



Southeast Region Homeland Security Advisory Council (SRAC)



Training & Exercise and Planning Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Meeting held via Zoom

March 31, 2023 – 9:00 A.M.

Members Present

Robert Kenn, E. Bridgewater DPW
Chief Brian Clark, Norton PD
Chief Thomas Lynch, Franklin PD
Chief Mike Kelleher, Foxborough FD
Robert Verdone, SEMRECC

Guests Present

Support Staff Present

Todd Castro, SRPEDD
Kevin Ham, SRPEDD
Amy Reilly, MAPC

Members Absent: Kevin Sweet, Wrentham TA; Stacy Lane, Norwood Public Health

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Kenn called the meeting to order at 9:04 A.M.
2. **Roll Call:** A roll call was done by Mr. Ham.
3. **Public Comment:** No public comments were provided.
4. **Approval of February 16, 2023, Minutes:** The February 16, 2023, draft minutes were approved as presented.
5. **Fiduciary Report:** Mr. Castro mentioned there are 8 projects at EOPSS that we are waiting on and once approved, that will have tremendous impact on us spending down FY 20 and FY 21. He did mention that they are in a good position for FY 20 and FY 21 for spending the funds down. Mr. Castro mentioned that the FY 22 Plan was written very specific and there are no holes. He mentioned he and Mr. Ham are looking for guidance in terms of how to proceed. Mr. Ham screen shared a list of items that were listed in the FY 22 Plan. Mr. Castro mentioned that predominantly, items 2-8 were projects that were identified, approved by this Council to support Cape Cod LEC, SEMLEC and various cameras. He asked if these are projects that the committee still want to pursue or are these back burner items. Mr. Verdone mentioned he has no say, but he mentioned maybe reach out to FEMA and see if they have the most updated items. Mr. Castro mentioned if they do proceed these projects then this will have a large impact in spending down funds. Mr. Kenn mentioned that if it is voted we should not hesitate to go forward with the projects.
6. **FFY 21 & 22 Available Funding/Plan/Projects:** Mr. Castro and Mr. Ham discussed the items below.
 - a. **FFY21 BAPERN Expansion \$160,000:** This was discussed above under item 5 Fiduciary Report by Mr. Verdone.



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- b. **FFY21 Cyber Security Symposium \$92,000:** Mr. Castro mentioned the other question is that their funds put aside for the Cyber Symposium which was \$92,000. He mentioned at the time when the plan was written, the committee didn't have a good sense of how we wanted to invest in this project. One of the ideas was hiring Cyber Security interns to help understand Cyber Security. He mentioned that NERAC will be using their funds for two interns. Mr. Ham mentioned that idea would be these interns would go around to the communities in our area and help them run through this assessment. It would give us a baseline, and a good snapshot of the region baseline. Mr. Castro mentioned that this is an item that needs to be decided today. Chief Kelleher mentioned that Taylor was looking at software that had the ability to register domains public domain and cybersecurity gaps. Mr. Verdone mentioned that he did speak to Taylor yesterday and the symposium may not happen, and it is not going to have the effect that actual action at this point. Chief Clark mentioned that the interns is a good idea, and this would have best practices as well. Mr. Ham mentioned that this a change from the symposium and this would be discussed at the next Council meeting. Ms. Reilly mentioned the interns would be graduate level and they are MAPC interns. She mentioned that they are partnering with the North Shore it collaborative with the NERAC cyber reps leads on the technical experts.
- c. **FFY22 Projects:** This was discussed above.
7. **FFY 23 Plan Discussion:** Mr. Ham presented the funding amount for FY 23 and the list of projects that are being asked. He showed a spreadsheet of all the proposed projects, and he mention they are organized by category. He mentioned there are a few goals they are needed to achieve which are 30% in Law Enforcement, Terrorism Prevention activities, 3% in Community Preparedness and Resilience, which they need soft targets in crowded places. Mr. Ham mentioned that Information Intel Sharing and Domestic Violent Extremism need 3% along with Election security, and 3% for a large-scale exercise that the state would like to have done. Chief Clark mentioned on the list there is an Active Shooter Tabletop for N. Attleboro and he wondered if that was just for N. Attleboro. Mr. Ham mentioned no the Chief would like to regionalize it with a cluster of town in that region. Chief Kelleher asked if it included backfill/overtime because it seems like a lot of money. Mr. Ham mentioned no it is because they would like to hire consultants. He mentioned he and Mr. Castro are familiar with the tabletop and if they did it the cost could be cut. Chief Clark mention they need to keep in mind that there is a IRAP program that hasn't really gotten off the ground yet. He also mentioned that fire service is going to be putting out a train the trainers, and they're going to be putting out the **Astra** training.

The committee discussed the proposed projects in detail and reviewed the A and B list for the 2023 Plan. Mr. Ham mentioned they have \$1.3 million to spend for 2023. He explained the amounts in each project. Mr. Kenn asked if the Fiduciary Support budget was the same. Mr. Ham mentioned it was a few dollars less than last year.

The Law Enforcement Council Support area was discussed. Mr. Ham discussed the Exercise Support projects. Chief Clark asked if the North Attleboro Regional Active Shooter Tabletop was specific to North Attleboro. Mr. Ham mentioned no it would be for a cluster of towns, but the Chief of N. Attleboro did



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put the request in. Chief Clark mentioned if it is funding ask we need to decide if we need to fund it.

Mr. Ham asked if we eliminate the pole camera in 2022 because they will get in 2023. Mr. Kenn said that was fine. Mr. Kenn reviewed the items line by line. Mr. Castro mentioned the Comm headsets are an emerging need for most and he stated they are expensive. He mentioned there is funding for the Cape Cod LEC and assuming Martha's Vineyard will need them also along with METRO LEC. Discussion ensued amongst the committee on the FY2023 Plan.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to have the preliminary 2023 Plan approved. A roll call was completed.

8. **New Business/Old Business:** Mr. Castro mentioned he has not heard from any remarks on the Council By-law, and this will be presented at the next Council meeting.
9. **Items not reasonably anticipated by the Chair 48 hours in advance of the meeting:** None
10. **Next Meeting/Adjournment:** The next T&E and Planning subcommittee meeting is to be determined. The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 AM.