

# FRANKLIN COUNTY REGIONAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

WORKING TOGETHER FOR PUBLIC SAFETY



Meeting Minutes: Franklin Regional Emergency Planning Committee			
Date	January 7, 2020	Location	John W. Olver Transportation Building 12 Olive Street, Greenfield
Time	4:00 – 5:30 p.m.	Duration	1.5 Hours
		Facilitator	
		Meeting Cancellation Notice	413-774-3167 x153

Agenda Items	Motions/Action Taken
1. Welcoming remarks/ agenda/introductions	<p>The meeting opened at 4:05 p.m.</p> <p><b>Attendees Include:</b></p> <p>Dennis Annear – NWMIMT, Charlemont, Rowe            Bob Barry – MEMA            Gene Beaubien – Gill Fire Department            Herb Guyette – Buckland and Shelburne Falls Fire Districts            Julie Hubbard – Erving Paper            Carmella Lanza-Weil – Medical Reserve Corps            Tim Lively – Heath EMD            Chris Myers – Shelburne EMD            John Taylor – Shelburne Center Fire Department            Zach Smith – South County EMS            Robert Strahan – Greenfield Fire Department            Charles Washer – Franklin Regional Planning Board            Mark Williams – Greenfield Police Department            Phil Wonkka – Erving Fire Department            Daren Melnik – Deerfield Fire Department            Dan Nietzsche – FRCOG            Greg Lewis - FRCOG</p>
2. Review/approval of October 1, 2019 Minutes	<p>Charles Washer made a motion to accept the minutes from the October 1, 2019 meeting as presented. Chris Myers seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.</p>
3. Roundtable Updates a. MEMA b. NWMIMT c. FCECS	<p>a. Bob Barry reported that MEMA has a new director and changes are occurring in Region office. Bruce Augusti has retired and there is currently a hiring process for two local coordinators in Region ¾. The new employee is expected to be brought on in March. Bob said he will be attending a SERC meeting on January 27<sup>th</sup> to discuss changes to the recertification process. He will report back as the FCREPC will need to go through that process this year.</p> <p>b. The NWMIMT is continuing to train and meet with MEMA. They are currently the only team in the Commonwealth cleared to be hired by</p>

	<p>MEMA to assist during an incident. They are working with the new Director on a credentialing process</p> <p>c. Dan reported that members of the FCECS Oversight Committee and FRCOG met with members of the Executive Office of Technology Safety and Security today. Additional information about that meeting will be sent out very shortly to all stakeholders.</p>
<p>4. New business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Review of Draft Operating Procedures</li> <li>b. Review of the draft FY21 budget</li> <li>c. Recently Awarded Grants</li> <li>d. Exercise and Training subcommittee</li> <li>e. EMD subcommittee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. John Taylor made a motion to accept the revised Operating Procedures as presented. The motion was seconded by Mark Williams. The motion passed by unanimous vote.</li> <li>b. Mark Williams made a motion to accept the draft FY21 budget with the conditions that next year's budget process will be included in the October 2020 meeting agenda and that the FCREPC would like to increase the amount of hours dedicated to REPC work be increased to 5 hours a week with the budget adjusted to account for this additional time. John Taylor made a motion to table the budget process until next meeting. Dennis Annear seconded the motion. The motion did not pass with one person abstaining. The group discussed the draft budget and asked about the possibility of increasing the salary line budget so that FRCOG EPP employees can dedicate more time to REPC initiatives. It was reported that the TIER II invoices have already be sent out to vendors so it would be impossible to increase the fees for this fiscal year. The first motion passed with one person abstaining.</li> <li>c. Dan gave an update on three grant awards which will benefit Franklin County. The FRCOG was awarded funding from MEMA for a functional exercise to test the hazardous materials plan. The FROCG was awarded a WRHSAC grant to host a TTX for communities along the Deerfield River. The FRCOG will also lead a planning effort to revise the evacuation plans and create job action sheets for towns responding to a flooding event. The WRHSAC also awarded the FRCOG a grant to purchase equipment for the FCMACC.</li> <li>d. Dennis Annear made a motion that the REPC rededicate effort to its exercise and training subcommittee by asking for volunteers and then meeting on a regular basis. John Taylor Seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.</li> <li>e. Chris Myers made a motion that the REPC form an EMD Subcommittee. Tim Lively seconded the motion. The group discussed that, if formed, this group would greatly benefit the work EMDs do and allow for greater coordination. Also part of the discussion was how most EMDs wear multiple hats for their communities and adding another meeting might be met with pushback. The motion passed by unanimous vote.</li> </ul>
<p>5. Update / Questions / AAR Discussion</p>	<p>John Taylor discussed the propane tank rollover incident on Zerah Fiske Road in Shelburne which happened in September. A valve, which normally has a safety feature to prevent the propane from releasing during an accident, did not</p>

	<p>function properly. As the Incident Commander on the scene he complimented the various organizations responded to the incident including mutual aid partners, Franklin County Haz Mat team among others. They needed to evacuate a number of houses due to the nature of propane, which is heavier than air, which settled into the valley where the accident took place.</p> <p>Phil Wonkka discussed an accident which involved a natural gas truck ending with the driver not surviving and the natural gas leaking. He noted the property differences between propane and natural gas in how the responders handled the situation. With natural gas being lighter than air and the location of the accident did not necessitate the need for an evacuation.</p>
<p>6. Business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the meeting</p>	<p>It was asked that a formal invitation to the Franklin County Haz-Mat team be sent. It should ask for one of the members attend the next REPC meeting.</p>
<p>7. Wrap up and adjourn</p>	<p>John Taylor made a motion to adjourn. Chris Myers seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. Meeting was adjourned at 5:20 PM.</p>