

Accepted: July 29, 2009

Addison County Emergency Planning Committee, District 8
June 24, 2009 • 5:00–6:45 pm
VSP/Public Safety Building • New Haven, VT

Meeting called to order by Matt

1. **Introductions**—Three guests introducing us to their different-but-related animal rescues:

Susan Hauck—Champlain Large Animal Technical Rescue (CLATR), Orwell

Joanne Bourbeau—VT Disaster Animal Response Team (V DART), HSUS

Nancee Schaffner—Rutland Area Animal Response Team (RADART), Rutland

The groups often work together, and members of one are often members of others, but their focuses are different and reasons for calling on them differ.

2. **Presentations**—

CLATR—Susan explained the purpose of CLATR as being for the rescue of large animals needing extrication from various sorts of entrapments (e.g. going through the ice, crevice entrapment, falling into pools or pits, trapped under fallen buildings, etc). CLATR does not do sheltering or provide vet treatments, strictly retrieval. They work with vets, their crews come from fire/rescue teams, and serve the Addison/Rutland areas. Other chapters serve other parts of the state. CLATR, for Addison County, can be reached via (preferably) the Orwell FIRE DEPT. emergency number (948-2222); Peter Coffey will convey contact info to VEM's Duty officer, 911 may also be used although they may or may not have the necessary info at this point. CLATR is focused more on daily, 1-at-a-time emergencies rather than large area disasters

RADART—Nancee presented an overall view of small animal disaster services, with an emphasis on what the Rutland group does. She offered examples of what is needed to get a DART group up and running, something there has been interest in for Addison County. RADART provides sheltering and care for animals affected by large-scale disasters or small-scale, 1-family disasters (e.g. A house fire). Services are aimed at small animals, but they have options for caring for large animals if needed, as well. They rely on donations/fund-raising/grants, members have certain training requirements, including some ICS and other courses. RADART serves primarily Rutland County.

V-DART—Joanne, also the Senior State Director—VT/NH—Field Services for HSUS, explained that V-DART is a resource for disaster services, more than a hands-on source of assistance for animals in a disaster. V-DART is still in its formative stages, with by-laws under review. Members come from several LEPCs, VEM, other animal groups, and individuals. Joanne went on to present the services available through HSUS in disasters, explaining that the concern is helping people by helping them with care for their pets, since experience has shown that many will not accept evacuation aid if it means leaving pets behind. HSUS has signed MOUs with Vermont and other states to provide these services through state resources such as Dept. of Agriculture, VT Humane Federation, V-DART, etc. V-DART also works to encourage participation/inclusion of animal-care reps in LEPC groups.

3. **Secretary's Report**—Tom H MOVED, and Bob SECONDED, to accept the Minutes of 5/27/09 as presented. *Motion passed.*

4. **Treasurer's Report**—[Kate] June 24 balance: \$2,898.53. Over \$200 was used to reimburse town personnel for attending the recent Local Roads training, Bristol EMD program was a bit over 4400. Tom H MOVED, Bob SECONDED, to accept the Treasurer's report as presented; *Motion passed.* Sue Anne MOVED, Charlie SECONDED, that the LEPC pay all outstanding bills. *Motion*

passed. Kate presented a fiscal '10 budget proposal for review and discussion at the July meeting.

5. **Publicity**—[Tim] No report

6. **CERT**—4 new Addison CERT members and 1 for Rutland CERT from the last training. The group expressed thanks and kudos to Pip and Annie for their hard work on behalf of CERT, as they head off to a new life in Arizona. Pip noted that Weybridge will be appointing a new EM Coordinator shortly.

7. **H1N1 Status**—[Robin] Robin reported her recent experience regarding closure of the Shoreham Elementary School because of the H1N1 virus. Neither she nor town officials had been notified, none knew of it until reading about it in the local newspaper. She made a number of calls and found that the decision had been made by the Supervisory Union (the school principal being one of those out with the flu), and parents notified via their school notification system. This system is called “Alert Now” and is propriety to educational institutions. She requested being put on the notification list so that in the future she is made aware of school closings for any reason, and suggested that other EM Coordinators/Managers do the same either through their local school official(s) or their Supervisory Unions. She also found she could be added to the VDH “blast” fax/email alert notification system and provided her contact info for that service (388-4644).

8. **EMD Kits**—[Kate] Kate proposed that ACEPC develop kits for EMD's and presented a list of suggested kit contents for the group to review for further discussion.

9. **ACEPC Outreach Committee report**—[Tim] Fifth workshop was held June 9 in Bristol. Session was good, attendance: not so much. Tabletops will be scheduled for the fall.

10. **CPOD Drill**—[Tim] The drill went off, more-or-less as planned, on May 30. Local participation could have been better, but we managed. As anticipated, a number of issues were spotted where more work is needed, but overall—given that this was the first attempt at a such a large, state-wide coordinated exercise—it went remarkably well. Peter has worked extraordinarily hard for the past several years to get this organized, and thanks to him for those efforts. Evaluation and After Action reports are being compiled, with an After Action review scheduled for sometime late July or August

11. **Upcoming (contact Tim with any questions):**

- **Next ACEPC meeting**—July 29, 5:00PM, VSP New Haven
- A **HazMat Awareness** Training is being planned for August, and a **HazMat Operations** Training for September—Watch for details.
- **Tabletop Exercises**—Planned for the fall, Sept./Oct.

Meeting adjourned—Motion made and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. *Motion passed.*
6:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Conway, Secretary

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**ATTENDEES:** Tim Bouton—ACEPC Coordinator; ACRPC; New Haven FD  
 Sue Ann Arnebold—Orwell Town Clerk  
 Bob Arnebold—Orwell EM; FD  
 Lt. Bruce Melendy—VSP Commander, Middlebury  
 Matt Fraley—ACEPC Chair; VFD; Panton EMD; Citizen Corps

Robin Conway—ACEPC Secretary; Shoreham EMC; CERT; ARES

Peter Coffey—Assist. Dir., VEM

Sue Camp—Monkton, CERT

Tom Hanley—Midd. PD Chief, EMD

Kate Gieges—ACEPC Treasurer; Cornwall EMC, CERT

Annie Wales—Weybridge EM, CERT

Pip Wales—Weybridge EM, CERT, ARES

Charlie Huizenger—Monkton EM, CERT

Julie Smith—UVM Animal Sciences; Addison County Community Agricultural Planning (CAP)