

## Bennington County REMC

Wednesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> from 4:00-5:15PM

### Meeting Notes

- Welcome and introductions – those in attendance introduced themselves and mentioned their titles:
  - Bill Levine, Stamford EMD
  - Allison Strohl, BCRC
  - Rich Cogliano, VEM
  - Paul Doucette, EMD, BPD Chief
  - Camillo Grande, Lt. BPD
  - Dixie Zens, Sunderland Select Board
  - Paul Dansereau, Shaftsbury EMD
  - Art Groux, Bennington Rescue Squad
  - Nanci Gordon, VT 211
  - Ron Zimmerman, SVMC
- Quick overview of the REMC – Allison briefly talked about the LEPC moving to a single statewide LEPC and what the purpose of the REMC is.
- Meeting schedule – Allison mentioned that the plan was to keep the meetings quarterly and try to keep to an hour and mentioned that if anyone had other suggestions/ideas, to please feel free to reach out.
- Allison and Rich discussed informational meetings and meeting a quorum, and also discussed giving proxy to another REMC member.
- Appointments – Allison discussed the need to assign interim appointments for Chair and Vice Chair from voting members and discussed the roles.
  - Art Groux volunteered for interim Chair
  - Vice Chair role is still vacant
  - BCRC role is supporting the chair, maintaining member list (voting and non-voting), meeting space, posting meetings and agendas, taking and distributing minutes, documenting the REMC decisions in the Regional Plan and submitting Regional Plan to VEM.
- Assigning three representatives – Allison and Rich discussed the three support roles for the REMC. We also mentioned the Day of Learning and that one hotel room at Lake Morey Resort will be covered if someone from the BC REMC wants to attend. The room needs to be assigned by April 14<sup>th</sup>. Let Allison know if you would like the room and she will help get that set up. Paul Doucette and Bill Levine asked for more information about the Day of Learning and Allison will send out the email. Rich said that the sessions are still being assigned but more information should be out soon. No one volunteered for the three support roles.
  - Vacant: Statewide LEPC Rep.
  - Vacant: Threat/Hazard Inventory and Risk Assessment Review Rep.
  - Vacant: Integrated Preparedness Plan Rep.

- Allison asked about outreach to other voting members not in attendance and asked that if any members in attendance had others in mind that should be a part of the REMC, that they send the contact to Allison so she can reach out to them.
- Allison asked about the official REMC name – currently Bennington County REMC – all were okay with that name.
- Allison asked about topics for upcoming meetings
  - Ideas were VDART, sheltering animals in local shelters and how to plan for them, GMP after disasters
  - Bill Levine was interested about animal sheltering and farm animal sheltering in Stamford. Allison mentioned that VDART might be a good option for farm animals. Paul mentioned that Red Cross shelters require that there is space in a shelter to house animals.
  - Allison will try to get someone from VDART to speak at the next meeting and will also send out the LEMP annex that has animal sheltering planning.
- Allison talked about the draft bylaws and that she used a lot of the information from the Rutland REMC draft bylaws to develop them. Allison will send them out with the minutes for everyone to look at.
- Act 166 information – Allison asked some of the REMC members present for some more information for Act 166 in areas that are still blank.
- Bill Levine suggested creating and sending out a survey to all about meeting time/day/frequency. Allison said she would do that. Others mentioned that the current time works for them.
- Adjourn – the meeting ended at 4:45PM