

Thetford Emergency Management
Meeting Minutes
8/23/2018

Attendance: Mariah Whitcomb, Robin Pettingell, Don Fifield, Penny Sirjane, Chad Whitcomb, Li Shen

Welcome-No meeting in June due to fire call in Thetford. No minutes to review

1. AFTER ACTION UPDATE:

- Just In Time training-still a work in progress with State. Joined forces with NH, meeting coming up in Concord. Possibility of on line training for shelter volunteers. List serv post in Fall if resources are received.
- Logistics/supply chain management- 5 organizations related to DPW added to the MOU listing. Forms to be signed by Selectboard.
- Need to contact new TES principal re: role of TES as a shelter/generator. Chad Whitcomb has spoken to him, already and Mariah Whitcomb will follow up.
- Pet sheltering-State is a bit disorganized in this area. Work in progress in Thetford.
- Public works radios-Chad Whitcomb did research in this area at the request of the EMD and DPW, gave info and input to DPW several months ago. Selectboard member Eaton took this over with little communication to EMD and researched in a different manner with different outcomes not knowing the full scope of the issue. She has since left the Board. The Police Department gave one or two 100 watt radios to DPW to trial. The bottom line is that the Highway repeater antenna will need replacing in the future as there is an issue with it. Additionally, the DPW low watt radios will need upgrade to higher wattage radios moving forward. The Fire Department utilize higher wattage radios and does not experience the same connectivity issues.
- Summer residential camps--Lochearn has an emergency management plan and is self-sufficient with generators- They are also willing to help other camps in the case of a longer power outage etc. Camps Farnsworth and Billings are more challenging. This continues to be a work in progress, and challenge due to frequent leadership changes at Farnsworth and Billings.
- Vermont Alert-sign up continues to be encouraged. 5 Thetford EM people have access to send direct alerts to townspeople in the case of an emergency.
- Communications between town depts continues to be a work in progress. Li Shen noted the SB is rewriting employee handbook and can add a section regarding emergency protocols for employees. Mariah will work with Li on this project to offer suggestions for inclusion.
 - Biggest obstacle continues to be communications during an emergency and overlap of tasks (double work) due to various positions not engaging with emergency management during the emergency.

2. MOU's Update

- DPW MOUs are completed except for SB signature.
- Mariah notes that other areas of potential need are covered with existing MOU's, including an active MOU with the Fire Department.

3. TRAINING

- ICS 402-Instructor lined up, Mariah is trying to coordinate a time that will work with all town employees/SB who need this training. This is ongoing.
- ARC shelter training-- Mike Kiess continues to work on this but issues with local ARC leadership and turnover

4. COMMUNICATIONS

- Vt alert update

Next Meeting: Sept 27, 2018 at TVFD