



TOWN OF CALAIS

3120 Pekin Brook Road
East Calais, Vermont 05650
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calaisvermont.gov

SELECTBOARD EMERGENCY MEETING

July 12, 2023

MINUTES APPROVED 7/24/23

Attending: Anne Winchester, Gabrielle Malina, Jamie Moorby, Jordan Keyes, Anne Toolan, Nick Emlen, Jake Aho, Barbara Butler, Carol Fielder

Via Zoom: Teegan Dykeman-Brown, Chuck Storrow, Brian Lane-Karnas, Jane English, Ron Padgett, Tina Bielenberg, Catherine Lowther, Jennifer Chambers, Leslie Matthew, Stephanie Kaplan, Mary Hanrahan, Fletcher Dean, Kristina Snook, Sandy Hyde, Reenie DeGeus, Reese Hersey, Sarah Black, Callie Weller, Kristina (no last name)

The meeting was called to Order at 6:11 pm by Selectboard Chair Anne Winchester.

Anne stated that the purpose of this emergency meeting is to review what we (the Town, its officers and the Road Crew) have been doing over the past 48 hours, discuss how it's been going, and to prioritize steps over the next 3-5 days.

Nick Emlen and Jake Aho, Emergency Management Team

- There has been concern regarding the East Calais Mill Dam. Nick has met with Steve Hanna (Dam Safety Engineer, Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Conservation) and John Risse (dam owner) to come up with a plan, while neighbors are monitoring the situation.
- The Town's biggest concern has been the Curtis Pond Dam. Twenty+ volunteers have worked around the clock since Sunday to mitigate damage and keep the dam stabilized. As of this afternoon, the water is down 7" from the highest point. The pump truck is still running, pumping out 7,000 gallons per minute, totaling 19 million gallons of water as of this afternoon. We have the pump until Friday morning, at a cost of \$1,000/day while the pump is running.
- There has been some concern with the North Calais lower dam, and the Town Office is in contact with the owner of that dam.
- The Emergency Management Team set up a Day Shelter on Tuesday at the Maple Corner Community Center, with a handful of people taking advantage. There was no need to reopen the shelter today.

Anne Toolan, Road Commissioner

- Anne noted the primary need for safety and making sure that the only people at a worksite (dam, roads) are people who need to be there. We need to direct looky-loos away.
- She and the Road Crew are "barely treading water", and we need better communication and coordination re: how and when roads are closed.
- The Garage is out of resources such as traffic cones, closed road signs, etc.
- The Road Crew needs volunteers on either end of where they are currently working on a road; flaggers directing traffic away.
- Anne has appointed a Temporary Road Foreman to help take the lead during this crises.
- A priority for the Road Crew is cleaning culverts and keeping water moving.
- She and the Road Crew are prioritizing work using the following criteria:

- What jobs can get done in a day
- Roads that have vulnerable adult residents
- Anne noted that as days and weeks pass, priorities are going to only get bigger.
- Anne asked for immediate help as follows:
 - Volunteers to answer the phone at the Town Garage and/or take messages off of the machine
 - Flaggers to direct traffic away from road work
 - People to make homemade signs, i.e. Road Closed
 - Sawhorses
- Barbara noted the need for a Hold Harmless, and offered to draft one.

Next 3-5 Days

- It was emphasized that everyone (Road Crew, Town Office staff, Volunteers, Selectboard members, *everyone*) needs to document all time, work and materials for FEMA reimbursement:
 - Date
 - Place/Location
 - Time, in 15 minute increments (Teegan distributed a timesheet)
 - Project activity
 - Before and after photos (each identified with the information listed above)

The group agreed to meet again on Saturday, July 15, 11:30am at the Town Hall.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Butler
Selectboard Administrator