



Meeting Meetings: Medical Reserve Corps Advisory Group (MAG)			
Date	May 7, 2019	Location	Dept. of Public Health 23 Service Center Rd Northampton, MA
Time	11:00 am – 12:30 p.m.	Duration	1.5 Hours
		Facilitator	Tracy Rogers
		Call In #	
		Access code	

Agenda Items	
1.	Attendees: Michael Nelson, Tracy Rogers, Chris Goshea, Corinne McKeown, Lois Luniewicz, Loren Davine, Allison Egan (via telephone)
2.	Review/approval of January 9, 2019 meeting minutes – Lois moved to accept with the addition of Loren’s name on the attendee list. Corinne seconded. All in favor.
3.	Old business None
4.	<p>New business</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Review policy & procedures manual: The group deleted several items and changed the wording on a few under the description of the MAG’s responsibilities in Section D. County coordinators will discuss whether a description of county coordinators’ responsibilities should be added. Chris will research whether EMTs and paramedics are covered under the same liability protections as physicians and nurses, or if another law should be cited in the liability section. Lois moved to approve the manual with the changes made to Section D. Loren seconded the motion and it was carried by a unanimous vote. b. Review funding formula: Discussed in tandem with item C, below. c. FY20 funding update: Tracy announced that MRC funding has been cut statewide by 5% for Fiscal Year 2020. She presented a draft budget applying the 5% cut evenly across the board. Lois reported on the DPH webinar regarding funding. Tracy reported that both Berkshire and Hampshire counties had reached out to her stating that the funding is becoming unsustainable. Tracy had asked Erica from Hampden County if she had concerns, which she did not; she will plan to provide extra funding through their PHEP grant, which many other coalitions across the state do as well. <p>The group discussed the possibility of creating a new funding formula, which may start with a base amount of funding and then have weighted variables, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of volunteers (likely favors Hampshire County) • Square miles (likely favors Berkshire/Franklin County) • Number of towns (likely favors Berkshire/Franklin County) • Number of units (likely favors Hampden County) <p>Tracy will ask Liz Foley when she can attend a MAG meeting before the end of May and then send a Doodle poll to MAG members and their fiscal people. She will run numbers based on the factors outlined above, but if members want any other factors taken into consideration, they should email them to Tracy.</p>

- d. MRC updates to Western Region Hospital Emergency Planning Committee – Michael reported that Gail Bienvenue, DPH regional hospital coordinator, has been asking for MRC updates at the hospital committee’s monthly meeting. Michael gave the first update in a pinch, but suggested MRC coordinators would be better to do it in the future. Michael reached out to Gail to see how frequently she’d like an update and whether the county coordinators could be the ones to present. Gail responded that county coordinator representation would be fine and she’d like an update twice/year.
- e. High points for EMD presentation – Lois will present at the quarterly MEMA EMD meeting about MRCs as a resource. The group gave her suggestions for her presentation, including giving out the HMCC 24/7 phone number as a one-stop call to reach any of the units.

5. Member reports

- a. County coordinator reports – Tabled
- b. WAG and WRHSAC report – Tabled
- c. HMCC update – Tracy reported that the new federal HMCC guidance requires an HMCC to have a clinical person on staff. DPH is planning to address this by creating a state level healthcare coalition that includes a clinical person. This new coalition will also have command and control, which the regional HMCC’s do not.

6. Meeting adjourned at 12:47 pm.