Minutes

Central Region Homeland Security Advisory Council

Tuesday, May 5, 2020 3:00 PM

CMEMSC

361 Holden Street

Holden, MA 01520

Members Present: **Jim Barclay**, EMD, Town of Royalston; **Neal Aspesi**, Emergency Mgmt./Fire, Town of Southborough; **Nicholas DaDalt**, CMEMSC; **Kevin Roy**, Fire Chief, City of Fitchburg; **C. Thomas O’Donnell**, Police Chief, Town of West Brookfield; **William Lyver**, Police Chief, Town of Northborough; **Christopher Montiverdi**, Public Health, Town of Leicester; **Dean Kochanowski**, Fire Chief, Town of Dudley; **Carl Ekman**, Charlton EMD; **Patrick Purcell**, Fire Chief, Town of Westborough; **Julie Jacobson**, Town Manager, Town of Auburn; **Nicholas DaDalt**, CMEMSC.

Members Absent: **Marc Kasaras**, WCSO; **Lewis Evangelidis**, Worcester County Sheriff; **Michael Lavoie**, Fire Chief, City of Worcester; **John Broach**, MD, MPH, Dir. Div. of Disaster Medicine and EM, UMass Memorial; **Steven Sargent**, Police Chief, City of Worcester; **Thomas Ford**, Police Chief, Sturbridge Police Department; **David Trabucco,** WRTA; **Russ Hall**, Fire Chief, Town of Holden; **Andrew Klein,** VP of Student Affairs, Anna Maria College; **William Coyle**, DPW, Town of Auburn.

Non-Voting Attendees Present: **Peter Peloquin**, CMRPC; **Ali Novak** CMRPC; **Anthony Senesi**, CMRPC; **Trish Settles** CMRPC; **Gary Fleischer**, Worcester Fire Department; **Kristen Jerome,** MEMA; **Greg Lynskey**, South Worcester Communications Center; **Amy Reilly,** MAPC; **Paul Normandin**, District 7 Southbridge FD; ; **Matthew Belsito,** Fire Chief, Town of Sutton.

Call to Order: Chairman, Chief Dean Kochanowski called the meeting to order at 3:05 PM.

Minutes: Chief O’Donnell motioned to accept the meeting minutes of February 9th, 2020 seconded by Chief Roy. All in favor, except Julie Jacobson who abstained. **Motion approved**.

Financials: Mr. Peloquin gave the report.

FFY2018 Budget Review

He discussed each line item and past transfers, which appears in the Agenda packet.

FFY2019 Budget Review

Financial Transfers

These transfers were approved in subcommittees back in March, but have not yet been approved by full Council.

1. FY18 transfer $680 from line J to line F
2. Transfer $18,175 from line B the Mobile Resources Toolbox to line H Active Threat Training Mobile Exercise for Western Worcester County
3. FY19 Transfer $5,448 from line K, ASHER Active Threat Equipment to line L, Wachusett Regional Active Shooter Equipment.

Mr. Barclay made motion to approve the budget transfers, seconded by Chief O’Donnell, all in favor, **motion approved.**

LETPA Spending Update

Nothing has changed, the Council is projected to have around 20% LEPTA. Once the Council approves the additional trainings, LETPA will be over 25%.

Committee Reports

Chairman’s Report: Chief Kochanowski

Resignation of Chief Thomas Ford

Chief Ford is retiring at the end of the month. He will be missed and we all thank him for the service on the Council. This opens up a law enforcement position on the Council. An email will be sent to the membership regarding nominations for the position.

Discussion: CRHSAC Council Membership

To remove the K-12 Education seat and replace with Cybersecurity Information Technology Administration seat. Mr. Ekman made the motion to approve the bylaw change, seconded by Chief O’Donnell, all in favor, **motion approved.**

Update: Allowable Expenditures Under HSGP in Response to COVID-19

EOPSS sent a reminder to the Council that if we are spending funds on PPE, the purchases have to have a nexus of homeland security first and then can be used as a second priority after that.

Equipment Sub Committee Report: Chief Patrick Purcell gave the report.

Subcommittee Chair Report: None

Project update: PJ18-2.01 Equipment Resources Map (FFY2018)

The project is complete. The link is live on the website, there is a mobile version as well.

Project update: PJ18-4.01 CMDART Equipment (FFY2018)

Project has been complete

Project update: PJ18-5.01 Fire District 7 Ice Dive Equipment (FFY2018)

EOPSS has approved the project.

Project update: PJ18-5.05 Fire District 8 Dive Team Equipment (FFY2018)

The equipment manufacturer, Divers United, is closed due to COVID-19.

Project update: PJ18-6.02 Fire District 7 & 8 Trench Rescue Equipment & Trailer (FFY2018)

The first round of equipment has arrived, there should be a delivery from Tech Rescue for Oxford and Lunenburg. The second round of POs have been sent out.

Project update: PJ18-6.05 Fire District 7 Trench Rescue Trailer (FFY2018)

Unsure if the Rescue Trailer has been delivered. The POs have been sent out, awaiting delivery.

Project update: PJ18-6.06 Fire District 14 Tech Rescue Boat (FFY2018)

Have not heard back from FEMA, awaiting a signature and final approval.

Project update: PJ18-6.07 Fire District 7 Trench Rescue Equipment (FFY2018)

Was delivered yesterday or it has been delivered today, 5/5/20.

PJ18-8.02 Fire District 14 Tactical Gear (FFY2018)

This project is complete.

Project update: PJ18-8.09 CEMLEC Robot (FFY2018)

The robot was delivered in late March, the training had to be postponed due to COVID-19

Project update: PJ18-8.10 CEMLEC SWAT Equipment (FFY2018)

Project has been complete

Project update: PJ19-10.01 ASHER Training Equipment (FFY2019)

Awaiting EOPSS approval, Central region is awaiting a few items to be approved.

Update: Council’s American Red Cross Canteen Vehicle

Salvation Army’s national lawyers did not want to sign the MOU, they didn’t want to pay for the upkeep, insurance, and maintenance of the vehicle. This includes lending the vehicle out. However, as the Council has reiterated that when someone takes the vehicle out it is their complete and full responsibility. On April 10th Mr. Peloquin had a meeting with representatives from the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army, the American Red Cross stated that they do not have ownership of the vehicle and they do not want it on their property. They gave CRHSAC 5 days to get the vehicle off Red Cross’ property.

Fitchburg Fire picked up the vehicle. Grafton FD is interested in hosting the vehicle, and they are willing to sign a MOU with FD7, FD8, FD14. Eventually, Salvation Army said they were not willing to host the vehicle.

Mr. Ekman made a motion to approve the transfer of the Canteen Vehicle to Grafton FD, Chief Purcell seconded the motion, all in favor, except Chief Roy who voted no, **motion approved.**

New Business: Request for Information: CMED Generator

Tabled from March. A community has expressed interest, this would take a lease payment off the books. A test of the generator needs to occur again due to an error with the vendor. Mr. DaDalt recommend to table this to a further date until the Central Region can get some testing for the generator. The motion has been tabled.

New Business: Amendment: PJ18-8.02 Fire District 14 Tactical Gear (FFY2018)

This was approved in March subcommittee for $5769. Chief Purcell made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Ekman, all in favor, **motion approved.**

New Business: PJ19-12.01 Wachusett Area Active Shooter Equipment (FFY2019)

This was approved to amend the extra equipment. The Council approved a motion to transfer $5722 from the Asher training line to Equipment training line. The Council only needed $5448 transferred. Chief Purcell made a motion to amend the transfer to $5448, seconded by Mr. Ekman, all in favor, **motion approved.**

New Business: PJ19-18.02 Radiological Dispersal Device Equipment (FFY2019)

Chief Purcell made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Ekman, all in favor, motion approved.

New Business: PJXX-X.XX Gas Calibration Stations Upgrade

Tabled to a later date.

Inter-Operability Sub Committee Report: Mr. James Barclay

Subcommittee Chair Report: None

Project update: PJ18-9.01-Fire District 8 High Band Repeater System Upgrade (FFY2018)

Awaiting to hear back from FD8 Board of Directors. Tabled for the next meeting.

Project update: PJ19-10.01 WCSO MCU Radio Upgrades (FFY2019)

Received SIE approval, awaiting on EOPSS to approve the project. Mr. Peloquin will contact EOPSS again.

PJ x-.xx Worcester Aluma Tower Upgrade

The subcommittee received a quote for the tower upgrade. Mr. Peloquin stated that there is enough leftover funds to go ahead with this project.

Mr. Barclay made a motion to allocate no more than $15,000 for the Worcester Aluma Tower Upgrade, seconded by Chief Lyver. All in favor, **motion approved.**

Discussion: Formation of a Regional Information Center (RIC)

Due to COVID-19 it has been on hold.

Training Sub Committee Report: Lt. Neal Aspesi

Subcommittee Chair Report

Project Complete: TRR18-1.03 Council Support MCPPO Training (FFY2018)

Project update: TRR18-3.01 MCPPO Cybersecurity Training (FFY2018)

The training was held on March 10th, 31 people attended the event. 27 people from the Central region, 4 people from outside the region. 16 reimbursements were given out, totaling $3,200. That leaves the balance of $6,800. The training was well received. Mr. Peloquin recommended that if the Council holds this event again, that departments choose people who may likely click risky links. It is not recommended for IT experts.

Project update: TRR18-5.06 – Fire District 7 Ice Dive Training (FFY2018)

EOPSS approved the training. Mr. Peloquin will be working on an EHP.

Project update: TRR18-8.06 Spencer Stop the Bleed Training (FFY2018)

The trainings were held in late January and early February. There are no trainings for the foreseeable future due to COVID-19. There will be money left over in this line.

Project update: TRR18-8.11 – Worcester Airport ASHER Training (FFY2018)

The training was supposed to happen in April. POC said that they will postpone the meeting to a later date.

Project update: Heavy Vehicle Rescue Training (FFY2018)

A motion to approve by Mr. Ekman, seconded by Chief Roy, all in favor, **motion approved.**

New Business: TRR18-8.12 Blackstone Area Active Shooter Training (FFY2018)

Approved during the March subcommittee meeting. The training will be held on August 19th.

A motion to approve overtime pay for $6400 by Chief O’Donnell, seconded by Chief Roy, all in favor, **motion approved.**

New Business: TRR19-5.01 Fire District 7, 8 & 14 Structural Collapse Training (FFY2019)

Submitted by D7. It was approved in March. Mr. Peloquin recommends to amend, and take 89717.50 from the Tech Rescue mobile exercise line item. A motion to approve 89,717.50 for the training by Mrs. Jacobson, seconded by Chief Roy, all in favor, **motion approved**.

New Business: TRR18-8.13 – Western Worcester Area ASHER Training (FFY2018)

The training was supposed to happen during April vacation. It has been postponed to a later date due to COVID-19.

New Business: TRR19-18.01-- Radiological Dispersal Device Training

To supply the catering. It needs to get approved ASAP through the Council, MEMA, and EOPSS. Total $2400, $600 a day. A motion to approve by Mr. Ekman, seconded by Chief Lyver, all in favor, **motion approved.**

Planning Subcommittee Report: Chief Kochanowski

Subcommittee Chair Report: The Planning Subcommittee met in April

Project update: PJ19-1.01 – Council Program Support (FFY2019)

Awaiting EOPSS approval.

Discussion: FFY2020 Plan Submission

On April 1st the plan was approved by the Planning Subcommittee. A motion to approve by Mr. Montiverdi, seconded by Ms. Jacobson, all in favor, **motion approved.**

Mass Care/Sheltering Report: Chris Montiverdi

Subcommittee Chair Report

Discussion: Transfer of Canteen Vehicle

Covered under the Equipment Subcommittee.

Discussion: FFY2020 Projects

Mass Care and Sheltering Committee has been reconstituted statewide to support COVID-19 and review plans for hurricane season.

CMRPC: Ali Novak introduces herself to CRHSAC. She is the new Homeland Security Council Coordinator. Ali has a background in emergency preparedness. She has a lot of experience working with municipalities, planning, public health, etc.

CMRPC has been doing a lot of work in regards to public health for the unaffiliated Boards of Health in Central Massachusetts. CMRPC is also working on the economic front for small businesses.

MAPC: MAPC is working remotely, payments and procurements are still running on time.

EOPSS: EOPSS was not present at the meeting.

MEMA: MEMA has hired a new local coordinator, and they began in late March. Disaster recovery webinars have been occurring. MEMA has also been sharing information and resources from FEMA as well. MEMA has been getting questions from citizens regarding if MEMA will be providing masks, which is not the case for citizens.

New Business Unforeseen by the Chair: None

Next Meeting: June 2, 2020 – Virtual Zoom Meeting

Adjourn: Chief Roy made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:03 PM, seconded by Chief O’Donnell, **motion approved.**

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Meeting minutes taken and prepared by Anthony Senesi, CMRPC.