



Cal-Essex REMC Meeting Minutes

Here are the Minutes for the Cal-Essex REMC Meeting, Wednesday, November 20, 2024

DATE: Wednesday, November 20, 2024 TIME: 2pm

LOCATION: Barnet Fire Station, also available via ZOOM.

The meeting was called to order at 2:00pm by Chair Richard Fisher.

Introductions were made. Those attending in person were Richard Fisher- Concord Fire Chief/EMD, Gene Perkins- Ryegate Fire Chief, Sid Pollock- Vermont Emergency Management, Bruce Melendy- NVDA. Those attending via ZOOM were Neil Monteith- Peacham EMD, Keith Wooster-Kirby Representative, Glenn Herrin- Danville EMD, Lynette Farnham-Walden EMD, Rebecca Petelle- Vermont Department of Health and Bradley Reed-St. Johnsbury Fire Chief/EMD.

At the September REMC Meeting there was a hot wash to discuss the response to the July storms in area towns. The main concern was communication from one town to another about issues one town was having that could occur very soon in the surrounding town due to the fast-moving water. Glenn Herrin discussed VT-Alert and how that works but it was agreed that VT-Alert would not resolve the communication issues between EMDs and Town Officials. This conversation continued at the November REMC Meeting. Bradley Reed discussed the I am Responding App the St. Johnsbury Fire Department uses, and Richard Fisher advised Concord uses this App as well. There was discussion about putting together a list of cell phone numbers of all the EMDs in the area and sending that to all the EMDs so they would have that information of neighboring towns' EMDs. Glenn Herrin agreed to put together a plan that would have this information in it for the REMC.

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There was discussion about changing the starting time of the meetings from 2pm to 1pm and there were enough members present for a quorum, so the vote was in favor of changing the starting time from 2pm to 1pm.

Sid Pollock, the Regional Coordinator for Vermont Emergency Management provided an Update and Report for Vermont Emergency Management. Sid advised the new VEM Regional Coordinator for this area will be Zachary Borst starting in December. Sid asked if anyone was interested in being the Cal-Essex representative on the Statewide Local Emergency Planning Committee as there currently is not a representative from Cal-Essex REMC on the Statewide Local Emergency Planning Committee. Bruce Melendy has been attending the Statewide LEPC meetings as the Cal-Essex REMC, but ideally it should be a voting member of the REMC. Lynette Farnham advised she might be interested in a year or so but is new to the EMD position and is still learning that.

Elections for a Chair and Vice-Chair were on the agenda and there were enough voting members present to have an election; however nobody is interested in being the Chair or Vice-Chair. The current Chair, Richard Fisher and the current Vice-Chair, Neil Monteith, would both like to step away from these positions.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00pm, September 25, 2024.

The next Cal-Essex REMC Meeting will be on Wednesday, January 29, 2024 at the Barnet Fire Station at 2pm, also available via ZOOM.