



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**

November 26, 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, November 26, 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
 Deputy Chief Kelly Manning
 Iain McGregor, Vice Chair
 Jason Saunders
 Mark McCabe
 Susan Terrey
 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
 Deputy Secretary for EOPSS
 State Fire Marshal

Absent from the meeting were the following Council members:

DFS Employees in Attendance:

David Clemons
 Rachel Perlman
 Paul Betti
 Kerry Marcotte

Director of Operations
 Deputy Legal Counsel to the Board
 Deputy Director Special Operations
 Admin to HazMat & Special Operations

Other Attendees

John Burke
 Mike Lydon
 Shawn Green
 Daryl Springman
 RJ Pensivy
 Paul Jacques
 Janice Corkhum
 Jay Moltenbrey

Region 1
 Region 2
 Region 3
 Region 4
 Region 4
 PFFM
 MA TF1
 MA TF1

1. Meeting Opening and Introductions

Chief Matthew Belsito, Chairman, opened the meeting at approximately 10:11 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

Vice Chair McGregor made a motion to accept the minutes from October 22, 2025, seconded by Deputy Chief Manning. A unanimous roll call vote was completed, no further discussion.

3. Discuss Tech Rescue Correspondence

None

4. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Equipment – Jason Saunders stated that the team is still working on water assets and that they have identified some deficiencies. Another thing identified is the lack of tents and go bags. Region 4 does not supply their technicians with go bags, unknown what other regions are doing. Another small logistical issue found is that every trailer has a spare tire, but these are never maintained and could ground an operation. Chair Belsito added that District 7 partnered with CMED to use their shelter trailer & tents should they get deployed with region 4 for an EMAC. Paul Betti added that we need a new member from region 3 as Chief Rogowski has left the state.
- b. Membership – Deputy Chief Manning reported that they have a meeting coming up on 12/2. Some of the work to be done is application scoring tool and standardization of job descriptions.
- c. Training – Vice Chair McGregor reported that they have a joint meeting with membership on 12/2. They are working on the last piece of motorized watercraft. Plan to ask Paul Morrison to work with RJ Pensivy to finish this up. Paul Betti added that we need a new member from region 3 as Tom Rinoldo is getting ready to retire in January. Chair Belsito asked Shawn Green if he would be willing to take that position and he is but he is awaiting the decision by the D14 Chiefs.
- d. Policy/SOG – Chair Belsito indicated they would be having a meeting soon.
- e. MOBEX – still on hiatus

5. Regional Reports

- a. Region 1 – Chair Belsito wanted to give kudos to the Barnstable and Plymouth County teams for their response to Yarmouth trench collapse. This was an odd situation as it was a collapse outside of the trench box. Chief O'Brien indicated to Chair Belsito that the vac trucks were a huge success and that all agencies partnered well.
- b. Region 2 – Mike Lydon reported that they had just completed basic tech rescue intro class for 30 students from Boston. Then 2 weeks later they did the same class for another 30 UASI members. Many region 2 members attended the structural collapse specialist course at MA TF 1 in Beverly. Cross training was done with Cambridge, Boston and

Somerville on pick offs and rope rescue. Dive drills for Boston and Cambridge. One response for a blind shaft elevator rescue.

- c. Region 3 – Shawn Green reported that D14 had no call outs but did training in Maynard for confined space and tree rescue. For the confined space they were at the water treatment plant working below ground. For the tree rescue the victim was trapped in their harness and they had to lower them to the ground.
- d. Region 4 – Daryl Springman that they did 1 confined space standby detail. They had one call out to rescue 2 people that had jumped from a bridge and had to be rescued by rope. For training the focus was on rope rescue. Region 4 was able to secure some partial funding from HLS and Western Ma Chiefs. They have 5 or 6 members planning to retire at the beginning of the year, they have started interviewing for their replacement.
- e. Region 5 – Vice Chair McGregor shared that their November training was postponed to April due to government shutdown and not being able to get their EHP study processed. December training is interior structural shoring at an old school in Melrose. They had no call outs and membership is at 49 members. Still waiting on one of their trucks to return from getting an engine replacement.
- f. Mass Task Force 1 – Jay Moltenbrey shared that they completed a MOBEX at Joint base Cape Cod, it was a 36-hour operational period. Exercise went well; evaluators came in from across the nation. They completed their 8-day structural collapse class. Their medical specialist class is coming up in April.

6. **Old Business**

- a. Legislation update

Vice Chair McGregor stated that the bill hasn't been scheduled yet for a hearing at House Ways and Means. The Vice Chair added that he asked some of his local people to apply pressure to try to get the bill moving. Paul Betti added that according to the House Ways and Means website that the bill arrived on 9/22, but no hearing has been scheduled.

7. **New Business**

- a. Getting Mass Task Force 1 support

Paul Betti reminded the council that last month there was a question about how to get MA TF 1 help, I said I would follow up on this. Paul Betti reached out to Rich Latour at MEMA. Rich Latour stated that they have an MOU with MA TF1 but that DFS would have to have their own otherwise they can only be activated for a state of emergency. Jay Moltenbrey stated that this work started 1.5 years ago when Chair Belsito, Vice Chair McGregor and Paul Betti visited Beverly. The focus of the discussion is that MA TF1 has resources like structural engineers and canines that could be beneficial to the state system. A few concerns are licensure of the engineers in the state of Massachusetts since their people come from all over New England, personal liability and cost. Overall, they are willing to work with DFS to put something together in the future. Dave Clemons added that this may be partially resolved as there are talks about adding Tech Rescue to Fire Mobilization. Paul Betti also that he had a conversation with Glenn Rooney about the MOU, Glenn Rooneys comment was the MOU would have to wait till we become a state system.

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

Chair Belsito shared that 2 weeks ago D7 was contacted to possibly provide Tech

Rescue support to Connecticut. Communication was made between David Clemon, the Marshal and Paul Betti to Chair Belsito, Chair Belsito then contacted representatives from Connecticut. The response didn't happen, but it stirred a lot of discussion as to how we correctly cross state lines. Chair Belsito alluded to that he knew Fire Marshal Davine had been talking with other New England Fire Marshals. Fire Marshal Davine added that 2 years ago there was a similar situation in HazMat where there was tanker rollover in Providence. The Marshal has had conversations with New York, Connecticut and Vermont about sharing resources and about writing up a MOU. Legal counsels have been talking as well as MEMA. Daryl Springman added that 10 years ago they were requested to respond to New York and Vermont. Vice Chair McGregor also added that Portsmouth New Hampshire had requested support. Another concern brought up by Fire Marshal Davine, Daryl Springman and Vice Chair McGregor was being able to have a compact to allow the teams to train in other states as they have some great resources in New York and New Hampshire. More information to come.

Chief John Burke informed the council that on November 20th he testified at the Joint Committee on Emergency Preparedness and Management on the topic of federal funding & policy impacts. Chief Burke had a side bar conversation with the Chair Representative Steven Ultrino and ranking minority Representative Steven Xiarhos about not forgetting about state Tech Rescue regarding the possibility of federal funding being slashed.

Chair Belsito wanted to officially welcome our new EOPSS Secretary Gina K. Kwon as well as thank Deputy Secretary Susan Terrey for her continued support. He also wanted to wish everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

9. Future Agenda Items

10. Determination of future meeting date

Next meeting will be on Wednesday, December 24, 2025, at 11:00 am held virtually.

Fire Marshal Davine made a motion to adjourn; Vice Chair McGregor seconded the motion. Roll call vote was made unanimously. The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:59 am.