



# Southeast Region Homeland Security Advisory Council (SRAC)



## SRAC Full Council Meeting Minutes

*\* This was an In-person AND virtually held meeting via Zoom.*

*In-person meeting occurred at Norton Police Department 82 E. Main Street Norton, MA 02766.*

**June 1, 2023 – 11:00 A.M.**

**The following are notes only as there was no quorum.**

### Members Present

Chief Brian Clark, Norton PD  
Chief Mark Thompson, Scituate PD  
Brian Evangelista, Region V EMS  
Robert Verdone, SE MA Regional 911 Dist.  
Lt. Bob Stephanian, PCSO  
Mike Lambert, BAT

### Guests Present

Tim Gover, Wellesley PD  
Mike Walker, Barnstable County  
Taylor Sulik

### Support Staff Present

Todd Castro, SRPEDD  
Grant King, SRPEDD  
Kevin Ham, SRPEDD  
Stacy Royer, SRPEDD  
Kayla Toner, EOPSS  
Sarah Malloy, EOPSS  
Sarah Cook, EOPSS  
Richard Fiske, EOPSS  
Amy Reilly, MAPC

**Members Absent:** Chief Michael Kelleher, Foxborough FD; Michael Courville, Dartmouth; Chief Thomas Lynch, Franklin PD; Kevin Sweet, Wrentham TA; Stacy Lane, Norwood Health Dept.; Joan Cooper-Zack, South Shore Hospital; Chief David Guillemette, Harwich PD; Mike Guitierrez, MMA; Chief Scott Fournier, Berkley FD; Chief John Kelley, Wareham FD.

1. **Roll Call:** Mr. Ham read the roll and attendance was taken.
2. **Public Comment:** No public comments were provided.
3. **Approval of Minutes April 6, 2023 & April 13, 2023:** The April 6, 2023, and the April 13, 2023, Council meeting minutes were not approved due to the lack of a quorum.
4. **Project Update/Fiduciary Report: FFY 20, 21 & 22:** Mr. Castro reported that they are currently operating under FY20, FY21, and FY22 budgets. He mentioned he and Mr. Ham have been busy advancing projects. Mr. Castro stated that he has sent the EHP, PowerPoint slide deck for Scituate High School and Whole Market Foods of Norton to EOPSS and is awaiting approval. He stated a vendor has been identified regarding the Barnstable County Cache generator project. He mentioned they are waiting bid advertisement for the Fire Services exhaust fan project, as well as the command post equipment project. He mentioned all the IRATT equipment has been delivered this past week. He and Mr. Ham have been working on the Metro LEC Fire TAC PPE project and they are working to develop specs for the mobile response trailer as well. Regarding available



## Southeast Region Homeland Security Advisory Council (SRAC)



funding, he mentioned he is not concerned, however, there are remaining funding within FFY 2021 and 22 for Fires Services. Additionally, Mr. Castro indicated council members need to start having discussions on where they are going to go to advance those projects. Lastly, Mr. Castro indicated an extension was granted for FY20 funds and will expire on December 31, 2023, whereas FY21 will expire on June 30, 2024. Mr. Castro mentioned this is good news as the council is provided additional time to establish ideas and spend this money.

- **Cybersecurity Interns:** Mr. Castro mentioned there previously had been \$92,000 to establish a Cybersecurity Symposium, but this project has now turned shifted to hire two Cybersecurity Interns (similar to how they hired Taylor Sulik with a MOU). Chief Clark mentioned maybe they could be housed at SRPEDD to have more availability to the SRAC region.
- **2D Dummies for drone training:** Mr. Ham explained the project idea for 2D Dummies for drone training. He stated that they are low cost and low impact. He mentioned the council can vote on this at the next meeting. Chief Clark mentioned this can be discussed at the next meeting.
  - **Motion:** To support the purchase of 20 2d Dummies for regional teams for Search and Rescue training and exercises not to exceed \$8,000 as part of the existing FFY 21 Drone Project. \*This motion will be brought up at the August of 2023 meeting for an official vote/approval.

5. **MAPC Report:** Ms. Reilly reported that Mark Fine, the Director of her department, has moved on to include that of Brad Downey. She mentioned they will be hiring those two positions soon. Ms. Reilly indicated that MAPC and SRPEDD will be focusing on inventory updates this summer. She also stated that they have put in for extensions for FY20 and FY21. She stated that contracts for FY20 have a new end date which will be the end of December 2023 and for FY21 will be the end of June 2024.
  - i. **IRAT Memorandum of Understanding:** Chief Clark mentioned the IRAT MOU is signed, and the training is available to start in Norfolk. He mentioned we will look to have the training done in Bourne and Oak Bluffs. Mr. Castro mentioned there maybe another location which maybe the Gannon Training Center.
6. **EOPSS Report:** Ms. Toner introduced Sarah Cook and Sarah Malloy as two of the most recent hires at EOPSS. She wanted to take this opportunity to personally thank each one of the members for their hard work that was displayed during the FEMA site visit last week. She mentioned that Janice Donna, who is the FEMA Preparedness Officer for EOPSS homeland security grants was thoroughly impressed and blown away by the efforts demonstrated throughout the entire site visit. She stated that EOPSS is grateful for all the hard work and effort, the demonstrations, briefings, PowerPoints, the presentations, and it was incredible. Ms. Toner



## Southeast Region Homeland Security Advisory Council (SRAC)



thanked everybody, especially Chief Clark, Chief Lynch, Chief Kelleher, Todd Castro, Kevin Ham, and all the members of the SRAC council for coordinating and going above and beyond as usual. FEMA did not find any concerns during their visit. Additionally, the FY23 State Homeland Security Program SHSP applications were all submitted on May 18, 2023, and FEMA is currently reviewing all regions projects for approval. She mentioned they should have an award by late summer, which may be in August.

### 7. Planning/Training/Caching: Reported below.

- a. Update regarding DPW, EMD & Fire vacancies on the council: Mr. Castro mentioned they had a two-week period where resumes for DPW, EMD & Fire vacancies on the Council has come in. He mentioned he did not receive interest in the DPW seat. He mentioned SRPEDD reached out to the Secretary of State's office to obtain email addresses for City Clerk's town clerk's and region to send out the notice about the vacancies. Mr. Castro mentioned they did collect several resumes, but most seemed to interest in the fire vacancy. Chief Clark mentioned he will send out some distribution email list he has as well.
- b. Discussion on formulation of Health/Hospital Subcommittee: Chief Clark mentioned the region is having issues with hospitals and maybe a need to formulate a committee for hospitals. He mentioned that with Brockton Hospital being shut down this is impacting other hospitals. Mr. Lambert agreed and indicated the interruptions with Compass Medical made things more difficult.

**Motion:** To approve an additional \$13,990 for the Barnstable County Cache Diesel Generator out of FFY21, Fire Services, Not Allocated line item. \*A roll call was done to support the Barnstable County Cache Diesel Generator project, and this will be put on the August agenda to be discussed then.

8. Fire Services: Mr. Castro explained the motion below for the METRO LEC TAC Fire Project. He mentioned this was like the support received for the generator project. He mentioned an additional \$15,000 is needed to satisfy this project. Council approval has already had previously been met approved project. He mentioned he will have it on the agenda for August. A roll call was done to support the additional funding.

**Motion:** To approve an additional \$15,000 for the METROLEC TAC Fire Project for additional Ballistic Protection equipment out of FFY21, Fire Services, Not Allocated line item.

9. Interoperability: Mr. Verdone explained the motion below. He explained this would help with the gaps in the system. Chief Clark asked if this would close the loop with Marion and Fall River. Mr. Verdone mentioned that yes that was one of the possible routes.

- BAPERN SW District Update (Marion to Copicut Hill Link)
  - **Motion:** To support equipment, installation, and optimization of microwave equipment between Marion and Fall River in support of the BAPERN SW District, not



## Southeast Region Homeland Security Advisory Council (SRAC)



to exceed \$160,000 from FFY21 and \$100,000 from FFY 22, as part of the existing FFY 21, and 22 Interoperability projects.

- **TAK (Tactical Awareness Kit):** Mr. Verdone explained what TAK is. TAK is a product. It's a software platform that was developed by the DOD. It is a common operating picture platform that's utilized across all public safety response.

10. **LEC:** None
11. **Cybersecurity:** Mr. Sulik explained what he has been working on. He mentioned he is doing a lot of outreaches, building out a regional transit meeting among all the analysts in the region. He did indicate that the FBI on board, Coast Guard on board and DHS, the seven town analysts and the Fusion Center. He mentioned he is working closely with Bridgewater State and had a great meeting with them. He stated they're developing an operation center to be built towards the end of 2024. This will help municipalities in their monitoring of cybersecurity within the town.
12. **EMS:** Mr. Evangelista mentioned he has been working on the Brockton Hospital closure issue.
13. **Education:** None
14. **Emergency Management:** None
15. **Regional Transportation:** Mr. Lambert mentioned that they are still coming back from COVID, and ridership is up 80%. He mentioned transit is also focusing on Cybersecurity issues.
16. **Public Health:** None
17. **Hospitals:** None
18. **Public Works:** None
19. **Government Administration:** None.
20. **MEMA:** None
21. **Items not reasonably anticipated by the Chair 48 hours in advance of the meeting:** None
22. **Next Meeting/Adjournment:** The next meeting will be on August 10, 2023, at 11 AM. This meeting will be held via Zoom.