

Addison County LEPC, District 8
April 25, 2007 5:05–6:40pm
Public Service Bldg/VSP • New Haven • VT

Meeting called to order at 5:05 pm

- 1. Announcements**—(Tim) Tim advised of the passing of Shirley Provost this morning. Shirley was instrumental in the organizing of the Addison County LEPC. Well-known and a friend to many, she will be missed. Those present signed a card of condolence to her family and close friends.
- 2. Secretary's Report**—(Robin) Minutes sent via email. Several typos to be corrected. Bob A. Moved to accept Minutes as corrected, Beth D. Seconded. Motion Passed.
- 3. Treasurer's Report**—(Andrea O.) None.
- 4. Disaster Discussion #1.5**—(Tim) A continuation of previous storm-related disaster tabletop. *Focus on VEM:* had VEM been called by Emergency Manager? If so, what response? Randy fielded questions related to options available through VEM and options available to VEM, which depends—largely—on conditions on-scene, time of day, affected population, extent of situation, and so on. In a statewide event, once the Governor makes a declaration of emergency, it relieves local authorities of the burden of making a request. However, in a wide-ranging event, the Governor's decision to declare can be influenced by the volume of requests received, so local officials should not wait on a statewide declaration but should put in their request as soon as the need becomes apparent.

Issues: What roads are closed, per Plan, so that resources can be focused on the routes necessary to be kept open? How are people notified about the status of their road? What plans are in place for aid to local residents (clearing of heat vents, supplies, alerts, etc)?

5. Rutland Nor'easter Wind Storm 4/16—(Tim)

- a. CERT had been called out to assist Rutland on Saturday, 4/21. Kate reported on her 8AM 3-hour shift. There were 6 or 8 CERT members there at that time, along with teams from local colleges and a large contingent from UPS.
The Salvation Army provided snacks, lunch and drinks throughout the morning. Note: The SA has the capability and resources to provide food on-scene for any long-duration disaster. They would like to be called when/if such need arises.
Response to CERT was excellent—service was much appreciated by residents and local crews; was a great opportunity to do a bit of pr for CERT services.
- b. Tom Hanley reported on severity of conditions in Brandon—There was an apparent break-down of communications overall, as while Brandon was in dire need of resources, in the Middlebury area the storm was barely noticeable, and no call for assistance was received by Middlebury PD or VSP. Points out the need for better planning & coordination beyond what is currently in place.
Randy noted that VEM is putting together mobile Incident Commander teams that can be essentially “dropped into” any disaster scene lacking such a structure and control system. This is an ongoing project, still in the development stage.
Beth mentioned existence in Rutland of a shelter for pets to deal with the issue of people not evacuating because of unwillingness to abandon their animals. Suggested such a facility here would be of benefit to Addison County.

6. Other Business

—Tom H gave a short report on the use of the Middlebury EOP in light of the Middlebury PD's recent experience with a seriously reduced staffing situation due to the severe illnesses circulating. His staff was decimated for about 3 weeks; some of the Plan held up well, some not

so well. “A good exercise,” he said, “Eye-opening.”

—*Jessica J.*: She is working with CVOEO to develop emergency kits for low-income families. Kits to contain basic food/medical supplies, prep lists, educational materials on disaster preparedness planning, other basic supplies. Can ACLEPC assist with funding? Discussion settled on need by the group for more info, e.g. a comprehensive proposal indicating number of kits, contents, and distribution plans. With this info, a better decision can be made. Jessica will develop this and a sample kit.

Jessica proposed the writing of emergency preparedness for local news outlets. She is interested in participating in such an effort.

—Kate has been nominated as Cornwall's Emergency Management Director. Both she and Tim were at a well-attended re-organizational meeting in Cornwall last night. Congratulations were extended to Kate

Robin Conway, Secretary

ATTENDEES:

Pip Wales—Weybridge Emergency Management
Robin Conway—Shoreham EMC; AC-LEPC Secretary
Susan Ann Arnebold—Orwell Town Clerk
Bob Arnebold—Orwell EMD
Bud Scully—Lincoln First Response
Beth Diamond—VT 211
Tom Hanley—Middlebury PD
Jessica Jackson—VT Dept of Health, Midd.
Kate Gieges—Cornwall EMD
Tom Noble—VSP
Marty Whittemore—Ripton EMD
Tim Bouton—LEPC Coordinator
Randy Bronson—VEM