

1 **Chittenden County Regional Emergency Management Committee**

2 **Wednesday, July 20, 2022**

3 **9:00 – 10:30**

4 **Meeting Notes**

5
6 **Attendees:**

7 **REMC Members**

8 Bolton – Amy Grover, Emergency Services Rep

9 Burlington – Fire Chief Derek Libby, Emergency Management Director

10 Colchester – Assistant Fire Chief Seth Lasker, Emergency Services Rep

11 Charlotte – Karina Warshaw, EMC

12 Essex & Essex Junction – Police Chief Ron Hoague, EMD

13 Huntington – Barbara Elliot, EMD

14 Milton – Michaela Foody, EMD

15 Westford – Joshua Smith, EMD; Helen Sterling, EMC

16 Williston – Fire Chief Aaron Collette, EMD

17 **Others**

18 Vermont Department of Health – Jared Ulmer; Derek Cronin

19 Vermont Emergency Management – Max Kennedy; Stephanie Smith

20 Red Cross, RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service)/ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service)
21 – Bob Henneberger

22 Vermont National Guard – Lt Col Jason Galipeau; Major Jeff Lee

23 University of Vermont Emergency Management – John Marcus

24 Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission – Charlie Baker, Executive Director; Regina

25 Mahony, Planning Program Manager; Christine Forde, Senior Transportation Planner; Dan Albrecht,
26 Senior Planner; Pam Brangan, GIS Data & IT Manager

27
28 **Vermont Department of Health, Preparing for Hot Weather – Jared Ulmer, Climate & Health**
29 **Program Manager, Vermont Department of Health**

30 Jared manages the Climate & Health Program at the Vermont Department of Health.

31 Record setting heat is in the current headlines across the US and in Europe. Vermont could reach a
32 triple digit heat index today. The Department of Health is working to raise awareness about heat
33 related health risks in Vermont and the need to plan for them. We do currently experience heat
34 related health impacts in Vermont.

35 The Department of Health is reviewing data from an event that took place in June 2021 in the Pacific
36 Northwest and Western Canada when a “heat dome” covered the area. This area experiences a
37 climate similar to Vermont in the summer. Many cities in the area shattered temperature records by 5
38 to 10 degrees over a several day period. Most communities were not well prepared and were caught
39 off guard. Over a thousand people died during this event – some deaths were directly attributable to
40 the heat, but heat also exacerbates other illnesses such as cardiovascular disease and diabetes.

41 The deaths were predominately in older adults and 96% happened inside of residences. Most were
42 related to people living in places where they could not keep cool because of no air conditioning,
43 broken air conditioners, or they couldn’t afford cooling.

1 Lessons learned

- 2 † All hazard plans did not address heat events. Need specific heat preparedness plans.
- 3 † Need to push notifications to people with a focus on the highest risk groups.
- 4 † Cooling centers – need to expand coverage and arrange transportation, extend hours,
- 5 provide overnight shelters, allow pets.
- 6 † Home based assistance for people who live alone, have disabilities, lack transportation.

7 In Vermont we typically see about 100 emergency department visits due to heat on average and 1
8 death. Tend to happen earlier in the season when people are not acclimated. Impacts are greatest
9 when temperatures reach 90 degrees and above. Above 95 degrees we see the greatest impacts.

10 Vermont experienced a significant heat wave in 2018. The heat index was above 90 degrees for 6 days
11 in a row and several days were over 100. During this time there were about 150 EMS call and 90
12 Emergency Department visits – the amount we typically see in an entire year. Four deaths occurred
13 and all were in people’s residences. One case reported the inside temperature was 115 degrees.

14 Risks areas for heat related health issues --

- 15 † people more exposed (work outside, homeless, urban residents)
- 16 † people more sensitive to heat (older adults, chronic medical conditions, pregnant, children)
- 17 † people with limited adaption resources (live alone, unable to access cooling sites, unable to
- 18 keep cool)

19 The Department of Health has several resources available to citizens and municipalities --

- 20 † Cooling site map - www.healthvermont.gov/health-environment/climate-health/hot-weather. Can search by address or zip code. Click on site and get more information. There is
21 a link for people to add more sites.
- 22 † Local Hot Weather Preparedness Guidance – Provides information and strategies for
23 communities and guidance on when and how to provide notifications.
24 [https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/ENV-CH-hot-weather-
25 planning-guidance.pdf](https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/ENV-CH-hot-weather-planning-guidance.pdf)
- 26 † Hot weather media toolkit provides information and key messages, facts, and data for
27 messages to be posted on Front Porch Forum and social media.
28 www.healthvermont.gov/file/env-ch-hot-weather-media-toolkitdocx.
- 29

30 Christine noted that CCRPC and VEM are available to help municipalities interested in adding
31 information on hot weather planning to their LEMPs. Max noted that VEM could work with the
32 Department of Health to develop a Hot Weather Planning template that could be used as an annex to
33 the LEMP.

34 **Vermont Emergency Management, Funds Available for Hazard Mitigation, Stephanie A.**
35 **Smith, State Hazard Mitigation Officer, Vermont Emergency Management**

36 Stephanie Smith (VEM) provided an overview of the significant amount of hazard mitigation funding --
37 \$36.4 million -- that is available to municipalities now. If municipalities have ideas for projects but
38 don’t know where to start, they can reach out to Stephanie and she will work with them to figure out
39 the appropriate program and help with the application.

1 FEMA Programs – best for home buyouts in Special Flood Hazard Area, floodplain restoration, dam
2 removal, natural resources projects to improve floodplain access/function.

- 3 ‣ Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities (BRIC) - \$1.5M national program with set-
4 aside for Vermont. Deadline Mid-December 2022. Can also be used for scoping studies to
5 determine best solution, and Local Hazard Mitigation Plans. 75% federal share, 25% local.
- 6 ‣ Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMPG) - \$12.2M FEMA program. Best use – project
7 implementation for infrastructure projects. Deadline September 30, 2022. 90% federal
8 share. May be able to use local ARPA funding for local match. There is an engineering firm
9 available to help with cost benefit analysis.

10 Vermont State Program

- 11 ‣ Flood Resilient Communities Fund - \$14.75M state ARPA Funds and \$8M General Fund to be
12 used as match for buyouts. Intended for flood resiliency and to reduce future public safety
13 and water quality impacts of flood hazards in Vermont. Can do property buyout in areas
14 outside of Special Flood Hazard Area. Two funding rounds – October 28, 2022, March 31,
15 2023.

16 **CCRPC REMC Bylaws and Regional Plan – Review and Approve (pending quorum)**

17 Barbara noted that we do not have a quorum for this meeting so we cannot approve the Bylaws or
18 the Regional Plan. The Bylaws and Regional Plan are both required by the Legislature.

19 Christine explained that there are two members from each municipality, and we need a majority of
20 the total members to have a quorum. One member can designate the other member as a proxy and
21 moving forward we will include a link that members can click to easily designate their proxy.

22 Christine invited anyone who has a comment on the Bylaws or Regional Plan to send comments to
23 her.

24 **CCRPC Appointments – Review and Approve (pending quorum)**

25 Barbara invited anyone interested in serving in any of the following roles to contact Christine.
26 Christine will include more information on the committees when she sends out the meeting notes.

- 27 – Chair – Barbara Elliott, Huntington Town Administrator
- 28 – Vice-Chair – Lee Krohn (Interim), Shelburne Town Manager
- 29 – Statewide Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) -- TBD
- 30 – Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA)/Stakeholder Preparedness
31 Review (SPR) -- TBD
- 32 – Integrated Preparedness Plan Workshop (IPPW) - TBD

33 **Vermont Emergency Management Updates, Max Kennedy, Northwest Regional Coordinator,** 34 **Vermont Emergency Management**

35 Max explained that he is a Regional Coordination with Vermont Emergency Management which is,
36 essentially, customer service for emergency management for anyone not part of a state or federal
37 agency in Chittenden, Franklin, Grand Isle, and Addison counties.

1 VEM Updates –

- 2 ‣ **Registration for the Annual Vermont Emergency Preparedness Conference is open:**
 - 3 ○ <https://vem.vermont.gov/conference>
 - 4 ○ Conference Location: Killington Resort
 - 5 ○ Call for speakers: Open until **Wednesday July 27th**
 - 6 ○ EMD of the Year nominations: please submit any nominations before **Tuesday August**
 - 7 **9th**
 - 8 ○ **REMC can select an individual to receive one free night at Killington Resort either Sept**
 - 9 **19th, 20th, or 21st (sign up no later than August 17th)**
 - 10 ▪ <https://forms.office.com/g/vGDy3APcm5>
- 11 ‣ **SURVIVERMONT**
 - 12 ○ The training provides Vermonters with actions they can take to protect themselves and
 - 13 family members if they are confronted with an active shooter or violent threat situation.
 - 14 ○ SURVIVERMONT combines three easy-to-remember concepts from established federal
 - 15 public safety programs: See Something, Say Something; Run, Hide and Fight; and Stop
 - 16 the Bleed.
 - 17 ○ Dates below (more being posted in Chittenden County pending dates/location)
 - 18 ▪ Aug 18 Colchester High School
 - 19 ▪ Aug 3 Arlington Highschool 100
 - 20 ▪ Aug 8 St Albans VSP 25
 - 21 ▪ Aug 15 Derby VSP 25
 - 22 ▪ Aug 22 New Haven VSP 25
 - 23 ▪ Aug 24 Westminster VSP 25
 - 24 ○ Registration links to be posted on the following site:
 - 25 <https://schoolsafety.vermont.gov/news/survivermont-registration-now-available>
 - 26
- 27 ‣ **Trainings:**
 - 28 ○ EMD Course (virtual)
 - 29 ▪ Thu, Sep 8, 2022, 12:30 PM - Fri, Sep 9, 2022, 4:30 PM EDT
 - 30 ○ ICS 300- Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents –
 - 31 ▪ In Person Hartford Fire Station- White River Jct, VT **September 27-29, 2022, 8:00**
 - 32 **a.m. – 4:30 p.m. each day Prerequisite: ICS-200**
 - 33 ○ VEM Newsletter:
 - 34 [https://vem.vermont.gov/sites/demhs/files/documents/July%20%2722%20Newsletter.](https://vem.vermont.gov/sites/demhs/files/documents/July%20%2722%20Newsletter.pdf)
 - 35 [pdf](https://vem.vermont.gov/sites/demhs/files/documents/July%20%2722%20Newsletter.pdf)
 - 36 ○ Many other trainings coming up in the region (partnerships with NH, Maine, Mass, etc)
 - 37 please keep an eye on newsletter or reach out if there are specific courses you're
 - 38 looking for.

39 **Member Updates**

40 Christine noted that this meeting will meet quarterly, and the meetings have been meeting on the
41 third Wednesday of the month at 9 am. The next meeting will be October 19 at 9 am. If members
42 want to meet at a different date or time, we can revisit the schedule.

1 **Future Topics**

2 Contact Christine if you have ideas for future agenda items or trainings.

3 **Motion to adjourn made by Assistant Chief Seth Lasker and seconded by Police Chief Ron**

4 **Hoague. The motion was approved.**