

Addison County Emergency Planning Committee, District 8
September 26, 2007 • 5:10–6:35pm
Public Safety Bldg/VSP • New Haven, VT

Meeting called to order at 5:10 pm

- 1. Secretary's Report**—[Robin] Steve J. moved to accept Minutes of 9/26 as sent; Charlie H. Seconded. Motion passed
- 2. Treasurer's Report**—[Andrea O.] Tim handed out short financial report showing a balance at 8/1 of \$5,144.47; after food reimbursements to Tim, repaying VT DPS balance due of \$500.01, brochure print costs of \$65, and postage reimbursement to Andrea of \$5.21, the balance at 9/26 was \$4,447.08. Robin noted that brochure payment should be made out to the Little Pressroom. Dave H moved to accept Treasurer's report as corrected; Tom N Seconded. Motion passed. Tom H. moved that Tim be reimbursed for this meeting's food expense; Charlie Seconded. Motion passed.
- 3. VCOMM Report**—[Paul Duquette] Chief Duquette and several members of VCOMM presented an overview of progress to-date on the implementation of the VCALL/UCALL system, the goals of VCOMM to establish interoperable communications across Vermont's emergency responder groups, and upcoming plans to build-out a state-wide LifeLine System beginning by spring 08.
 - At mid-September, just over half of Vermont's 441 response groups have reprogrammed their radios with the V-CALL/U-CALL frequencies. All responding agencies are urged to complete the reprogramming while funding remains available to cover the cost.
 - VCOMM is working on a set of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) which it hopes to distribute to first responders this fall.
 - V-TAC 4 has been designated as the DHART landing-zone coordination frequency. This is also the frequency to be used with other air units. Responder groups are advised to contact DHART, Albany, or other air emergency transport units confirming that the group has adopted V-TAC 4 as the LZ coordination frequency.
 - MOUs have been entered into with the following groups for the utilization of interoperability comms with local and state emergency responders, and other emergency officials: VT Ambulance Assoc., VT Assoc. of Chiefs of Police, VT Career Fire Chiefs Assoc., VT Fire Chiefs Assoc., VT Sheriffs Assoc., VT State Firefighters Assoc., VT State Police.
 - The LifeLine System involves installing appropriate equipment in all eleven PSAPs (Public Safety Answering Points), with radio equipment/repeaters as needed on 30 mountain tops. The PSAPs will be programmed with the 2 V-CALL/U-CALL frequencies, not with the 4 V-TAC/3V-CALL frequencies which are to be used locally, on-scene. The CALL frequencies will allow Incident Commanders to contact emergency officials via the PSAP system, from nearly any Vermont location.
 - Question—*Tim*: The system is for voice only, or also for data?
Paul: Voice only. Is not a police system, is only for/in support of fire and rescue.
 - Al Barber is the Addison County VCOMM contact for those who have questions or need assistance. Various reports, grant applications, etc. are available at the VCOMM website : www.dps.state.vt.us/vcomm/
- 4. HSU Report**—[HeatherGibbs] Increasing pressure for accountability from higher up flows down—there are still 3 Addison County NIMS Compliance reports not yet in: Cornwall First Response, Lincoln Fire, Ripton First Response. Failure to implement NIMS and file appropriate reports as requested will put receipt of funding in jeopardy. In ensuing discussion it was noted that Cornwall and Ripton First Responders are part of Fire Depts.

- 5. Planning Updates**—[Tim] Tim sent a letter to Selectboards regarding funds allocated for Mitigation Planning.
- Rob Evans is the new Flood Plan Coordinator
 - Dept. of Health has funding for pandemic planning; new plan focusing on local health officials in the works, modeled on previous Continuity of Government program..
- 6. Porter Drill**—[Tim] The drill went very well, only minor issues arose. Much time and money has been spent on training and it showed.
- 7. HSU Exercise Proposal**—[Tim] HSU declined to fund the Exercise Proposal ACEPC had discussed in January and voted on in March(see Minutes for March 28), stating that that sort of educational program was VEM's responsibility. VEM has indicated it will be doing something in that regard within the next 10 months or so.
- 8. Old Business: By-Law Changes**— Bud moved that further discussion on our By-Laws be tabled until another meeting. Craig Seconded. Motion passed.
- 9. Other Business**—
- **Randy**—VEM's new haz-mat guides for '08 nearly ready; CDs also available; HMEP—ACEPC can apply for funding to help defray costs of haz-mat plan rewrites; the Governor has filled 9 appointed positions for SERC reps, including Pete Coffey, SERC's Public Safety Chair as VSP/Law Enforcement rep, Al Barber as LEPC rep, Carl Rogers as towns' rep; DisasterLAN training is in progress.
 - **Tom Hanley**—The recent fund-raiser held by Two Brothers' Tavern in Middlebury for the benefit of the Mobile Command Unit raised \$400
 - **Tom Noble**—The Public Safety Building's Open House was a great success. Special thanks to Beth and Andrea. Over 400 signed the guestbook, the Governor and his wife stopped in, MVAA handed out 75 helmets to kids, 20-plus agencies attended, and the event remained open until 7PM despite the inclement weather which forced a number of groups to pack up their outdoor displays. Many thanks to all who helped plan and organize, and who attended.
 - **Al Barber**—EPA has increased their reps from 1 to 13 with the intent to increase enforcement; if violations resulting in fees are found, 50% of the fee can be allocated to the local organization for emergency planning/preparedness; focus areas are large-scale ag, Tier II, ski areas, and waste stream management. There are 2 programs, work through either EPA or Agency of Nat. Resources; contact Lynn Wallace for details.
- 10. Upcoming:**
- NE Conf. on Flood Hazards, S. Royalton 10/15
 - Bernie Sanders—Fire/Town Meeting, Randolph 10/27
 - Animal Response Plan Workshop. Nashua, NH 10/31
 - Emergency Animal Sheltering, Northfield 11/10 & 11
 - Mitigation Appl. Workshop, Waterbury 10/19
 - Benefit/Cost Workshop, Waterbury 11/1

Next Meeting—October 31, 5:00PM at the Public Service Building.

Adjourned— 6:35

Robin Conway, Secretary

ATTENDEES:

Robin Conway—ACEPC Secretary , CERT, ARES, Shoreham EM
Kate Gieges—Cornwall EMD; CERT
Charlie Huizenga—Monkton EM, Fire; CERT
Jessica Jackson—VT Dept of Health, Midd.
Beth Diamond—VT 211
Craig Bingham—Middlebury Selectboard
Matt Fraley—ACEPC Chair; Citizen Corps/CERT; Vergennes Fire; Panton EM
Bud Scully—Lincoln First Response
Tim Bouton—ACEPC Coordinator; ACRPC; New Haven Fire
Dave Harrison—Lincoln Fire, EM
Lt. Tom Noble—VSP
Steve Johnson—Midd. Fire; CERT; ARES
Bob Arnebold—Orwell EM, Fire
Sue Arnebold—Orwell Town Clerk
Tom Hanley—Midd. PD
Pip Wales—Weybridge EM; CERT; ARES
Annie Wales—Weybridge EM; CERT
Jeff Whiting—Goshen Selectboard
Marty Whitemore—Ripton EM
Ed Sullivan—Ripton Fire/1st Response; Midd. Coll. ERT
Paul Duquette—Newport PD; VCOMM Chair
Randy Bronson—VEM
Dean Gilmore—ACFA; New Haven Fire
Al Barber—VCOMM; VT SFA; Hinesburg Fire
Mark Bouvier—Bristol Fire
Lt. Mike Manning—HSU; VSP
Terry Lavalley—VCOMM; VT Criminal Justice Svces
Tom Hurly—VCOMM
Heather Gibbs—HSU
Jon Soter—Ferrisburg Fire