



Central Vermont Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC) Meeting Summary

Wednesday February 23, 2022- 5:00pm

Held via Zoom

Meeting Attendees:

Voting Members: Carl Rogers (Barre Town); Josh Martineau (Barre Town); Bruce Richardson (Berlin); Chief James Pontbriand (Berlin); Nick Emlen (Calais); Eric Metivier (Mad River Valley Ambulance Service); Stefan Pratt (Moretown); Chris LaMonda (Orange); Fred Messer (Waitsfield); Mark Haviland (Mad River Valley Ambulance Service); Michael Bard (Waterbury)
Non-Voting Members: Emily Harris (VEM); Grace Vinson (CVRPC); Sam Lash (CVRPC); Bonnie Waninger (CVRPC); Jonathan Scott (CVMC)

1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting convened at 5:00 pm with a welcome. A quorum of voting members was not present, so no formal action was taken during the meeting. Grace Vinson provided an overview of the Voting Member Directory.

2. REMC Overview, Initial Work Ideas

Grace Vinson provided a brief overview of the statutory authorization, purpose, membership, and geographic boundaries for the Central Vermont Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC).

Grace brought up public works mutual aid agreement as an initial work idea. Discussion followed the presentation on initial work ideas and concerns from voting members, including:

- Ice jams – can we obtain a camera to live monitor the river level? Emily Harris recommended: <https://water.weather.gov/ahps2/index.php?wfo=btv>. National Weather Service 24/7 contact: 802-863-4279. Waitsfield (Bridge Street) has a camera at the covered bridge; may have been installed by MRV TV
- Flash flooding and ice storms
- Waterbury Reservoir breach

Ideas for near term work priorities of the REMC were proposed, including:

- Working with volunteers: Ad hoc community groups form to respond to emergencies. They are very effective in communications. As a result, people focus on them and the organized relief efforts get tripped up. How do we work together and/or help them understand how to augment emergency response and work with it?



- Cybersecurity – we assume we'll have internet connectivity for emergency communications and infrastructure operations. Need to plan for scenario if internet were down for 3+ days.
- Response resource document that is updated regularly and often – contact information from equipment through hazardous materials response equipment. Ex. LEMP info at a regional scale.

3. REMC Organizational Tasks

Bylaws: Draft bylaws documenting the REMC meeting procedures were presented and discussed. No changes to the bylaws were requested during the meeting. Grace requested comments be sent to her.

Membership was discussed. Public works and road crews were excluded from the list, yet people want to discuss a public works mutual aid agreement. Emily clarified that the law says “emergency services”, which can include public works staff. If a municipality classifies their public works/road crews as emergency services, the law requires they be part of NIMS. Which means they must take ICS 100 and ICS 200. Emily shared Vermont NIMS Implementation Plan: <https://vem.vermont.gov/programs/nims>.

Chair and Vice Chair Appointments: Grace reviewed the role of the Chair and Vice Chair. Carl Rogers (Barre Town EMD) agreed to serve as Chair, and Stefan Pratt (Moretown EMD) volunteered to serve as interim Chair for two months until the next quarterly meeting when elections can be held.

5. VEM Updates

Resources

Additional information about REMCs are available on VEM's website:

<https://vem.vermont.gov/programs/regional-emergency-management-committees>

Trainings

- **Integrated preparedness Plan Workshop** – 4/6/22 1pm-4pm, and 4/28 10-12
- <https://vem.vermont.gov/conference>
- **May 26th Learning Day** - Lake Morey Resort or limited virtual track. Registration is now available. <https://vem.vermont.gov/conference>
 - All REMC members are invited to participate in the conference. Stefan Pratt planned to participate and requested to use the hotel room reserved for REMC



members. No other members expressed interest. Grace will forward a link to Stefan regarding claiming the hotel room.

- If you missed the **Spring Flood Seminars**, it is available virtually through our YouTube channel. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FUzPEns9Wdo&t=12s>
- **ICS 300**- Location: Waterbury, Department of Public Safety Headquarters. Dates: March 15-17, 2022, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. each day. Prerequisites: ICS-100 and ICS- 200
- **MGT 346- Emergency Operations Center Operations and Planning** – Location: Waterbury, Department of Public Safety Headquarters. Dates: April 19-20, 2022 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. each day. Description: Participants will discuss, work with and develop the critical processes of information management, resource management, and planning, then test them during a simulated EOC activation.
- State LMS: <https://vem.vermont.gov/training/trainingprogram/lms>

6. Wrap and Next Meeting

The next meeting of the REMC will be in May 2022. Members discussed preferences for meeting times, locations, and days. Members agreed Wednesday is a good day, and 5pm meeting time works, but avoid Capital Fire Mutual Aid meetings (3rd Wed of every 3rd month). Potential future meeting locations could include CVRPC, CVMC, Darn Tough Socks in Waterbury, Barre Fire/Police station, Barre Fish & Game, and Waterbury Fire Department. Members discussed rotating locations. Potential future agenda items:

- Review bylaw comments received
- Elect Chair/Vice Chair
- REMC appointments to the State LEPC, THIRA, and IPPW.

Stefan requested CVRPC create a proxy form and distribute it to the membership.

Meeting ended at 5:50pm.