

Calais Emergency Management
Meeting minutes March 8, 2023
Location: Calais Town Hall

AGENDA

- Additions to agenda
- Public comment
- Review/approve February minutes; action items follow up
- Review signed EMPG agreement with Department of Public Safety and aerial photos
- Updating Curtis Pond Dam Emergency Action Plan notification flowchart
- Cyber Incident Response for Towns in Central Vermont – April 26 workshop in Berlin
- March 18 Red Cross training at Calais Town Hall on shelter management
- Flood resilience at Gospel Hollow - Pekin Brook culvert project – update from Rick
- Update on developing the EM section of the town website, per 2021 Calais LHMP

Present: Denise Wheeler, Betty Copeland, Rick Kehne, Nick Emlen

Meeting convened at 7:10

Motion to approve February minutes – approved - Betty/Rick

Proposal for digital radio communication system. Since the signal repeater is powered from the electrical grid, it's unlikely to remain functional during an extended power outage. We should instead focus on an upgraded version of the simplex transmission system that the town currently uses. The goal is a stronger and more dependable signal between the radios and base. The transmitter and radios can be charged from small local generators or PV systems. We will ask Harry Schoppmann at VEM for information about the options.

Concern about the propane tank behind the town hall not being fastened or tethered, since it is within 30' of the bank of Pekin Brook. Nick will contact the propane supplier for a recommendation about the best way to do this to code.

Is there a template for an emergency management mutual aid MOA with adjacent towns? We will ask Harry S. Propose a joint meeting of EM teams from adjacent towns for information-sharing and collaboration.

We requested and received an editable version from DuBois & King Engineers of the 2004 Curtis Pond dam emergency action plan. This allows us to update the essential contact information and notification flowchart on an ongoing basis.

Rick summarized the sequence of two engineering studies on flood resilience at Gospel Hollow that include the 2016 Milone & MacBroom hydraulic analysis of Pekin Brook, and the proposed scoping study managed by CVRPC partially funded through Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant. The second study is intended to build upon the recommendations of the first by providing details for implementation.

Betty noted that the REMC meeting on May 10 at 6pm conflicts with the CEM meeting scheduled with Harry Schoppmann with invitations extended to the selectboard and road crew on that day. We will propose an alternate date.

Final planning for Red Cross shelter fundamentals training event on March 18.

Meeting adjourned 8:45

Minutes submitted by Nick