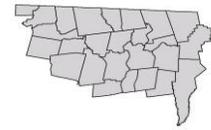


FRANKLIN COUNTY
REGIONAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE
 WORKING TOGETHER FOR PUBLIC SAFETY



| Meeting Minutes: Franklin Regional Emergency Planning Committee | | | |
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| Date | April 4, 2017 | Location | John W. Olver Transportation Building 12 Olive Street, Greenfield |
| Time | 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. | Duration | 1.0 Hours |
| | | Facilitator | Robert Strahan, Vice Chair |
| | | Meeting Cancellation Notice | 413-774-3167 x153 |

| Agenda Items | Motions/Action Taken |
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| 1. Welcoming remarks/ agenda/introductions | Robert Strahan opened the meeting at 4:05 p.m. Attendees Include: Gene Beaubien, David Chichester, Cam Dunbar, Butch Garrity, Mark Gilmore, Herb Guyette, Julie Hubbard, Tim Lively, Chris Myers, Carolyn Ness, John Taylor, Walter Tibbetts, Matthew Wolkenbreit, Dan Nietzsche, Robert Strahan, George Murphy, John Zellmann, Philip Wonkka, Bill Montiglio |
| 2. Review/approval of January 5, 2017 Minutes | Tim Lively made a motion to accept the minutes from the January 5, 2017 meeting as presented. Chris Myers seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. |
| 3. Roundtable Updates a. MEMA b. NWMIMT c. MACC/MOOG d. FCECS | a. No Representation b. Dennis Annear reports the Northwest Massachusetts incident Management Team (NWMIMT) is looking for new members. There is Supply Unit Leader class coming up in May that would give new members training in a role the team needs. There is also a Situation Unit class being held in Braintree. c. The Franklin County Multi-Agency Coordination Center (FC MACC) has partnered with Tri-State Fire's NWMIMT. The partnership will be split in two roles. The NWMIMT will be operating the MACC during activations. The FRCOG will oversee the administrative aspect of the FC MACC. d. An overview on the possible migration of the current radio system to the Commonwealth Radio System was given. Currently the FCECS has started initial discussion with the State about exploring a pilot program. A letter was sent to Undersecretary Curtis Wood explaining the FRCOG's and FCECS's want to be a part of a pilot program. More info will become available as the process moves forward. |
| 4. Old business: a. MCI Plan Update | b. Robert Strahan reported the subcommittee has met several times in the past few months and are fairly close to finalizing the document. Once it is completed a command sheet with essential information will be made for every vehicle in the county. Thus far a couple of things have changed in the plan. Currently, the state has 7 levels of MCI and the first job the working group took on was to decide what those levels mean for Franklin County including devising a new set of levels which make more sense for Franklin County. In addition the Franklin County plan has automatic dispatching for equipment which will be reviewed. Outside of the plan the subcommittee is working on establishing a clear line of radio communications |

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| | <p>between the transportation officer and the hospitals. This involves working with all the CMED stakeholders to figure out and solve any issues which currently make communication difficult.</p> |
| <p>5. New business: a. Hard Knox Exercise</p> | <p>a. FEMA Task Force 1 and NWMIMT have been working together to develop this exercise. This year the head of TF1 wants to go to Franklin County. The exercise will start on a Wednesday and end on the following Sunday sometime in October. The exercise will test wide area search and rescue, water rescue, bridge inspections, and other emergency management functions. The plan is for the exercise to start small, ramp up through the week and then end with many organizations working on issues. Wednesday will be when the exercise tests the communities of the Deerfield River valley with scenarios that mimic Tropical Storm Irene. Carolyn Ness added that the Natural Resources Conservation Service will be doing assessments during this time.</p> |
| <p>6. Update / Questions / AAR Discussion</p> | <p>a. Chris Myers reported on the Franklin County MRC/CERT shelter exercise. This was a chance to use the Mohawk High School which was just designated as a regional shelter. This was the first time the CERT/MRC team drilled on shelter operations. The exercise had 41 people participate. This was a great exercise in that it tested the towns' response in helping to set up the shelter and communications via amateur radio. In terms of the facility being ready for shelter operations Herb Guyette added that everyone knew walking in there would be some shortcomings but the school's staff did an outstanding job of mitigating any concerns. The town is working to improve the building for shelter operations. An example of this is by reviewing which lights and electrical outlets are served by the generator along.</p> <p>b. David Chichester reported on the response and recovery from the tornado in Conway. They opened the emergency operations center on Sunday morning, February 26. A lot of us were amazed at the response from the State, county, and towns' people. Thank you for everyone that came to the site. They logged 89 people into the EOC not counting mutual aid groups. Fortunately we did not have any injuries or deaths. There were 18 buildings and of that number 9 were significantly damaged. There is also acres and acres of trees down in the town. There will be an after action review produced. As I look back the event I feel everything went smooth with response. One thing remaining is there is still a lot of debris. The town government is trying to get some more relief to handle the debris issue. Thank you to all that helped.</p> |
| <p>7. Business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the meeting</p> | <p>a. John Taylor asked if the Franklin County EMS association had any of the hazmat awareness and operations cards left in reserve. These are the cards which were printed in color and then laminated. They contain useful information for an incident commander who is managing a hazmat incident. Does the REPC want to restock? A motion was made by Walter Tibbetts to have Dan Nietzsche send out the hazmat awareness and operations card in PDF format to all communities. Dennis Annear seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.</p> <p>b. Robert Strahan reported the weather alert radio which served the area went away with the nuclear funding. The National Weather Service is moving the site and that will leave our area without service. It was said that a letter of support to keep the radio in the area would help to keep this service. Robert asked if the REPC would like to write a letter of support. A motion was made by Chris Myers to have the</p> |

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| | <p>REPC write a strongly worded letter of support to NOAA which asks to keep the system as it is currently. Carolyn Ness seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.</p> |
| 8. Wrap up and adjourn | <p>David Chichester made a motion to adjourn. Philip Wonkka seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. Meeting was adjourned at 5:10PM.</p> <p>Next Meeting: July 11, 2017 4:00 p.m., John W. Olver Transportation Building, 1st Floor Meeting Room, 12 Oliver Street, Greenfield, MA</p> |