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LEPC 6  
Minutes  
September 15, 2009

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1. The meeting was called to order at 17:10.
2. Introductions. Lt. Stephen Poirot, Lisa Hecht, Candace Stoumen, John Angil, Dick Clarke, Diane Champion, Tom Goddard, Mark Considine, Jon Abel, David Moore, Jim Tonkovich, Michael Bucossi, Steve Nelson, Raymond Busher, Herbert Meyer, Madolyn Meyer, Peter Coffey, Kraig Laporte, Josh O'Neill
3. Minutes of Previous Meeting.  
Approval of the August 18<sup>th</sup> Minutes were tabled so that we could move straight into the HSU presentation.
4. Presentation on CBRNE Capabilities in the State of Vermont
  - a. Lt. Stephen Poirot of Vermont HSU introduced the groups and presenters representing the 15<sup>th</sup> Civil Support Team, Hazardous Materials Response Team, Clandestine Laboratory Response Team, Urban Search and Rescue, The Bomb Squad, and Vermont Emergency Management. The goal of this presentation was to provide planners and responders with an overview of these capabilities as well as the information on how and when to access them.
  - b. The History of the HazMat Team was discussed. Over the past 15 years the team has assisted local Fire Departments at over 1,200 HazMat events, ranging from hours to days. The HazMat team has worked with HSU and the local fire departments to improve the HazMat response system by placing "decon" trailers around the state. These are designed to put operations level response equipment closer to the first responders. For any HazMat incident call the HazMat Hotline at 1-800-642-5005
  - c. The Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) formed a working group of 11 agencies, these agencies work as strike teams. Each participating agency (Strike Team) have equipment and personnel that are capable of responding to technical rescue. Two of the agencies are "Host Teams", these two Host Teams have larger equipment caches and capabilities than the other 9 strike teams. The Host Teams are the Hartford Fire Department and Colchester Technical Rescue. The values of this USAR asset in VT are 1) Multiple work periods 2) Large number of trained rescuer's 3) Technical Expertise 4) Specialized Equipment
  - d. The Capabilities and Expectations of the State Bomb Squad were then reviewed. The Bomb Squad is a resource for the Incident Commander. Expectations are that they will arrive on scene and work in Unified Command as outlined in the State Bomb Response Plan. The Bomb Squad will not take over the investigation or scene. All team members are certified Bomb Technicians (by the FBI and US Army). Federal funding pays for the Bomb Squad response vehicles. The Bomb Squad will respond to an actual or suspicious device/package only after investigative avenues have been pursued and a full investigation has been initiated.
  - e. 15<sup>th</sup> Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team (CST) capabilities were discussed. The Team must complement and enhance (not duplicate) State CBRN response capabilities. The 15<sup>th</sup> Civil Support Team has an Advanced Liaison Vehicle (ADVON), which is a highly mobile command and control asset. The CST also has an Analytical Laboratory Systems (ALS) that provides mobile

analytic capability for presumptive analysis for the presence of chemical agents, toxins and biological weapons. Other capabilities include radio, video, phones, SATCOM, and Direct TV that can supplement on scene communications assets. The best part about the 15<sup>th</sup> Civil Support is that they are FREE! They can be deployed for Operational Assistance at an All-Hazards Event, Participate and Assist in the development of Exercises, Conduct Training for 1<sup>st</sup> Responders, and Conduct Stand-by Operations for Special Events at NO COST to local or State agencies.

- f. The last portion consisted of an overview of the Vermont State Police Clandestine Lab Enforcement Team (CLET). VSP CLET is a sub group of the DEA New England Clan Lab Enforcement Team and currently consists of nine members. Current Operations of the CLET are identification and handling of all types of Clandestine Drug Labs, Safety Analysis and assistance with indoor Marijuana Grow operations, and providing Awareness level training for any and all Law Enforcement agencies, Fire and EMS personnel.

**Due to time constraints, agency updates were tabled and an email was sent out the next day regarding important upcoming meetings.**

5. Old Business:

- a. None

6. New Business:

- a. None

7. Next Meeting:

- i. October 20<sup>th</sup>, 7pm Newbrook Fire Station. Our October meeting will be a Local Forum on H1N1 Preparedness. We will have a Panel format of VDH and First Responders to give a presentation and discuss Flu Preparedness. This meeting will be publicized to the media by Vermont Department of Health and Windham Regional Commission will be sending out mailers to Town officials.

8. Meeting Adjourned at 19:20

Respectfully Submitted by,

Josh O'Neill  
Assistant Planner  
Windham Regional Commission