



Cal-Essex REMC Meeting Minutes

Here are the Minutes for the Cal-Essex REMC Meeting, Wednesday, March 26, 2025

DATE: Wednesday, March 26, 2025 TIME: 1pm

LOCATION: Barnet Fire Station, also available via ZOOM.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00pm by Chair Richard Fisher.

Introductions were made. Those attending in person were Richard Fisher- Concord Fire Chief/EMD, Zachary Borst- Vermont Emergency Management, Ron Morse- Barnet Fire Chief/EMD, and Darryl Perkins- Ryegate EMD, Bradley Reed- St. Johnsbury EMD and Bruce Melendy-NVDA. Those attending via ZOOM were Keith Wooster-Kirby Representative, Glenn Herrin- Danville EMC, - Lynette Farnham-Walden EMD, Jeff Corrow- Lyndonville EMD, and Rebecca Petelle- Vermont Department of Health.

At the September REMC Meeting there was a hot wash to discuss the response to the July storms in area towns. The main concern was communication from one town to another about issues one town was having that could occur very soon in the surrounding town due to the fast-moving water. Glenn Herrin discussed VT-Alert and how that works but it was agreed that VT-Alert would not resolve the communication issues between EMDs and Town Officials. This conversation continued at the November REMC Meeting. Bradley Reed discussed the I am Responding App the St. Johnsbury Fire Department uses, and Richard Fisher advised Concord uses this App as well. There was discussion about putting together a list of cell phone numbers of all the EMDs in the area and sending that to all the EMDs so they would have that information of neighboring towns' EMDs. Glenn Herrin agreed to put together a plan that would have this information in it for the REMC. Glenn Herrin presented this plan at this meeting as a draft and there was some discussion about a couple of changes such as having alternate names and numbers to contact, but the REMC was quite pleased with this plan. Glenn Herrin presented the updated plan minus the alternates as he did not have that information. Bruce Melendy advised he would reach out to the communities in the Cal-Essex

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REMC region to see who the alternate contact should be in the event the EMD is not available and get this information to Glenn Herrin so the plan can be updated for the May 28, 2025, Cal-Essex REMC meeting.

Zachary Borst, the Vermont Emergency Management Regional Coordinator, gave an update on training and exercises that VEM is offering soon.

Elections for Chair and Vice-Chair were on the agenda. Counting those with proxy votes, there were twelve voting members so there was a quorum as a total of nine voting members are required for a quorum. The current Chair, Richard Fisher and the current Vice-Chair, Neil Monteith, would both like to step away from these positions. Lynette Farnham offered to be the Vice-Chair and was elected to the position of Cal-Essex REMC Vice-Chair. Darryl Perkins offered to be the Chair and was elected to the position of Cal-Essex REMC Chair.

Zachary Borst from Vermont Emergency Management did a presentation on PACE (Primary Alternate Contingency Emergency) Planning for communicating during emergencies when everything fails.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00pm, March 26, 2025.

The next Cal-Essex REMC Meeting will be on Wednesday, May 28th at the Barnet Fire Station at 1pm, also available via ZOOM.