



Central Vermont Regional Emergency Management Committee

Meeting Summary

February 12, 2025

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting convened at 5:04 pm.

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

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

A motion was made to accept the November minutes by Stefan Pratt and was 2nd by Jeff Campbell. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

Nomination and Election of Officers:

All positions ran were nominated during the meeting and ran unopposed for their positions.

Chair: Stefan Pratt

Vice-Chair: Jeff Campbell

LEPC rep.: Jeff Campbell

IPPW rep: Stefan Pratt

THIRA-SPR: vacant (position is only tasked every 3 years during state Threat Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment-Stakeholder Preparedness Review)

Presenter: Keith Cubbon, CVRPC

The presentation was a brief overview and discussion of projects that have been asked to proceed in the region for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding. Not all of these projects will proceed but they are moving forward to the project review stage.

- Montpelier Wastewater Plant-Hardening: Implementing steps to protect the plant from flood water intrusion and damages.
- Bailey Dam Removal- Removal of run of river dam in downtown Montpelier
- 5 Home Farm Way- Floodplain reconnection on 18-acre property behind Agway in Montpelier on bank of the Winooski across from the confluence with the Stevens Branch.

- 6 Culverts in Montpelier that each caused associated flooding to homes or town owned property.
- Moscow Woods Road and Dam-Calais: Dam removal and bridge replacement to lower flooding potential in East Calais village.
- Waterbury Cornfield: Floodplain reconnection project to alleviate flooding in Waterbury
- Gunner's Brook- Barre: Floodplain reconnection and debris catcher redesign. This is reconnecting floodplain on additional buyout sites expanding the current area and utilizing a new design for debris removal that doesn't create damming effect and allows for removal of debris during an event.
- North End Culvert- Barre: Upsizing an undersized culvert under US-302 and railroad line that causes neighborhood flooding in this area.
- Berlin Street Area-Barre: Bridge removal and replacement with raised pedestrian bridge. Included floodplain reconnection of buyout locations on Vine and Scampini Streets.
- Willey Street Bridge Area-Barre: Bridge removal and widening of channel for new structure that allows flow passage and floodplain reconnection on adjacent property.
- Batchelder Dam removal-Plainfield: Dam removal project that will decrease flooding in Plainfield village and along US-2
- Structure replacement projects-Cabot: Cabot has 2 structures on their main street that have been studied to be replaced. 1) With a 30' bridge next to the Willey Building 2) To upsize bridge on North end of town with 50' structure and elevate Route 215 North to maintain access.

Keith spoke to the timeline of finalized projects. Also gave an update on the buyouts throughout the region and the progress on most of them at this time.

Stefan asked if there are smaller projects that can be advanced in the next funding round for DR-4810 (July 2024). Keith replied yes new projects can still be submitted. The region has the entire pre-application submission list from the DR-4720 projects. If you have a project idea definitely let us know. We are also attempting to find other funding sources for projects such as Clean Water Service Provider (CWSP) funds which can be used if there is a phosphorus reduction from the project. But we are looking for other funds both for projects or for the match for future FEMA HMGP projects. We are also utilizing this same funding for culvert replacements in Berlin utilizing CWSP funding which many of these are at 100% funding. Have also been looking into possibly utilizing for floodplain reconnection of buyouts sites. CVRPC is also currently looking into a possible PROTECT grant to study the Choke point on the Winooski under the Interstate 89 bridge in Montpelier. We are looking for anyplace we can get flood reduction in the region and trying to utilize any funding we can.

LEPC meeting update:

Not much to update. Chief McLaughlin is currently going through the hiring process for an assistant to deal with TIER 2 reporting. They reviewed call volume for 2024, and the next meeting is in April. The call volume had decreased from the 2023 but that was partially associated with the Flood of 2023.

VEM Updates-Sid Pollock spoke about the Chief McLaughlin presentation at a NE REMC meeting for the Irasville Tanker Fire. Sid asked if during large hazmat scenes or larger events if EMD's would benefit from regional

coordinators assisting as a liaison officer. There isn't a current policy but is in the job description but they are thinking of during business hours this would be available. The group discussed the benefits of this and of accessing resources that this would be beneficial and should also be brought up with Capital Fire Mutual Aid.

Local Emergency Management Plans- reach out if you need help or want to set up a meeting for changes and updates. These are taking about 2 hours to complete.

Spring Flood Seminar Q & A is tomorrow. All videos are on youtube.

Training- Please sign up for the VEM training, funding, and newsletter <https://vem.vermont.gov/email-lists>
Active Threat Integrated Response Course-3-day active shooter class in August 1-3 8am-4pm in Stowe. 2 Days of classroom and 1 of exercises. 15 slots open and would like to have EMS and Fire participants. It is listed in the VEM newsletter.

Keith gave an update about a possible cybersecurity training and will follow up with details.
Also gave an update on Capital Fire Mutual Aid communications upgrade and possible CDBG-DR funding and USDA-DR. There was a question about the federal funding. We don't know any answers on the federal funding and freezes at this time. But that we are aware of USDA NRCS funding being frozen for some programs. Sen. Perchlink is attempting to put match money for USDA NRCS Emergency Work Program match being included in the State budget since many homeowners can't afford the match.

Sid spoke to the Cal-Essex REMC has a communications plan that Glen Herrin put together 2 policies for EMDs to call each other and share information and the second could request support. This would be 1 document that allow sharing of contact information with EMDs. The second would give authority to allow an EMD to come to town and put in requests to SEOC. Stefan asked if this would work for VTAlert. Sid said that would require signing off on allowing this.

Keith mentioned that the mutual aid agreement is official and will be reaching out to towns after town meeting day for signatures.

Jake Aho asked if this meeting is open to more than just the representatives. Keith spoke to it being a public meeting and if Jake sends the contact information we will send any outreach to them.

Jeff made a motion to close the meeting, Eric seconded. Motion passed.
The meeting ended at 6:09 pm.

Voting Attendees:

<input 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 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Warren	Jeff Campbell, EMD
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Peter Carbee
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Eric Metivier, Fire Chief	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deb Larose, EMT
<input type="checkbox"/> Montpelier	Bill Frasier, Manager	<input type="checkbox"/> Worcester	Ted Lamb
<input type="checkbox"/>	Derek Libby, 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 (VEM),