

FRANKLIN COUNTY REGIONAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

WORKING TOGETHER FOR PUBLIC SAFETY



Meeting Minutes: Franklin Regional Emergency Planning Committee			
Date July 6, 2021	Location	Via Zoom https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86103470012?pwd=cGZ6Q1M3eVRkbDBQa1htYVFqN3kwZz09 Meeting ID: 839 2383 0353 Passcode: 235379 Call-in: (929) 436 2866 FRCOG: 12 Olive St, Greenfield, 1 st floor conference room	Facilitator Robert Strahan, Chair
Time 4:00 – 5:15	Duration 1.25 Hours	Meeting Cancellation Notice	413-774-3167 x153

Agenda Items	Motions/Action Taken
1. Welcoming remarks/ agenda/introductions	The meeting opened at 4:02 p.m. Attendees Include: Duncan Colter – Ashfield Board of Health Chris Myers – EMD Town of Shelburne Bob Strahan – Greenfield Fire Department Herb Guyette – Buckland and Shelburne Falls Fire Districts Tim Lively – Heath EMD Charles Washer – Franklin Regional Planning Board Phil Wonkka – Erving Fire Department Carmela Lanza-Weil – Medical Reserve Corps Carolyn Shores Ness – Deerfield Board of Health and Selectboard Bernie Bourdreau – Northfield Selectboard Butch Garity – Mass State Police Communications – Shelburne Control Elizabeth Quart – Community Member Tracy Rogers – FRCOG Lauri Solomon – FRCOG
2. Roundtable Updates a. MEMA b. NWMIMT c. FCECS	a. <u>MEMA</u> - No representative in attendance b. <u>IMI</u> – Tracy Rogers presenting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research on whether members need to be employees or contractors. Legally it appears they need to be employees, which leaves the question of when members are

	<p>volunteering vs. or eligible for payment. Continuing policy discussions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responded to a brush fire in Williamsburg in June. • Work at all Franklin County (FC) COVID vaccine clinics <p>c. <u>FCECS</u> – Rogers presenting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 77% of new radios in FC have been updated to 80 Megahertz (Mhz) • More radios estimated to arrive week of 7/12. Hope to be at 100% by mid-July • 100 MHz sub-committee dissolved and work rolled into the Commonwealth Interoperable Radio System (CoMIRS) advisory group, Reps: Garity representing Shelburne Patrol; Chief Paciorek (Deerfield Police), police; Joe Cunio (New Salem and Wendle fire), fire; and Zach Smith, South County EMS
<p>3. New business: a. Officer elections</p>	<p>a. Solomon presenting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • REPC Chair Chief Strahan retiring from leadership position • Chiefs Wonkka (Irving) and Guyette (Buckland) volunteered to step into leadership role • Strahan made a motion to elect Chief Wonkka as Chair and Chief Guyette as Vice-Chair. • Motion seconded by Shores Ness • Motion passed unanimously • Chief Strahan thanked the group and said it has been an hour to serve • Chief Strahan officially turned the meeting facilitation over to newly elected Chairman Wonkka
<p>4. Old Business: a. REPC and MAPHCO Merger Discussion b. Table Top Exercise (TTX) summary</p>	<p>a. <u>Merger</u> – Rogers presenting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rogers attempted to activate a sub-committee to draft new operating principles for a merged committee merger but no one from either group responded. • Rogers met with MAPHCO co-chairs about how to move forward. Co-chairs recommended the merger wait until the FRCOG After Action Report/Improvement Plan process is completed, the facilitator of which will be hired shortly. There were questions about response capabilities between the two groups and needs clarification before further discussion. • Shores Ness agreed with Rogers description. Given both groups' COVID response, it makes sense to wait for completed AARs (FROCOG and MAPHCO EDS). She believes there needs to be a better understanding of which group takes on the responsibility to respond [to an emergency] and would like clarity before moving forward with merger. • Rogers added the AARs won't be completed for almost a year.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wonkka asked about the long timeline • Rogers clarified that the FRCOG AAR will take almost a year • Wonkka believes that is too long and asked what asked about impediments • Shores Ness reiterated that it is unclear who would respond in an emergency after a MAPHCO/REPC merger. She believes it was complicated by DPH's and the governor's directives. Feels merger will be difficult without more information from AAR/IP. Belives there is no understanding of "weak links" and should be addressed/resolved during the merger. Belives the AAR/IP will resolve what went wrong in COVID response. Belives she knows but wants an outsider's opinion. • Wonkka agreed <p>b. <u>TTX</u> – Rogers Presenting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6/22 - annual requirement • 5 participants • Scenerio – Delivery of chemicals to HS chemistry lab. Some containers fell and broke on boys' locker room floor. • Problem – Determine how to respond to students walking on chemicals and spreading it throughout the school and athletic fields. How will parents be notified etc. • Discovered during exercise: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Plans do not include finance info. If private company that spilled, they are responsible for clean-up and mitigation. Info should be added to plan as well as tool to track expenses. ○ Nothing in the plan about securing the scene. ○ Need for training on what regional hazmat plan says. No recent review of it. Refresher on ICS and emergency operations. ○ What regional resources are available: regional hazmat team and IMT ○ Need better relationship with schools because there's not clarity on schools' plans and whether they would reach out to fire dept, 911, or other rescourse. • AAR/IP is in draft form. Waiting for feedback from participants. Results will be added to REPC work to add to plan in the next 1-2 years. • Shores Ness requested a copy of draft AAR/IP.
<p>5. Update / Questions / AAR Discussion</p>	<p>6. <u>AARs</u> – Rogers and Solomon presenting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Homeland Security</i> doing for four counties focusing only on things that are able to be changed. Not going to analyze how state responded. Instead it will focus on how well local

	<p>and regional groups responders handled the situation. Probably will take a year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>FRCOG</i> about to put out a request for proposals for a third party to conduct an AAR for a critical eye to a county response <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Response including: MACC opening to help get PPE, HMCC helping get PPE through bulk purchase, COVID vaccine clinics, risk messaging, contact tracing, etc. ○ Will probably take a year ○ Will probably have a separate component employing a strategic planner to map out how to put improvements in place over the next five years • <u><i>MAPHCO</i></u> is also doing an AAR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Will begin with focus groups with each EDS including capturing what happened during the COVID response, what those efforts did or didn't have, and what to do differently in the future. ○ EDS focus group results will be summarized into a summary of themes between EDSs ○ Culminate in an After Action Conference where <i>MAPHCO</i> participants will consider the overall themes and created a unified improvement plan that will be submitted to DPH in fulfillment of one of their deliverables for the year. • Homeland Security and <i>FRCOG</i> will be seeking other AARs that are conducted across the region and incorporate them in to their respective AAR/IPs
<p>7. Business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the meeting</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>8. Wrap up and adjourn</p>	<p>Meeting official adjourned at 4:22</p>