



Central Vermont Regional Emergency Management Committee

Meeting Summary

May 13, 2026

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting opened at 5:04 pm.

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

A quorum of voting members was present.

Keith announced that there are possible grant funding sources for AED machines. He also spoke to FEMA, being funded again at the by congress and that the Emergency Management Planning Grant which funds CVRPC's work may be arriving soon which would help us to better support the towns and EMDs.

Minutes: A motion was made to adopt the February minutes. The motion was made by Eric Metivier with Michael Billingsley as 2nd voting commenced and motion passed.

Presenter: Lisa Kolb, State Hazard Mitigation Officer-Vermont Emergency Management

Hazard Mitigation Funding Update

The Vermont State Hazard Mitigation Officer provided a comprehensive update on state and federal hazard mitigation activities, including:

FEMA Hazard Mitigation Programs

- Overview of recent FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding rounds following the 2023 and 2024 flood events.
- Discussion of buyout projects and infrastructure mitigation proposals submitted statewide.
- Explanation that Vermont submitted more eligible projects than available federal funding could support.

Project Tracking and Coordination

- The State developed a "Master Unfunded Tracker" (MUT) list to organize and monitor mitigation projects that have not yet secured funding.

- Regional Planning Commissions are reviewing and updating project lists with communities.
- Emphasis was placed on maintaining project readiness for future funding opportunities.

Buyout Program Status

- Approximately 252 FEMA buyout projects have been submitted statewide.
- Roughly 139 projects have reportedly received awards.
- Many projects from the 2023 flood cycle are progressing toward completion, while newer 2024 projects remain under review.

BRIC Program Changes

Discussion focused on significant changes to FEMA's Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program:

- Funding opportunities are more limited than in previous years.
- Project scoping remains eligible but now needs to be more than 30% to be funded by FEMA for implementation.
- Local Hazard Mitigation Plan development is no longer eligible under BRIC.
- FEMA has eliminated phased implementation projects.
- Future implementation projects will need to be substantially complete and "shovel ready" to remain competitive. Towns will need to have engineering complete to be ready.

Community Preparedness and Planning

- Communities were encouraged to continue developing mitigation concepts and infrastructure proposals.
- Officials stressed the importance of advancing engineering and design work before future federal funding rounds open.
- Discussion included match requirements and funding considerations for economically disadvantaged communities.

LEPC Update- Jeff Campbell gave an update.

Group met in April. They have been seeing an increase in attendance especially from the industrial/commercial sector. They did an abridge lithium-ion battery class that they are beginning to offer for non-fire department organizations.

VEM update- Michaela Foody gave the update as Sid Pollock was unavailable.

LEMP Season is here.

Please reach out to Sid as soon as possible if you would like assistance working on your LEMP or any additional annexes. June 1st will be here before we know it, so let's get this updated now! Once completed please submit to Sid for review.

Sid's contact info:

Sidney.pollock@vermont.gov

802-760-9190

The National Weather Service will be offering their public events service. If you have an event they can provide locational based weather reports for awareness to EMDs so that for large events you can plan accordingly for evacuation or response. the information on how to sign up is in the latest VEM newsletter. [Vermont Emergency Management May, 2026 Newsletter](#) | [Vermont Emergency Management](#)

Please sign up for email lists from VEM.

[Email Lists](#) | [Vermont Emergency Management](#)- which you can use to access the newsletter and trainings lists

2026 Vermont Emergency Preparedness Conference will be held at Burke Mountain Ski Resort on September 23rd and 24th, 2026.

This year's conference will bring together emergency management professionals, first responders, and stakeholders from across Vermont to discuss critical preparedness strategies, share best practices, and strengthen our collaborative response capabilities.

Conference Details:

- **Dates:** September 23-24, 2026
- **Location:** Burke Mountain Ski Resort- 2559 Mountain Rd East Burke, VT 05832
- **Website:** <https://vem.vermont.gov/conference>

For registration information and updates, please visit the conference website.

We look forward to your participation and to another successful year of learning and collaboration.

Roundtable

There was a discussion of coordination between municipalities EMDs during a disaster especially when communities are affected. There are currently two efforts on this one in the upper Winooski and one in the Mad River. Discussed doing some planning on this where the EMD would work as the incident commander and other EMDs/EMC could serve to assist with staffing. Request to see what towns are interested in planning or coordinating this type of work.

The regional shelter was discussed as work is being done to the building and will be unusable for the summer. Derek Libby mentioned he had heard that the Berlin armory is the current back up during the construction. Stefan requested a review to see if a different time or day of the week would be better for the meetings. The next meeting is anticipated for August 12, 2026, pending confirmation through a scheduling poll.

A motion to adjourn was made by Eric Metivier and seconded by Stefan Pratt. Voted on and motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:04pm

Next meeting is currently scheduled for August 12th at 5pm. Though this may change based on doodle poll results.

Voting Attendees:

☐ Barre City	Keith Cushman, Fire Chief	☐ Northfield	Steve Mackenzie, EMD
☐	Joe Aldsworth, EMC	☐	Peter Demasi
☐ Barre Town	Chris Violette, Town Manager/EMD	☐ Orange	Kevin Wilson EMD
☐	Joshua Martineau, Firefighter	☐	Ryan Bresette
☒ Berlin	Bruce Richardson, EMC	☒ Plainfield	Michael Billingsley, EMD
☐	James Pontbriand, EMD	☐	Matthew Johnathan, Fire Chief
☐ Cabot	Doug Cooke, EMD	☐ Roxbury	Lenny Davis, EMD
☒	Michael Hogan	☐	Don Randall
☐ Calais	James Dailey, EMD	☒ Waitsfield	Fred Messer, EMD
☐	Jake Aho, EMC	☐	Howie McCausland, MRVAS
☐ Duxbury	Ian Stewart	☒ Warren	Jeff Campbell, EMD
☐	Patrick Zachary	☐	Howie McCausland, MRVAS
☐ East Montpelier	Seth Gardner, EMD/Selectboard Chair	☐ Washington	Peter Carbee, EMD
☐	Toby Talbot	☐	Fred Blanchard
☐ Fayston	Kirsten Savage, EMD	☐ Waterbury	Gary Dillon, Fire Dept.
☐	Jared Young	☐	Bill Woodruff
☐ Marshfield	Christopher Whalen, EMD	☐ Williamstown	Larry Hebert, EMD
☐	Justin Campbell	☐	Marie Graham
☒ Middlesex	Colin Marshall, EMC	☐ Woodbury	John Gordon, EMD
☒	Eric Metivier, EMD	☐	Deb Larose, EMT
☐ Montpelier	Kelly Murphy, Manager	☐ Worcester	Albert Campbell
☐	Derek Libby, Fire Chief	☐	Chris Pollard
☒ Moretown	Stefan Pratt, EMD		
☐	Cortney Shephard		

Others Present: Keith Cubbon (CVRPC), Michael Foody (VEM), Lisa Kolb (VEM-presenter), Allissa Vigil, and Matt Bergeron

Zoom recording of meeting-

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/KcqA1Elu79SMMXT_Js-xgxxJACqhXCvejANZfinkOpbEdYJCjul7oZRamTCjqDiV8.vuPEdhnPZTVinGsn?startTime=1778706114000

LEMP Season is here.

Please reach out to Sid as soon as possible if you would like assistance working on your LEMP or any additional annexes. June 1st will be here before we know it, so let's start the process now!

Sid's contact info:

Sidney.pollock@vermont.gov

802-760-9190