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IAIN MCGREGOR
VICE CHAIR

**MASSACHUSETTS TECHNICAL RESCUE
COORDINATING COUNCIL**
October 23, 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, October 23, 2024, 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
Maribel Fournier (designee)	Deputy State Fire Marshal

Absent from the meeting were the following Council members:

Susan Terrey	Deputy Secretary for EOPSS
Jon Davine	State Fire Marshal
Jason Saunders	Professional Fire Fighters of Mass.

DFS Employees in Attendance:

Glenn Rooney	Legal Counsel to the Board
Rachel Perlman	Deputy Legal Counsel to the Board
Jeff Winn	Director of HazMat/Special Operations
Paul Betti	Deputy Director of Special Operations

Other Attendees

Neil Tuepker	Region 1
Shawn Simmon	Region 1
Francis Otting	Region 2
Paul Morrison	Region 2
Mike Moran	Region 2
Mike Pavone	Region 2
Bob Bottary	Region 2

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

Mike Lydon
Jon Martin
Daryl Springman
RJ Pensivy
John Weir

Region 2
Region 3
Region 4
Region 4
Region 5

1. Meeting Opening and Introductions

Chief Matthew Belsito, Chairman, opened the meeting at approximately 10:04 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 September 25, 2024, Meeting Minutes

Iain McGregor made a motion to accept the minutes from September 25, 2024, seconded by Mark McCabe. A unanimous roll call vote was completed, no further discussion.

3. Discuss Tech Rescue Correspondence

Some email communications between Paul Betti and the subcommittee chairs regarding next meetings.

4. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Equipment – Paul Betti read the report that Jason Saunders sent in. The subcommittee didn't have a meeting, but they are still working on getting the equipment surveys back. Missing surveys from Region 1 Plymouth County, Region 3 D8 & D14, and Region 5. Iain McGregor shared his recommendation after speaking with Jason Saunders, that the council should reach out to these teams for help. The council should also ask Region 5 steering committee to find an active member for this subcommittee.
- b. Membership – Deputy Chief Manning reported that the joint team met on October 8th. The team discussed the membership application form and scoring. Will have updated document for the next meeting on November 12th. The focus will be on the member application form and the NFPA training matrix.
- c. Training – same as above. Their specific focus will be on the NFPA standard specific breakdown. The team also added water to the matrix.
- d. Policy/SOG – Chair Belsito indicated that the team met on October 17th. They had a great meeting; focus was on reviewing the new SOG list. They expect that in November the council will be seeing some SOG's. In review of the SOG list it became apparent that this subcommittee needs help. They did discuss adding some subject matter experts to the subcommittee, or just invite them into the meeting to do a workshop. Glenn Rooney weighed in that they could be involved but that we must be mindful that if a quorum of the subcommittee is met then we are bound by open meeting law.
- e. MOBEX – still on hiatus

5. Regional Reports

- a. Region 1 – Mark McCabe reported the following details for each County team. Plymouth County did 2 dive drills and had 1 call out for wide area search for a missing person in Middleborough. Norfolk County did a trench, GPS & Cal Topo drill and had no call outs. Barnstable County did a trench drill and had no call outs. Bristol County did a trench drill and had no call outs. Dukes County

had no call out and no drills.

- b. Region 2 – Paul Morrison stated that swift/flood water training was done in western part of the state. Also completed confined space and high angle drill on the USS Salem simultaneously. Mike Moran stated that 20 members attended that swift/flood water training, bringing the total trained to 80-90 members that will help with in state response as well as future EMAC requests. Boston working on Tunnel Mask (Draeger BG4) training. One call out for porch collapse in Boston.
- c. Region 3 – Jon Martin indicated that D7 had no calls in last month but did host the DRI swift water class, 20+ people went through the weeklong training. For monthly training, it was split between wide area search at old Sturbridge village and trench training in Millbury. Dive training for recovery of underwater vehicle. D14 had 0 call outs but completed dive training, trench training and put a new trailer into service. D8 training continuing as normal, several dive call outs but no specific details received.
- d. Region 4 – Daryl Springman stated they had trench training drill. 12 people attended vendor taught swift water 1 & 2 class. Some new equipment put into service. Delivery of high-water vehicle expected in next couple months. Call out to Mt Greylock in North Adams to assist a hiker, took 3 hours and 12 technicians to resolve. Had a steering committee meeting, elected a new assistant team leader for division 1.
- e. Region 5 – John Weir reported that they just did 2-day drill at Camp Curtis Guild focusing on wide area & grid search combined with SCT. It was a competition-based training between the squads. 3rd truck put in service to help with aging equipment. Iain McGregor stated that their 2 new members just started their 6-month probation.

6. **Old Business**

- a. D4H implementation discussion

Paul Betti raised concerns by the membership/training subcommittee in the delay of implementation of D4H until the legislation passed. Earlier discussions on D4H/Mobex were clarified and DFS is working to confirm that D4H is in Spec Ops budget. Glenn Rooney offered that MGL 22D section 6 allows DFS to appropriate staff and other support of the council, and D4H would fit in that category. Paul Betti stated that Region 5 already has D4H as does Boston Fire, so we have some experts already on the team. DFS Special Operations is implementing this software at present. Iain McGregor stated that this would be a positive thing to the boots on the ground to implement this software to show progress.

7. **New Business**

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

Mark McCabe asked about any updates to the legislation. Glenn Rooney responded that there were no new updates.

9. **Future Agenda Items**

10. **Determination of future meeting date**

Next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 20, 2024, at 10:00 am virtually.

Mark McCabe made a motion to adjourn, Iain McGregor seconded the motion. Roll call vote was made unanimously. The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:37 am.