



RUTLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Rutland Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC)

Meeting Minutes for
Wednesday, September 18, 2024 – 5:30 pm
Rutland Regional Planning Commission - Microsoft Teams

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 225 443 539 134 | Passcode: uYLrHc
Call in (audio only): 802-440-1368 | Phone ID: 225 616 290#

I. **Voting Member Roll Call**

Vice Chair Jan Sotirakis convened the meeting at 5:33 PM. Roundtable introductions were given in lieu of the voting member rollcall. A quorum of voting members was not present, so non-binding decisions were made by consensus for this meeting.

II. **Approve Meeting Agenda**

No formal additions: see item VI. It was agreed by consensus of the voting members present that the agenda be approved.

III. **Approve June 19, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

It was agreed by consensus of the voting members present that the minutes of the June 19, 2024 meeting be approved, with the amendment that the Vermont Emergency Management Preparedness Conference dates be changed from September 9-10 to September 10-11.

IV. **Open to the Public**

There was no one from the public in attendance.

V. **REMC Representative Reports**

- a. Statewide Local Emergency Planning Commission (**LEPC**) Rep, Bob Morlino
 - i. LEPC held their last meeting on July 9. Glenn Wallace, representing US EPA Region 1, was scheduled to present on the purpose and function of LEPCs. Wallace cancelled at the last minute, so the Commission instead went over Patrick McLaughlin's annual report for the HAZMAT Team. The next LEPC meeting is October 22, during which Wallace will give his postponed presentation.
- b. Threat Hazard Identification & Assessment/Stakeholders Preparedness Report (**THIRA/SPR**) Rep, Michael Ramsey
 - i. This position is currently vacant, so nothing to report.
- c. Integrated Planning and Preparedness Workshop (**IPPW**) Rep, Tom Johnston
 - i. Johnston was not present at the meeting.

VI. **Announcements**

- a. RRPC is hosting the Statewide Hybrid Binary Blizzard Tabletop Exercise at 16 Evelyn Street on October 23. O'Brien stated she will communicate with municipalities who previously expressed interest in participating and confirm their registration status. Taiga Christie noted that the registration deadline is October 16.
- b. O'Brien noted that Christie will no longer be the Regional Coordinator for the Rutland Region by the next REMC Meeting and thanked her for her service. VEM is seeking to fill a maximum of three additional Regional Coordinator Positions, and the Southern Region (Bennington, Orange, Rutland, Windham, Windsor) will be broken up into smaller cohorts. Rutland and Bennington Counties will constitute a region for one of the newly hired coordinators.

VII. **REMC Organizational Tasks**

- a. Amend REMC Meeting Time Resolution
 - i. As of 6/20/2024, the Rutland Regional Planning Commission (**RRPC**) moved offices from 67 Merchants Row to 16 Evelyn Street. The Meeting Time Resolution listed the physical meeting place as Merchants Row, so there is a need to amend the Resolution. It was agreed by consensus to adopt the Resolution as amended, with the date made current for a fresh signature from Vice Chair Sotirakis.
- b. Voting Membership Reappointments
 - i. The start of Federal Fiscal Year 2025 is October 1. O'Brien reminded the Committee to complete their Voting Membership Reappointment Forms, which will be sent out during this month.
- c. New Chair Scoping
 - i. With the lack of quorum, O'Brien stated she will conduct scoping over the next few months to find a potential new Chair. Nominations and elections will occur at the next REMC Meeting in December.

VIII. **Roundtable**

- a. O'Brien led a strategic discussion regarding the future of the REMC given an increase in recently declared disasters and limited capacity across the board. The Committee made observations about the strain transient populations have on community resources during both "blue-sky" conditions and disasters. Given this, the group explored several potential avenues for strengthening the Region's preparedness, response, and resiliency, including the development of a partnership between the REMC and the newly established Rutland Regional Disaster Cooperative. The summary of this conversation can be viewed [here](#), and the full roundtable can be viewed on the [RRPC YouTube Channel](#)

IX. **Next Meeting – December 11, 2024 @5:30 PM**

Respectfully submitted by Maggie O'Brien, Emergency Management Planner at the RRPC.

**Rutland Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC)
Voting Members 2023-2024 as of 9/18/2024**

Voting Members					
Town	First Name	Last Name	Title	Present	Proxy Given
Benson	Paul	Davoren	EMD		Y
Benson	Jerod	Glover	Fire Rep		Y
Brandon	Seth	Hopkins	EMD		Y
Brandon	Tom	Kilpeck	Fire Chief	1	Y
Castleton	Michael	Jones	EMD		Y
Castleton	Peter	Mantello	Police Chief	1	Y
Chittenden	Bob	Case	EMD - designee	1	Y
Chittenden	Jan	Sotirakis	Fire Rep	1	Y
Clarendon	Craig	Knapp	EMD - designee		Y
Clarendon	Matt	Jakubowski	Fire Chief		Y
Danby	Shelley	Taylor	EMD - designee		Y
Danby	Tom	Johnston	Fire Rep		Y
Fair Haven	Jim	Heller	EMD - designee		Y
Fair Haven	Bill	Humphries	Police Chief		Y
Hubbardton	VACANT				
Hubbardton	Rick	Grabowski	Fire Rep		
Ira	Bob	Toppin	EMD		
Ira	VACANT				
Killington	VACANT				
Killington	VACANT				
Mendon	Val	Taylor	EMD-designee		Y
Mendon	Lema	Carter	Constable		Y
Middletown Springs	Herb	Childress	EMD-designee		Y
Middletown Springs	Bill	Reed	Highway Rep		Y
Mount Holly	Jeff	Chase	EMD		Y
Mount Holly	Jon	McCann	Fire Rep		Y
Mount Tabor	VACANT				
Mount Tabor	Tom	Johnston	Fire Rep		
Pawlet	Bob	Morlino	EMD	1	Y
Pawlet	Jonathan	Weiss	Fire Rep		Y
Pittsford	Tim	Cornell	EMD		Y
Pittsford	Steve	Shortsleeves	Fire Rep		Y
Poultney	Paul	Donaldson	EMD		Y
Poultney	Aaron	Kerber	Fire Chief		Y
Proctor	Judy	Frazier	EMD		Y
Proctor	Kevin	Blongy	Fire Rep		Y
Rutland City	Bill	Lovett	EMD	1	Y
Rutland City	Dan	Gedney	Fire Rep		Y
Rutland Town	Martin	Wasserman	EMD		Y
Rutland Town	Bill	Sweet	Fire Rep		Y
Shrewsbury	Aaron	Korzun	EMD		Y
Shrewsbury	Jack	Perry	Fire Rep		Y
Sudbury	Steve	Sgorbati	EMD		N
Sudbury	VACANT				

**Rutland Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC)
Voting Members 2023-2024 as of 9/18/2024**

Town	First Name	Last Name	Title	Present	Proxy Given
Tinmouth	Matthew	Patry	EMD-designee		Y
Tinmouth	Ray	Pratt	Fire Rep		Y
Wallingford	Jim	Bagnall	EMD		Y
Wallingford	Michael	Hughes	Fire Chief		Y
Wells	Todd	Fenton	Fire Chief		Y
Wells	Don	Preuss	EMD-designee		Y
West Haven	Rod	Ethier	EMD		Y
West Haven	Kerry	Ellis	Law Enforcement - designee		Y
West Rutland	Mary Ann	Goulette	EMD		Y
West Rutland	Michael	Skaza	Fire Chief		Y

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**Non-Voting Members
Organization**

Organization	First Name	Last Name	Present
American Red Cross	Lindsey	Morin	1
Rutland Mental Health	Loree	Zeif	1
Rutland Regional Planning Commission	Maggie	O'Brien	1
Town of Hubbardton	Mike	Wetmore	1
Vermont Department of Health	Eric	Pulver	1
Vermont Emergency Management	Taiga	Christie	1

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TOTAL (with proxies) (Voting Members) **10**

TOTAL (without proxies) (Voting members) **6**

Quorum (≥11) Met? **NO**