

Grand Isle Mutual Aid Meeting
GI-REMC
April 7, 2025 – Draft Minutes
Grand Isle Sheriff's Office, Grand Isle, VT and Virtual

Attendance: Sheriff Ray Allen (GICSO), Deb Benson (Treasurer), Pat Robinson (SHVFD Chief), Bill Baron (GI EMD/VFD), Jaqueline Kelley (VDH), Peter Clark (C/N FD), Chief Mike Murdock (NHVFD), Pete Brescia (Alb EMD), Shaun Coleman (NRPC) and Michaela Foody(VEM).

President Murdock chaired the meeting which began at 7:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

Public Comment – None.

Minutes

Chief Robinson motioned for approval of minutes. Sheriff Allen seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Attached at the bottom of the minutes. Deb reported the ending balance of the account is \$57,939.58.

Chief Robinson motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report. Sheriff Allen seconded. Motion carried.

Bills for Payment: Jan. 25-Mar. 25 Dispatching Services to Shelburne Police Dept: \$10,431.00.

Chief Robinson motioned to pay the bills. Sheriff Allen seconded. Motion carried.

Grand Isle Regional Emergency Management Committee

Vermont Emergency Management

Michaela reported:

- Meeting with communities to update their LEMPs.
- VEM newsletter is available.
- State approves Child Center EM plans and not the local EMD.
- G409 for Elected Officials training to be hosted in Grand Isle County. Date TBD.
- BRIC mitigation grants cancelled by FEMA.

Committee Updates (THIRA, LEPC, TPW):

No report. LEPC meeting tomorrow.

Vermont Department of Health:

Jacque reported that the MRC is offering Stop the Bleed for staff at the Alburgh school on Thursday.

Anyone interested, let Jacque know. The training is free.

Grand Isle County Mutual Aid Association

GICMAA Status Update: Deb reported the audit is complete and working on getting the nonprofit status reinstated.

FY26 Budget Discussion

Chief Murdock led the discussion.

- Increase in dispatching fees from Shelburne. A letter was sent in mid-December. Shelburne is on July 1 fiscal year.
- Deb reported the 2024-2025 she prepared was \$50,257.
- Dispatching = \$14,724.
- Non-Dispatching was \$8,533.

- Insurance last year = \$4,659.
- Generator gas = \$400.
- PO Box fee = \$84.
- Discretionary spending for training.

Continued budget agenda item for next meeting.

Coordination

The fire chiefs met over Zoom to discuss sharing services, post testing, ladder testing, SCBA testing machine, pump testing and sharing service providers. The group plans on meeting every other month opposite GICMAA schedule.

- Air filling stations will be done roughly at the same time.
- Garth informed them that 5 or 6 trucks at one location would work well.
- Trying to get training officers to meet.
- Ron gave an update on the statewide dispatch/communications committee efforts.
- Looking at getting final leg completed for county communications.

Critical Incident Response Team update: Pat reported he is continuing to work with Sheriff.

App Based Response/Reporting Update:

Chief White will request a rep from First Due to attend a future meeting.

Chief Murdock investigated modules and was going to request a demo and how licensing is structured to see if it is worth doing a county purchase or individual departments.

Chief Robinson noted he uses First Due with Colchester Fire. It is great for fire departments but didn't think EMS would get a lot out of it.

Michaela noted there are no grant opportunities for this type of system.

Department and EMD Updates

Grand Isle Fire – Bill B. reported the fire department lost a couple members. Ice and cold-water rescue season has begun. Chief White is working on updating policies. Dept members are undertaking pre-planning efforts. A new utility truck is on order which will replace the old brush truck.

Grand Isle EMD – Working with VEM on updating LEMP. Some residents have asked whether the LEMP contains anything regarding civil discourse. The town could develop an annex for responding to civil unrest or mass gathering that could include some sheltering, agencies involved, traffic control, communications components. For known events, there would be preplanning and intel gathering.

South Hero Fire – Chief Robinson reported that elections coming up. The annual dinner is May 7 from 5 to 8. Working on 50-50 grants for wildland fire gear.

Grand Isle Sheriff – Two officers graduating from Academy soon.

Alburgh EMD – Pete B. reported they will be working with Michaela on updating the LEMP.

North Hero – Chief Murdock reported the town still working on updating their mitigation plan.

Town has secured a project manager for the fire station project.

Clarenceville/Noyan – Peter C. had nothing new to report.

Ilse La Motte – Shaun noted that they will be working on updating their LEMP and are looking to do some upgrades to the school building.

Other Business

Sheriff Allen reported that Nicholas McGowan is the new Senior Chief for US Coast Guard chief in Burlington. He has invited maritime stakeholders on Lake Champlain barbecue to discuss Coast Guard

102 capabilities, networking overview of the watch officers, updating contact list for response times, etc.
103 Chief Murdock will send out the letter he received.
104
105 Shaun reported the new draft FEMA flood map data for northern Lake Champlain is available for local
106 officials. A virtual meeting will be held tomorrow by FEMA for local officials. The updates have been
107 underway since 2019. The new data will be officially released in 2027. NRPC staff will be assisting local
108 officials with the review process and then helping with updating local flood regulations to meet the new
109 data.
110
111 *Chief Robertson motioned to adjourn. Sheriff Allen seconded. Motion carried.*
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113 Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.