



Cal-Essex REMC Meeting Minutes

Here are the Minutes for the Cal-Essex REMC Meeting, Wednesday, January 29, 2025

DATE: Wednesday, January 29, 2025 TIME: 1pm

LOCATION: Barnet Fire Station, also available via ZOOM.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00pm by Chair Richard Fisher.

Introductions were made. Those attending in person were Richard Fisher- Concord Fire Chief/EMD, Sid Pollock- Vermont Emergency Management, Zachary Borst- Vermont Emergency Management, Ron Morse- Barnet Fire Chief/EMD, and Rebecca Petelle- Vermont Dept. of Health. Those attending via ZOOM were Bruce Melendy-NVDA, Keith Wooster-Kirby Representative, Glenn Herrin- Danville EMC, Ann Lawless-Wheelock Selectboard and Alyssa Fontaine- Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital.

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. Glenn Herrin presented this plan at this meeting as a draft and there was some discussion about a couple of changes such as having alternate names and numbers to contact, but the REMC was quite pleased with this plan. It will be discussed again at the March REMC meeting after some modification.

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CALEDONIA, ESSEX AND ORLEANS COUNTIES
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Zachary Borst from Vermont Emergency Management introduced himself as the new VEM Regional Coordinator for Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans Counties and then gave an update on training and exercises that VEM is offering in the near future.

Elections for a Chair and Vice-Chair were on the agenda and however there wasn't a quorum and as of the November REMC Meeting nobody was 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 2:00pm, January 29, 2025.

The next Cal-Essex REMC Meeting will be on Wednesday, March 26th at the Barnet Fire Station at 1pm, also available via ZOOM.