



# Central Vermont Regional Emergency Management Committee

## Meeting Summary

August 14, 2024

### Welcome and Introductions

The meeting convened at 5:06 pm.

Adjustments to the agenda: VEM update will be first as requested by Sid Pollock and Karen Kurle, as speaker from Washington County Mental Health.

A quorum of voting members was present. All members in attendance introduced themselves and the community they represent.

**VEM Updates**-Sid Pollock spoke about the pace of work and expected Federal Disaster Declaration. Have 3 current disasters in the State so VEM is very busy. Expressed thanks for all that everyone contributes.

### 2024 Vermont Emergency Preparedness Conference

LOCATION: Lake Moree Resort, Fairlee, VT

DATE/TIME: September 10-11, 2024

<https://vem.vermont.gov/conference>

Trainings

### ICS 300- Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents

LOCATION: DPS Headquarters- Waterbury, VT

DATE/TIME: August 20-22, 2024, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. each day

PREREQUISITES: ICS-100 and ICS-200

REGISTRATION: [State Learning Management System](#)

### Mental Health First Aid Training

DPS Headquarters, Waterbury, VT

October 25, 2024, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Registration required via [State Learning Management System](#)

Please sign up for VEM email lists if you haven't already <https://vem.vermont.gov/email-lists>

To stay up to date on training please register on the State's LMS system [Learning Management System | Vermont Emergency Management](#) and FEMA's training site. [FEMA | Resilience | National Preparedness Directorate | Emergency Management Institute \(EMI\)](#)

A motion was made to accept the February minutes by Stefan Pratt and was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Liz Scharf. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

**Presenter: Karen Kurrle, Washington County Mental Health**

Karen spoke about mental health and how to prepare and care for yourself before, during and after an event. Also spoke about how our families didn't sign on for our jobs and how to handle. Preplanning before a disaster importance for how we handle ourselves during a disaster. Spoke of being overwhelmed and of how Post traumatic stress and outbursts are normal responses. Also mentioned how to work through this with healthy coping strategies.

Karen provided the number for people to call and distribute for WCMHS services is 802-229-0591. The crisis screeners can always take a call from an Emergency Management Director and then figure out where to 'distribute it.' This is a 24/7 response number.

There is a recording of the meeting for anyone interested.

**Roundtable-Flood updates**

Keith gave a quick update on Plainfield and how they are dividing work with 6 positions and their attempt to develop a new section of village out of the floodplain.

Stefan Pratt spoke of sharing responses with neighboring towns due ability to respond and how to respond if they don't notify the town. That EMD's may shift coverage areas due to ability to respond due to location.

Liz Scharf spoke of their community forum to discuss road management with experts to discuss their infrastructure publicly. Had sign ups for emergency management and long-term recovery groups. That we are all doing the same thing but alone and that would like to see a more regional response.

Stefan spoke of mutual aid agreement and the possibility of collective purchasing. Keith mentioned the status of this and need for commissioners to adopt.

Discussed a regional response or shared resources for response.

Keith spoke to VEM bringing a ICS-402 training to Plainfield to get the town staff and selectboard trained on how FEMA response will look and roles required.

Fred Messer spoke about the need for 211 data in an expedited format that can more easily be reached by EMD's. This current situation is horrible. Town's are supposed to be requesting residents to promote 211 but then can't access the data themselves to respond and check on their needs. Should be able to access the list daily not a week later. If this isn't going to be shared then it is worthless to the town for collection from the town perspective. Significant discussion on this and need to be able to access in real time. This needs to be in real time since this is an essential need.

**LEPC meeting update:**

No report.

Stefan. made a motion to adjourn the meeting Fred Messer 2nd the motion. Voting commenced, motion passed.

The meeting ended at 6:21 pm.

**Voting Attendees:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Barre City	Keith Cushman, Fire Chief	<input type="checkbox"/>	Northfield	Jeff Schulz, EMD
<input type="checkbox"/>		Joe Aldsworth, EMC	<input type="checkbox"/>		vacant
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Barre Town	Chris Violette, Town Manager/EMD	<input type="checkbox"/>	Orange	Eric Holmgren
<input type="checkbox"/>		Joshua Martineau, Firefighter	<input type="checkbox"/>		Chris LaMonda
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Berlin	Bruce Richardson, EMC	<input type="checkbox"/>	Plainfield	Michael Billingsley, EMD
<input type="checkbox"/>		James Pontbriand, EMD	<input type="checkbox"/>		Greg Light, Fire Chief
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cabot	Jenn Miner, EMD	<input type="checkbox"/>	Roxbury	Mike Dickinson
<input type="checkbox"/>		Ruth Goodrich,	<input type="checkbox"/>		Shane Ryan
<input type="checkbox"/>	Calais	Nick Emlen, EMD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Waitsfield	Fred Messer, EMD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Jake Aho, EMC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Howie McCausland, MRVAS
<input type="checkbox"/>	Duxbury	Richard Charland	<input type="checkbox"/>	Warren	Jeff Campbell, EMD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Ian Stewart, EMC	<input type="checkbox"/>		Mark Haviland, MRVAS
<input type="checkbox"/>	East Montpelier	Seth Gardner, EMD/Selectboard Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	Washington	Fred Blanchard, EMD
<input type="checkbox"/>		Jon Boucher, EMC/Constable	<input type="checkbox"/>		Peter Carbee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fayston	Kirsten Savage, EMD	<input type="checkbox"/>	Waterbury	Gary Dillon, Fire Dept.
<input type="checkbox"/>		Tripp Johnson, Fire Chief	<input type="checkbox"/>		Mike Bard, EMC
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marshfield	Justin Campbell, EMD	<input type="checkbox"/>	Williamstown	Jackie Higgins, Manager
<input type="checkbox"/>		Will Scharwz	<input type="checkbox"/>		William Graham
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Middlesex	Liz Scharf, EMD	<input type="checkbox"/>	Woodbury	John Gordon, EMD
<input type="checkbox"/>		Stephen Dennis, EMC	<input type="checkbox"/>		Deb Larose, EMT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Montpelier	Bill Frasier, Manager	<input type="checkbox"/>	Worcester	Ted Lamb
<input type="checkbox"/>		Robert Gowans, Fire Chief	<input type="checkbox"/>		John Kaeding
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moretown	Stefan Pratt, EMD			
<input type="checkbox"/>		Cortney Guyette			

**Others Present:** Keith Cubbon (CVRPC), Sid Pollock, Mike Burke-GMP, and Corinne Cooper-Berlin EM team.