased with a donation. This will be housed in Framingham station 5. Chairman Belsito stated that D7 ran a 5-day DRI swift water training, now have 12-15 swift water technicians.
- d. Region 4 – Daryl Springman stated they 2 call outs since last meeting. Rope

work to assist Amherst who had a person who slid off a trail. A structural shoring incident in Agawam for a vehicle that took out part of a 2-story house foundation, rakers were installed. Monthly training at Chesterfield gorge, did water search & rescue, land wide area search and rope. 2-3 people going to FFE recertification in Alabama. 12 members will be attending a 4-day water class coming up in 2 weeks, sponsored by Homeland Security. Team participated in Fenway Park drill; the team loved it. Next week they will be drilling on trench rescue. Starting to actively work on deployment package for EMAC requests.

- e. Region 5 – Iain McGregor reported that they just did 2 days on search for missing person at Middlesex fells reservation. They have underground storage tank and above ground ponds that are secured and prompt a response by state police. Squad competition drill at camp Curtis Guild coming up in October. Team updated their equipment request to NERAC. Acquired an old rescue to fill in for vehicle that failed. Oil leak on an existing box truck that is going in for maintenance. Team also participated in Fenway Park drill.

6. Old Business

- a. MATRS event on 9/12

Chairman Belsito wanted to thank Boston Fire and MATRS for hosting an incredible event at Fenway Park on 9/12. Marshal Davine also echoed the amount of work to set this up and that the teams did an excellent job highlighting what a technical rescue is. Showing off the equipment and training needed to demonstrate these tasks. Francis Otting thanked Captain Donvan and MATRS for hosting this event. Daryl Springman shared that the evaluations have been reviewed to capture learnings for the future. Iain McGregor thanked Mike Caddell and Scott Jensen for working with Captain Donovan to make all this happen. Captain Donovan also acknowledged the support of MATRS to make this happen.

7. New Business

- a. Annual election of Chair/Vice Chair

Chair Belsito turned this part of meeting over to Glenn Rooney. Glenn stated that per statute 22D section 6 that an election is done annually, typically done in September. Nominations were opened for Chair for a one-year term, Iain McGregor nominated Chief Matthew Belsito, seconded by Deputy Chief Kelly Manning. A unanimous roll call vote was completed, no further discussion. Chief Belsito accepted the nomination. Nominations were opened for Vice Chair for a one-year term, Deputy Chief Kelly Manning nominated Iain McGregor, seconded by Mark McCabe. A unanimous roll call vote was completed, no further discussion. Iain McGregor accepted the nomination.

8. Any matters not reasonably anticipated by the Chair

9. Future Agenda Items

10. Determination of future meeting date

Next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 23, 2024, at 10:00 am 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 3:36 pm.