

# Bennington County REMC Meeting

## Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 12, 2024 6 PM – 7:30 PM



### Location

Stamford Volunteer Fire Department  
Stamford, VT

**In-person attendees:** Bob Briggs, Stewart Johnson, Todd Lawrence, Wayne Tifft, Craig O'Dell, Bill Levine, Sheila Lawrence, Stephanie Shelburne, Joanne Bourbeau (VDART), Danica Stein (VDART), Dara Zink

**Virtual Attendees:** Taiga Christie (RC-VEM), Paul Doucette, Nick Zaiac, Paul Dansereau, Lyndsey Morin (ARC), Kim Hall

### **Guest Speakers:**

- Joanne Bourbeau and Danica Stein – Vermont Disaster Animal Response Team

### **Agenda:**

- Welcome from Dara Zink
- Group Introductions
- Call for any business items to add to agenda - None
- Speakers:
  - Joanne Bourbeau & Danica Stein - VDART
    - Lesson from a Pet Friendly Shelter Presentation can be found [here](#).
    - Contact information:
      - Joanne Bourbeau: [jboubeau@humanesociety.org](mailto:jboubeau@humanesociety.org) or [info@vermontdart.org](mailto:info@vermontdart.org); 301-529-3378
      - Danica Stein: [furrygirl@comcast.net](mailto:furrygirl@comcast.net); 802-353-7042
    - <https://vermontdart.org/>
    - Animal Resource Directory: <https://vem.vermont.gov/plans/local/animals>
  - Dara Zink, BCRC Emergency Management Planner, presented on the Municipal Vulnerability Indicators Tool
    - Presentation can be found [here](#).
    - There was a request for a deeper training to be completed. Dara will schedule a time for that training.
- Old Business:
  - Discussion of REMC officers. A quorum was not met at this meeting and it was shared Todd Lawrence is willing to act as Chair and Vince Thompson as Vice Chair. We need 14 of the assigned town representatives to be present in order to meet the quorum required to elect these positions.
- Updates:
  - Lyndsey Morin – American Red Cross
    - She is finalizing her training and is hoping to bring a Shelters Fundamental training to our area in 2025.
    - There is a virtual versin of this course as well: <https://arc.csod.com/ui/lms-learning-details/app/course/6ab04486-096d-408b-807e-e801c1696b18>
    - Contact info: [Lyndsey.morin@redcross.org](mailto:Lyndsey.morin@redcross.org); 802-809-1343
  - Taiga – update from Vermont Emergency Management

- Full scale Binary Blizzard exercise in October 2025. All EMDs are strongly encouraged to attend.
- Changes to Regional Coordinators. Bennington/Rutland will have their own RC by the end of the year.
- Reminder that all LEMPs will be submitted to the new RC in 2025.
- There are small changes to the LEMP forms for 2025. These will be reviewed with each EMD by the new RC.
- The due date for the LEMP will be extended to June 1.
- Dara – Update from Bennington County Regional Commission
  - Planning on offering a LEMP refresher again in 2025 as well, if necessary.
- Next REMC Meeting: Tuesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm – Location – Virtual.
  - refer to the REMC webpage at [Regional Emergency Management Committee - BCRC \(bcrcvt.org\)](http://bcrcvt.org) for updates and links to past presentations.
- Thank you for attending!