

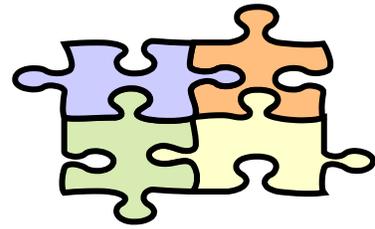
CHITTENDEN COUNTY, VERMONT
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE #1
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Meeting Notes, March 8, 2016

Present: Chair Al Barber; Mike Collins, Global Foundries; Noreen Karcher, VT 211; Emily Harris, DEMHS; Kate Hammond, VT Dept. of Health; Bob Henneberger and Kathi Walbridge, CERT/RACES; Stephen Cushing, St. Michael's College; Seth Lasker, Town of Colchester; John Berino, UVM MC; Dean Bloch, Town of Charlotte; David Bergeron, City of Winooski; Todd Odit, Town of Jericho; Andy Squires, Richmond Rescue; Doug Brent, City of South Burlington; also CCRPC senior planner Lee Krohn, AICP.

There were no changes to the agenda, nor public comment on items not on the agenda.

With no questions or concerns, the meeting notes of February 9, 2016 were accepted by unanimous consent.

Emily Harris, DEMHS: Preparing updates to Local Emergency Operations Plans (LEOPs) -- required elements, recommended elements, planning tasks and appendices, and putting the LEOP into action.

Emily gave a helpful overview of changes to this year's LEOP requirements; these very timely, in that the annual updates are due between March 1/Town Meeting Day and May 1. Information is also available at www.demhs.vermont.gov/plans/local. An adopted and accepted LEOP is now a prerequisite for any type of grant application flowing through DEMHS (EMPG, HMGP, HSGP...). Be sure to clarify which municipality is covered by the LEOP (town...village... both?). The person certifying adoption must be a qualified individual (muni manager/administrator, or council/selectboard member), who has taken and passed the prerequisite ICS 100 or 402 training. Typed name is fine, no need for actual signature. NIMS adoption is good forever, so whatever date in the past that was adopted is fine.

Other notes:

Contact names on page 1 should be in the order in which it's intended they be contacted in an emergency.

Planning Task 1: mobile home parks now added as a vulnerable population. Not intended for specific individuals; those with special needs for help in general emergencies can register with E-911 via the CARE/VT 211 system. Day care centers are also added here. Using the State sites for these, Krohn has already sent relevant lists to each municipality in preparation for the current LEOP updates.

Planning Task 2: add Tier II hazmat reporting sites. Krohn is still working on this for LEOPs and other needs; this one is not nearly as simple.

Planning Task 3: pre designated Local Emergency Operations Centers; no changes to tasks 3, 4, or 5. It's helpful to clarify who is responsible for resource lists; while these resource lists in Appendix B5 are helpful, they are not required.

Planning Task 6: new requirement/checkbox to designate whether emergency shelters accept pets.

Unfortunately, and bad timing for LEOP preparation, the Federal NIMS Resource Typing Tool is out of service online, and it's not known when it will be up and running again. If no changes from last year, then that list can be used; if help is needed for new equipment or changes to the list, contact Emily Harris for help via DLAN. 802.241.5385, Emily.Harris@vermont.gov.

Appendices are not needed for submittal, but municipalities may find them helpful. A4 is a new form for individual intakes during incidents; if used/needed, the State needs the Excel version, not PDF. B7 is animal resources – vets, hotels that will accept pets, etc. C2 is a new fact sheet describing the Stream Alteration Rules that must be followed.

Emily recommends keeping both a Word version of the LEOP and paper copies; the usual scanned/mailed PDFs are fine for submittal, but are not nearly as usable for editing in subsequent years. Paper copies are useful when computers/networks may be inaccessible or out of service during an incident.

The question was raised, to which there was no bright line answer, whether LEOPs with all of the contact and emergency information are public documents. It was suggested that DEMHS take the lead with VLCT or other authorities for a clear determination, but apparently, DEMHS is unable to do so; they suggested that municipalities should seek clarity from VLCT or their own legal counsel.. Different municipalities handle these in different ways.

John Berino, UVM Medical Center: John gave an informative presentation on the Medical Center's recent vulnerability assessment; these must be done annually by all hospitals. They consider three main categories of potential challenges: Natural (epidemic, drought, flood...); Human (bomb threat, hazardous materials incident, mass casualty incident...); and Technological (communications system failure, cyberattack, cooling system failure...). Each vulnerability is evaluated for its likely probability, and their preparedness for each; these are combined and weighted to create a final risk value for each vulnerability, which can then be used to focus improvements in the areas of greatest need.

Project updates

Other Business/upcoming meeting schedule/adjourn

Updates and Reports: The hazardous materials commodity flow study contemplated previously is now on hold; HMEP funds will likely be distributed to LEPCs as in past years, so that each may do a limited commodity flow study in their own regions based upon 'on the ground' observation of placarded vehicles along main roads. Ferry and air transport are hard to capture; there are good data for rail, but access to data may be difficult.

Financials were reported; LEPC #1 remains solvent and in good shape.

VT Health Dept. continues its POD (point of distribution) training, leading up to the Vigilant Guard exercise. MRC has been active with shelter trainings.

St. Michael's College will be doing an 'active shooter' tabletop exercise with Colchester PD, especially relevant after an incident that occurred near the College on Monday of this week.

VT 211 continues its CARE registration program, in partnership with United Way and VT E-911, for individuals with special needs who may need help in an emergency situation.

CERT did another SOS (Secrets of Survivors) training in St. Albans, and will assist again this year with the Open Streets event in Burlington, and along with RACES, will help with the Gran Fondo bicycle event in Addison County.

Save the date: this year's Emergency Management conference will be on November 4 & 5 at Lake Morey Inn.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 12 at 0900 hours. With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 A.M.

Respectfully submitted by Lee Krohn.