Minutes

Central Region Homeland Security Advisory Council

Tuesday, June 2, 2020 3:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

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; **Julie Jacobson**, Town Manager, Town of Auburn; **Russ Hall**, Fire Chief, Town of Holden; **William Coyle**, DPW, Town of Auburn.

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; **David Trabucco,** WRTA; **Andrew Klein,** VP of Student Affairs, Anna Maria College; **Patrick Purcell**, Fire Chief, Town of Westborough.

Non-Voting Attendees Present: **Peter Peloquin**, CMRPC; **Ali Novak** CMRPC; **Anthony Senesi**, CMRPC; **Gary Fleischer**, Worcester Fire Department; **Kristen Jerome,** MEMA; **Amy Reilly,** MAPC; **Paul Normandin**, District 7 Southbridge FD; **Michael Shanley,** Worcester EM; **Seth Bouvier**, EOPSS; **Carrie Clifton.**

Call to Order: Chairman, Chief Dean Kochanowski called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM.

Minutes: Chief Roy motioned to accept the meeting minutes of May 5th, 2020 seconded by Mr. Montiverdi. All in favor, **motion approved**.

Financial Report

FFY2018 Budget Review

The Council Support is on track. We will be submitting April’s reimbursements shortly. Line B, the Mobile Resources Toolbox is closed out. After the financial transfer, we will have $3372.53 left on Line B. After the financial transfer Line C, Cybersecurity Training has $15,000. Line D is closed out.

Line E has a couple projects remaining, such as the Dive Team SCUBA equipment. Tech and Rescue F2, F5, F6 are well under way. Line G has $4,540.00. Line H has some training related projects which are not able to move forward due to COVID-19. There is $60,000 remaining in Line H.

FFY2019 Budget Review

Nothing has been invoiced yet, nothing has changed.

Financial Transfers

There was a financial transfer for the Statewide Cybersecurity training that will occur in October. The transfer was for FFY18 in the amount of $1,200 from Line B, the mobile resources toolbox to Line C, Cybersecurity Training. Lt. Aspesi made a motion to approve the financial transfer as presented, seconded by Chief O’Donnell. All in favor, **motion approved**.

LETPA Spending Update

For FFY18 the Council has roughly spent 15% on LEPTA. The last remaining 10% hinges on whether or not we will conduct the trainings. FFY18 budget deadline has been pushed to March 31st 2021.

For FFY19 the amount spent on LEPTA is 0%, the projected amount is 56%. With that information, Mr. Peloquin recommends to the Council to move some of the FFY19 projects to FFY18, so the Council can increase LEPTA spending.

Chairman’s Report: Chief Kochanowski gave the report.

Chief Kochanowski stated that Chief Roy is one of the original members of CRHSAC, he will be retiring. He will be missed. Chief Roy stated that CRHSAC has been a great experience and that he has met a lot of people through the Council. Carl Ekman will be leaving the Council effective June 30th, he will be leaving to take a position in the private sector.

Mr. Peloquin stated that there are three open seats (Fire, Police, and Emergency Management). For the Cybersecurity seat, last meeting there was motion to change the bylaw. The bylaw has to be underwritten review for 3o days. The 30th day will be Friday, June 5th.

Russ Hall will be taking over Chief Roy’s seat. Lt. Aspesi has asked to be appointed to Mr. Ekman’s vacant seat. Mr. Barclay recommends that the Council organize what positions are vacant over the summer.

Equipment Sub Committee Report: Mr. Peloquin gave the report

Completed Projects:

PJ18-2.01 Equipment Resources Map (FFY2018)

The Map is online and running, the mobile version is available on the website. Crhsac.org. Mr. Peloquin highly suggests to the Council to spread the word regarding the Map.

PJ18-8.10 CEMLEC SWAT Equipment (FFY2018)

All that is left is the final payment, everything else is complete.

Project Updates:

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

We are still working the spec list with POC and MAPC. Ali Novak will take the lead on that and into all of the spec lists.

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

We still haven’t heard anything from the manufacturer, United Divers. If the Council recalls from last month, United Divers had to close down the factory due to COVID-19. We have not heard back from United Divers recently.

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

The first delivery has been made, there was one minor discrepancy with some saw blades, they were sent back without any issue. We are awaiting confirmation of the IPS delivery, it was delivered but they are creating an inventory to make sure everything is there. The masks and filters that we were supposed to get from Tech Rescue are on backorder. Those are all KN95s, obviously they are taking precedent with other orders right now. We sent out the invoice with everything excluding the masks and filters. We have no word on when they will get delivered. The second round of bids for the second round of equipment is expected to come in this Friday (6/5).

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

The trailer has not be delivered. Mr. Peloquin contacted the manufacturer, the plant had been closed due to COVID-19. Mr. Peloquin was told that the trailer is currently in production and has the potential to ship in two weeks. Mr. Peloquin stated that the latest it should be delivered is by the end of June.

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

We received the FEMA approval letter on May 27th. We are working to develop the specs now

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

There were a few Tech Rescue discrepancies, relatively minor, we received the wrong saw blades, FD8 ended up with a set they didn’t order, and FD7 received the wrong set. There was also a discrepancy with two 300ft ropes, there was supposed to be one red and one blue. However, both came in red. The saw blades are expected to arrive today (6/2), the blue rope is on backorder, it should come in 2-3 weeks. FD8 round two of expected bids are expected to come in this Friday (6/5).

PJ18-8.09 CEMLEC Robot (FFY2018)

The robot came in late March. We sent out an invoice to pay for everything but the training. The training has yet to be rescheduled. The invoice that was sent out was $60,695, this increased the LEPTA to 15%.

PJ19-10.01 ASHER Training Equipment (FFY2019)

This will be renamed as the Borough’s MILO training system, ASHER Training is vague. We received confirmation on Friday that we have to do an EHP on this, because the projector has to be mounted into the ceiling.

PJ18-8.02 Fire District 14 Tactical Gear (FFY2018)

We received EOPSS approval for that amendment, so we are going to work with POC and MAPC on those specs to get this out to procurement as soon as possible.

PJ19-12.01 Wachusett Area Active Shooter Equipment (FFY2019)

We received EOPSS approval yesterday (6/1), so we are going to put the specs together and put those to procurement.

PJ19-18.02 Radiological Dispersal Device Equipment (FFY2019)

This was approved on Friday. Mr. Peloquin is going to work with Chief Fleischer to get the specs together and put it out to procurement.

New Business

PJ18-5.05 Fire District 8 Dive Team SCUBA and Underwater Search Equipment (FF2018)

This PJ came in last week. This is a line item on the budget. This equipment would outfit 4 new divers, 3 are in FD8 (Gardner, Paxton, and Templeton). This is going to outfit all of their full face masks with the hardware to support hands-free underwater light and/or underwater cameras, such as a GoPro for documentation purposes. The amount is $49,332. They had an allocation of $50,577, so they came in under budget. Chief O’Donnell made a motion to approve the equipment in the amount of $49,332, seconded by Chief Roy, all in favor, **motion approved.**

Council’s American Red Cross Canteen Vehicle

The transfer fell through with the Salvation Army. We then were going to send it to Grafton, they had the same issue with the MOA, and they cannot accept it. Chief Roy talked with Leominster Fire and they will take the vehicle for FD8. They were in agreement with the MOA. The mayor is extremely excited to have the vehicle in Leominster. Leominster was trying to raise money for a new vehicle, they raised $10,000. They will use the funds to modify and update the vehicle. They have not yet signed it. The Equipment Subcommittee has approved it. Supposedly Mass Care and Sheltering Committee needs to approve it as well. Ms. Reilly states that if the full council votes on it now, it should be acceptable. Chief Lyver made a motion to approve the transfer of the canteen vehicle to Leominster Fire, seconded by Chief Roy, all in favor, **motion approved**.

Request for Information: CMED Generator

We had an interested community to take over that asset however, it seems as though the community has lost interest. Mr. DaDalt has the specs for the generator. Currently the CMED Generator is being stored in Holden. Mr. DaDalt will work with CMRPC regarding the RFP.

PJXX-X.XX Gas Calibration Stations Upgrade

This has been tabled until the meeting in September.

Inter-Operability Sub Committee Report: Mr. James Barclay gave the report.

Project Updates:

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

FD8 had already begun working on this project. Then Chief Fleischer recommended that the project have a larger scope with all Police and Fire throughout the entire region. Due to time restraints, Mr. Peloquin recommends moving this project to FY19 and move some projects out of FY19 into FY18.

PJ19-10.01 WCSO MCU Radio Upgrades (FFY2019)

Was not discussed.

PJ18-9.03 Worcester Aluma Tower Upgrade

Was not discussed.

Formation of a Regional Information Center (RIC)

Was not discussed.

Training Sub Committee Report: Lt. Neal Aspesi gave the report.

Completed Projects:

TRR18-3.01 – MCPPO Cybersecurity Training (FFY2018)

TRR18 6.01 Heavy Vehicle Training (FFY2018)

The last reimbursement has been sent out.

Project Updates

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

We are awaiting EHP approval.

TRR18-8.06 Spencer Stop the Bleed Training (FFY2018)

We received reimbursements for the training that occurred in January and February. There was a few paperwork issues that needed to be sorted out. There has been no change or update to the training schedule. There will be $1,680 remaining in that line after reimbursements are completed.

TRR18-8.11 – Worcester Airport ASHER Training (FFY2018)

There is no need training date yet.

TRR18-8.12 Blackstone Area Active Shooter Training (FFY2018)

We just received EOPSS approval last week. We are working on the EHP with the POC. The tentative date is August 19th, potentially can get postponed.

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

We have received EOPSS approval. Mr. Peloquin will be working with the POCs and the Southeast Region to iron out the details.

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

Mr. Peloquin takes full responsibility, this training was not submitted to EOPSS until this morning (6/2).

TRR19-18.01-- Radiological Dispersal Device Training

We have received EOPSS approval last Friday. Mr. DaDalt states that if the course is coming out of the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium it has to go through Jeff Tedesco for approval. Typically the request goes through EOPSS through the Council and that they would contact Jeff Tedesco. Chief Fleischer stated that the dates for the training are September 22-25th. They are duplicate eight hour days. The student attendance can range from 24-25. Mr. Peloquin will reach out to Jeff Tedesco.

New Business:

Statewide Cybersecurity Joint Training -as part of Cybersecurity Month, October 2020

This project came out of the Western Region. They are looking to put together a statewide month-long cybersecurity training/seminar. This would be open to everyone that is affected by cybersecurity. The Western Region is looking for up to $15,000 from each of the regions. This will take place in October, which is National Cybersecurity Awareness month.

During the Training Subcommittee, there was a motion to move $1,200 from Line B to Line C. There was also a motion to allocate $15,000 for the Cybersecurity Joint Training.

Lt. Aspesi made a motion to allocate $15,000 for the Cybersecurity Joint Training, seconded by Chief O’Donnell, all in favor, **motioned approved.**

Planning Subcommittee Report: Chief Kochanowski gave the report.

Chief Kochanowski stated that Chief Roy was the Vice Chair of the Planning Subcommittee. Chief Kochanowski recommends that Chief O’Donnell become Vice Chair pending Chief Roy’s vacancy effective July 1st, 2020. Chief Lyver made a motion to approve Chief O’Donnell as the Vice Chair of the Planning Subcommittee effective July 1st, 2020, seconded by Mr. DaDalt, all in favor, **motion approved.**

Chief Kochanowski recommends that the nomination subcommittee find someone to be the second vice chair for the Planning Subcommittee over the summer.

PJ19-1.01 – Council Program Support (FFY2019)

We are awaiting EOPSS approval.

Mass Care/Sheltering Report: No report.

CMRPC: None.

MAPC: MAPC has been having meetings with Mr. Peloquin and Ms. Novak regarding the program and the fiduciary.

EOPSS: Mr. Bouvier will be attending the Council meetings moving forward.

MEMA: Ms. Jerome stated that MEMA is working on their COVID-19 response while working on normal day to day operations. Ms. Jerome stated that if anyone is aware of any rallies that are going to occur that they should contact MEMA. Everyone in the regional MEMA office is working at the Agawam office.

New Business Unforeseen by the Chair: None

Next Meeting: September 1st, 2020

Adjourn: Chief O’Donnell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:55 PM, seconded by Mr. Barclay, **motion approved.**

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Meeting minutes taken and prepared by Anthony Senesi, CMRPC