

# Central Vermont Regional Emergency Management Committee Meeting Summary

November 09, 2022

#### **Welcome and Introductions**

The meeting convened at 5:05 pm. A quorum of voting members was not present, and no formal action was taken during the meeting. All members in attendance introduced themselves and the community they represent. P. Carbee submitted a proxy form to CVRPC for Washington's other member.

## **REMC Overview, Initial Work Ideas**

Keith Cubbon of CVRPC shared a compilation of hazards taken from all 23 towns Local Hazard Mitigation Plans. We reviewed the data and found most of the high-risk priorities were involved with storms and flooding. Betty Copeland brought up communications from town to town during a power outage and if there is limited cell service in your area. Discussed satellite phones and ham radios and costs of both. Carl Rodgers discussed having a dinner meeting and inviting the selectboards to discuss communications and public works agreements, as well as networking.

#### **REMC Organizational Tasks**

<u>Bylaws</u>: Draft bylaws documenting the REMC meeting procedures were presented and the definition of quorum was discussed. Harry Schoppmann of VEM gave an update on VEM's efforts to have the quorum rules changed by the Vermont legislature allowing each REMC to define quorum for its own purposes within the bylaws. The group discussed whether defining quorum as a representative from over half the towns would be a better metric. Keith Cubbon and Harry Schoppman said they would coordinate for outreach to towns that haven't attended and try to increase attendance. Also, Harry shared that proxy voting forms can be signed for the year and kept on file so if either member of a town attends they could then have the vote for both.

Regional Plan: Keith Cubbon presented a draft of a regional plan. Stefan Pratt asked for contact information for all organizations listed. Carl Rodgers asked to have NIMS list from LEMPs' added to plan. Shelter locations and locations of animal shelters. Betty Copeland replied that the Red Cross maintains a map of all shelter locations that they support. Keith Cubbon replied that these updates will be included and the regional plan will be included on the next agenda.

<u>State Committee representatives</u>: Peter Carbee volunteered to be the REMC representative to the Integrated preparedness planning workshop (IPPW).

Keith Cubbon gave a brief synopsis of the Threat Hazard Incident Response Assessment meeting from Killington. The Vermont Department of Homeland Security presented 5 scenarios to look at the state's capacity to respond during a disaster and looking for some form of metric to be able to track progress.

# **Presentation: Vermont Hazardous Response Team**

Patrick McLaughlin Chief of the Vermont Hazardous Response Team's about the response teams' capabilities and functions. Showed information about staged equipment throughout the state and that the average response time is 1 hour. Explained that they are an asset that will show up to help with response but that they do not take command. A brief explanation of the Tier II program was also presented and how those permits fund the response team. He also offered training opportunities to any fire department that is interested. The Hazmat hotline is 1-800-641-5005 and is supported 24 hrs. a day. The states Emergency Planning & community right to know act (EPCRA) site for Tier II chemical storage in your town is Emergency Planning & Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) | Vermont Emergency Management

# **VEM Updates**

Harry Schoppmann explained that there are two new listservs from VEM one is about grant funding and the other is for training. If anyone is interested they can either register on the VEM site <a href="https://vem.vermont.gov/email-lists">https://vem.vermont.gov/email-lists</a> and can sign up or drop any of the listservs offered.

## **Wrap and Next Meeting**

Keith Cubbon asked for ideas for speakers for the February meeting. Mike Bard requested someone to speak about active shooter incidents. Carl Rodgers announce that this was his last meeting since he is retiring on January 31<sup>st</sup> and will then no longer be Barre Town's EMD.

#### Future agenda items:

- Review bylaw changes requested and adopt-if quorum reached
- Elect Chair/Vice Chair-for 2023
- Regional Plan

The meeting ended at 6:39pm.

# **Voting Attendees:**

	Barre City	Doug Brent, Fire Chief Joe Aldsworth	□ Northfield	Lawrence Rutter Jeff Schulz, Manager
×	Barre Town	Carl Rogers, Town Manager/EMD	☐ Orange	Eric Holmgren
×		Joshua Martineau, Firefighter	×	Chris LaMonda
×	Berlin	Bruce Richardson, EMD	☐ Plainfield	Sasha Thayer, Selectboard
×		James Pontbriand, Police Chief		Greg Light
	Cabot	Jenn Miner, EMD	☐ Roxbury	Mike Dickinson
		Ruth Goodrich,		Shane Ryan
	Calais	Nick Emlen, EMD	☐ Waitsfield	Fred Messer, EMD

×		Betty Copeland			Mark Haviland, MRV Ambulance
					Service
	Duxbury	Mari Pratt	×	Warren	Jeff Campbell, EMD
		Courtney Guyette			Mark Haviland, MRV Ambulance
					Service
	East Montpelier	Seth Gardner, EMD/Selectboard Chair		Washington	Ryan Bresette, EMD
		Jon Boucher, EMC/Constable	×		Peter Carbee
	Fayston	Craig Snell, EMD		Waterbury	Gary Dillon, Fire Dept.
		Tripp Johnson, Fire Chief	×		Mike Bard, EMC
	Marshfield	Chris Martin		Williamstown	Jackie Higgins, Manager
		Will Scharwz			William Graham
	Middlesex	Peter Hood		Woodbury	Vacant
×		Eric Metivier, Fire Chief			Deb Larose, EMT
	Montpelier	Bill Frasier, Manager		Worcester	Ted Lamb
		Vacant			John Kaeding
×	Moretown	Stefan Pratt, EMD			
		Cortney Guyette			

**Others Present:** Harry Schoppmann (VEM); Keith Cubbon (CVRPC); Chief Patrick McLaughlin VT-Hazardous response team), Jonathon Scott (CVMC)