



Central Vermont Regional Emergency Management Committee

Meeting Summary

August 12, 2026

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting opened at 5:03 pm.

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

A quorum of voting members was present.

Minutes: A motion was made to adopt the May minutes. The motion was made by Stefan Pratt with Eric Metivier as 2nd voting commenced and motion passed.

Presenter: John Goff, National Weather Service

Weather Review and Outlook Presentation

John presented a weather review covering recent precipitation and temperature trends, warning climatology, drought conditions, and winter outlooks. The presentation noted that severe weather activity was generally on par with historical averages, with four confirmed tornadoes this year compared to the typical one per year. John explained that drought conditions have significantly improved from last year's severe drought, with current stream flows near normal and only minor abnormal dryness in northeastern Vermont. Regarding the upcoming winter, John discussed the strong El Nino conditions and noted that while El Nino years can vary in snowfall impact, there is a higher probability of above-normal temperatures and potentially one or two significant nor'easters that could bring above-average snowfall.

Pacific Weather Anomalies Discussion

John spoke about the record El Nino in the Pacific but that it will affect our weather indirectly due to its effects on the jet stream. John predicted Vermont would likely experience a winter with similar temperatures to recent years, featuring three or four mud seasons rather than heavy snow.

Hurricane Outlook and River Monitoring

John explained that the hurricane season outlook remains below normal due to El Nino's influence on upper-level winds in the tropics, which disrupts hurricane formation.

Cabot River Gauge—He announced a new river gauge being installed on the Winooski River in Cabot, funded by Green Mountain Power and managed by the USGS, which will help establish new flood stages and go live around August 28th.

John recommended EMDs or town staff having an event and or needing up to date information can contact the NWS call center at 802-658-0207.

LEPC Update- no update

REMC Officers election

Stefan was re-elected as Chair

Vice Chair- Jeff Campbell

LEPC representative-Jeff Campbell

VEM update- Sid Pollock-Vermont Emergency Management Regional Coordinator gave the update.

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.

Planning Resources for Campgrounds

The state of Vermont is dotted with campgrounds, both private and public. That means many Emergency Management Directors have at least one in their planning area.

The Association of Floodplain Managers released resources to prepare camps, campgrounds, and RV parks for flood-related emergencies:

[Flooding Emergency Action Plan - A development guide for camps, campgrounds and RV parks](#): This guide, developed by the Association of Floodplain Managers, provides camps, campgrounds, and RV parks with information about how to develop and implement an Emergency Action Plan. FEMA Flood Maps that are referenced in this document can be accessed on the [FEMA Flood Map Service Center](#).

[Model Floodplain Ordinance - Guidance and draft language for campground operations](#): This document, developed by the Association of Floodplain Managers, provides cities and towns with guidance and draft language for a floodplain ordinance which requires Emergency Action Plans for camps, campgrounds, and RV parks.

Training

K0146 Homeland Security Exercise & Evaluation Program (HSEEP)

The Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) course provides a comprehensive overview of exercise design and practical skill development. Using the same terminology and processes, this course will offer activities that enable participants to interact with a range of templates and other materials provided by the National Exercise Division to ensure exercises are conducted consistently. Anyone who will be a member of an exercise design team or fulfill a role in one of the following areas of the exercise design process: design, development, conduct, evaluation, or improvement process for exercise. The primary audience for the course is training officers, exercise managers, individuals who will use the exercise and evaluation system, and individuals interested in becoming an HSEEP Evaluator for Vermont Emergency Management.

LOCATION: Virtual

DATE/TIME: October 5, 6, 7 & 9, 2026, 12:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m. each day

PREREQUISITES: IS-120

[REGISTRATION](#)

Must attend all days to receive credit

ICS 400- Advanced ICS for Command and General Staff

This course provides training for personnel who require advanced application of the Incident Command System (ICS). This course expands upon information covered in ICS 100 through ICS 300 courses, which are prerequisites for the ICS 400 course

LOCATION: Vermont State Police-St. Albans Barracks- St. Albans, VT

DATE/TIME: October 28-29, 2026, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. each day

PREREQUISITES: IS-100, IS- 200 and ICS- 300

[REGISTRATION](#)

Vermont Local Emergency Management Director Course

This course will familiarize Local Emergency Management Directors (EMD) and Coordinators (EMC) with major roles, responsibilities, and “how to do it” guidance across all four phases of Emergency Management.

LOCATION: Virtual

DATE/TIME: November 4-5, 2026, 1:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.

Must attend both days to receive credit.

[REGISTRATION](#)

Roundtable

American Red Cross-Lyndsey Morin (lyndsey.morin@redcross.org)

Discussed their plans to conduct a full-scale shelter exercise in November, offered Shelter Fundamentals training throughout the fall, and explained the process for certifying facilities as official Red Cross

shelters, which involves facility walkthroughs and signing facility use agreements. Lyndsey requested that anyone interested in trainings or discussions to reach out to her or their team to discuss.

Vermont Department of Health- Matt Ward- public health specialist (Matthew.S.Ward@vermont.gov) from the Medical Reserve Corps presented information about emergency medical go bags, which are free and designed to help seniors and at-risk individuals prepare for unexpected hospital visits or evacuations. They have been conducting training courses on these throughout the region. If you are interested, reach out to Matt to schedule an event.

There was a discussion about rescheduling the next meeting due to the Veteran's Day holiday. Also having a topic or discussion on WAZE usage for traffic at a future meeting.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:07pm

Next meeting is currently scheduled for November 18th at 5pm.

Voting Attendees:

☐ Barre City	Keith Cushman, Fire Chief	☒ Northfield	Mary Smith, 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	Matt Bergeron, EMD
☐	James Pontbriand, EMD	☐	Johnathan Matthew, 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	Ryan Bresette, EMD
☒	Troy Seckington	☐	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 Kury, Manager	☐ Worcester	Albert Campbell
☐	Derek Libby, Fire Chief	☐	Chris Pollard

- ☒ Moretown Stefan Pratt, EMD
- ☐ Cortney Shephard

Others Present: Keith Cubbon (CVRPC), Elizabeth Opladen (CVRPC), Addison Hardt (CVRPC), Evelyn Prim (Montpelier), Matt Ward (VDH-MRC), Kristen Leahy (Hardwick), Lyndsey Morin (ARC), Alice Peal (Waitsfield), Eric Nordensen (Northfield), and John Goff (NWS-presenter)