



TRORC Regional Emergency Management Committee

Meeting Minutes (Approved 12/6/2023)

May 31, 2023

Virtual

Voting Member Attendance

Town	EMD or Designee	5/31/23	First Responder Representative	5/31/23
Barnard	Mike Manning		Stuart Hull	
Bethel	Therese Kirby		David Aldrighetti	
Bradford	Gary Moore	X	Dan Perry III	
Braintree	Dereck O'Toole			
Bridgewater	George Spear		Josh Maxham	
Brookfield			Kevin Wheatley	
Chelsea	Tracy Simon			
Corinth	Joe Blodgett		Mike Wolff	
Fairlee	Peter Berger	X	Ken Champagne	
Granville	Mark Belisle	X		
Hancock				
Hartford	Scott Cooney			
Hartland			Chet Pasho	
Newbury	Jeff Morin		Jeff McKelvey	
Norwich			Alex Northern	X
Pittsfield	Ryan Thompson		Doug Mianulli	
Plymouth	Albert Poirier			
Pomfret	Kevin Rice	X	Gordon Modarai	
Randolph	Wayne Warner			
Rochester	Larry Plesant		Terry Severy	
Royalton	Brad Salzmman	X	Loretta Stalnaker	
Sharon	Nathan Potter		Keith Lyman, JR.	
Stockbridge	Zachary Cavacas			
Strafford	Jason Schumacher		Aaron Dotter	
Thetford	Mariah Witcomb		Chad Whitcomb	
Topsham	Bradford Calhoun		Jonathan Calhoun	
Tunbridge	Brenda Field		Simon Bradford	
Vershire	Eric Gilbert			
West Fairlee	Delsie Hoyt	X		
Woodstock				

Non-Voting Member Attendance

Organization	Name and Contact Information	3/17/22
Vermont Emergency Management	Taiga Christie	X
Orange County Sheriff		
VNH Care		
VA Medical Center – White River Junction	Ariel Young	
Thompson Senior Center	Deanna Jones	
American Red Cross / VDART	Dr Jackson Schonberg	X
Irving Oil		
VT Dept. of Health		
VT 211 / United Ways	Elizabeth Gilman <Elizabeth@unitedwaysvt.org>	X

Other Attendees: Sydney Steinle, TRORC

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:40PM by Sydney Steinle, TRORC. It was determined that 7 voting members were present. There were no proxies at this meeting.

Taiga Christie (VEM) explained the passage of H.465 *An act relating to regional emergency management committees' meeting quorum requirement*, which temporarily changes REMC quorums to 5 voting members or their proxies and allows REMCs to set their own quorum requirements if that requirement is at least 20% of the REMC voting membership or their proxies.

2. **Election of Officers**

The REMC Agenda was screen-shared with the attendees. Peter Berger of Fairlee as Chair and Mark Belisle of Granville as Vice-Chair. A motion was made by Kevin Rice (Pomfret) and seconded by Delsie Hoyt (West Fairlee) to elect Peter Berger as Interim Chair. All approved.

3. **Appointments to State Committees**

The slate was Alex Northern (Norwich) as representative to the Statewide LEPC and Scott Cooney (Hartford) as representative to the THIRA/SPR process. A motion was made by Kevin Rice (Pomfret) and seconded by Delsie Hoyt (West Fairlee) to elect the slate as presented. All approved.

4. **Bylaw Adoption**

Sydney Steinle displayed the draft REMC Bylaws for review. These were created from old LEPC bylaws and those of other REMCs in the state. A motion by Delsie Hoyt (West Fairlee) was seconded by Peter Berger (Fairlee) to adopt the bylaws. The REMC discussed the draft prior to voting on adoption. Discussion between REMC members

concluded that the new language should not state an exact number but rather the percentage presented in the bill.

The following suggested change was made to the draft bylaws:

- ARTICLE VIII: QUORUM AND VOTING- Change quorum wording to the following in light of the passage of H.465 *An act relating to regional emergency management committees' meeting quorum requirement*, "Quorum is defined as 20 percent of voting members, including proxies, being present."

A motion was made by Peter Berger (Fairlee) and seconded by Kevin Rice (Pomfret) to adopt the TRORC REMC bylaws as amended. All approved.

5. **Presentations by Scott Whittier (DOC/NOAA/NWS) and Jared Ulmer (VDH)**
Heat Hazards presentation by Scott Whittier, Warning Coordination Meteorologist at DOC/NOAA/National Weather Service, and Jared Ulmer, Climate & Health Program Manager at the Vermont Department of Health. Both presentations are attached to these minutes.

Questions to Scott:

- Peter Berger (Fairlee) - How can we get weather notifications?
 - Answer- best way to get weather notifications is to sign up for VT Alert.
- Alex Northern (Norwich) - Is there something similar [to the heat page shown on the presentation] for cold?
 - Answer- Yes, there is a cold page with the same information. It switches over to the winter page in winter. NWS also has a "tropical" page on the website for hurricane season.
- Question- Peter Berger, Fairlee- Can you provide the presentation to us?
 - Answer- Yes, Scott will send it to Sydney. Scott also put the presentation in the chat.

Jared's presentation began at 7:28PM, on the 2021 Heat Dome in the northwestern United States. Jared mentioned a Heat Annex in development by Kevin Geiger (TRORC), which may be of interest to REMC members. Jared also discussed signs of heat illness, the map of cooling sites, and encouraged REMC members and other attendees to contact him or TRORC if they knew of other sites not displayed. There is also a survey available on the Vermont Department of Health's website to gather this information.

There were no questions.

6. **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Peter Berger (Fairlee) and seconded by Mark Belisle (Granville) to adjourn the meeting at 7:57PM.

Minutes submitted by Sydney Steinle, TRORC.