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2 **Grand Isle Mutual Aid Meeting**
3 **GI-REMC**
4 **August 4, 2025 – Draft Minutes**
5 **Grand Isle Sheriff's Office, Grand Isle, VT and Virtual**
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7 **Attendance:** Sheriff Ray Allen (GICSO), Deb Benson (Treasurer), Pat Robinson (SHVFD Chief), Ron Kumetz
8 (Alburgh FD), Bill Baron (GI EMD/VFD), David Leake (GIR), Sue (GIR)Mike Murdock (NHVFD), Brandy
9 Latimer (NH EMD), Adam White (GIVFD), Shaun Coleman (NRPC) and Michaela Foody (VEM).

10
11 President Murdock chaired the meeting which began at 7:02 p.m. A quorum was present.

12
13 **Public Comment** – None.

14
15 **Minutes**

16 *Chief Robinson motioned for approval of minutes. Sheriff Allen seconded. Motion carried.*
17

18 **Treasurer's Report**

19 The report was sent out by email. Deb reported the balance of the account is \$46,834.98. Three
20 outstanding checks totaling \$13,168.39 (Shelburne Police, Falcon Communications and Landry
21 Innovations) bring the ending balance to \$33,666.59.

22
23 *Chief White motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report. Chief Robinson seconded. Motion carried.*
24

25 **Grand Isle Regional Emergency Management Committee**

26 **Vermont Emergency Management**

27 Michaela reported:

- 28
 - State Emergency Preparedness Conference is September 4 and 5 in Killington. Virtual sessions
29 are available. <https://vem.vermont.gov/conference>
 - The state emergency plan was recently completed and available here:
30 <https://vem.vermont.gov/plans/state>
 - State Binary Blizzard (cyber) exercise to be held in October.
 - VEM working on a webinar to help with planning for large events such as county fairs.

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35 **Committee Updates (THIRA, LEPC, TPW):**

- 36
 - Brandy reported she attended the Training and Exercise Plan Workshop (TPW) in June.
 - Shaun reported the LEPC met and reviewed the Vermont LEPC Hazmat Response Plan. He had
37 emailed it to the group.

38
39
40 **Vermont Department of Health:** No report.

41
42 **Grand Isle County Mutual Aid Association**

43 **Non-Profit Status Update**

44 Deb reported she has been working with Anna Cadmus, ABT Services, LLC on filing IRS Form 990 (Return
45 of Organization Exempt from Income Tax). They have produced receipts from the past 4 years as
46 required. Form 990 must be filed by the 15th day of the 5th month after the end of the organization's
47 accounting period. For GICMAA, the accounting period ends June 30th so, the filing deadline is
48 November 15 of the same year.

49
50 **FY26 Budget Discussion**

51 Deb reviewed the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year Treasurers Report which showed the cash flow. She noted
52 dispatch revenues increased 10-15%. Chief White noted he received an email from Shelburne Town
53 Manager on July 8 regarding the increase. The former Shelburne Police Chief Mike Thomas died in June
54 and the new Police Chief might have more control of funding which might explain the increase.
55

56 **Fire Chiefs Meeting Update**

57 Chief Murdock reported they met last month over Zoom to discuss logistics for equipment testing. The
58 pump testing went well. There was a discussion of hose lay techniques/preferences.
59

60 Chief Kumetz reported that the Female Firefighters Camp could not be held this year as the group ran
61 into insurance issues. There were well intentioned members who applied for and received a 501(c)3
62 status, and they thought the fire department's insurance would continue. They discovered they had to
63 get their own policy, and it was too late to put it in place, so the camp was cancelled unfortunately.
64 Their plan next year is to have an executive board of directors. The support they have received has been
65 phenomenal.
66

67 Chief Kumetz said there is a 4-hour *Minimum Manpower Course* being offered on September 18th by
68 Sandy and Mike. There have been a lot of incidents where we've had a small number of people from
69 various department members arriving on scene. The training would be useful.
70

71 *Chief White motioned for GIMCAA to authorize up to \$500 to cover lunch expenses for the Minimum*
72 *Manpower Course. Chief Robinson Seconded. Motion carried.*
73

74 **NFIRS to NERIS**

75 Chief White reported he attended a 90-minute course on the change. USFA is developing a new fire
76 information and analytics reporting platform called the National Emergency Response Information
77 System (NERIS). The goal is to modernize incident data collection. NERIS goes into effect on January 1.
78 See <https://www.usfa.fema.gov/nfirs/neris/> for more information.
79

80 **Grand Isle Fish Hatchery Connection Change**

81 Chief White reviewed changes to the hydrant setup at the hatchery. The 2 ½" setup is now 4". They
82 transitioned from a threaded to a Storz connection. There are 2 boxes at the site. Contact Adam for
83 more information.
84

85 **First Due App**

86 The group briefly discussed features of First Due. Chief White will reach out to a First Due sales rep to
87 provide a demo and license pricing information. Chief Robinson gave a demo at a previous GICMAA
88 meeting.
89

90 **Department and EMD Updates**

91 Alburgh Fire: Chief Kumetz reported that a *Minimum Manpower* training on the 18th.

92 South Hero Fire: Chief Robinson reported there were 35 calls in July ranging from marine calls to
93 downed power lines to MVAs.

94 Continuing to coordinate hose testing and waiting to hear back from vendor.

95 One cadet should be done their probationary period at end of month and should be voted on as a
96 member later this month.

97 Grand Isle Fire: Chief White reported they accepted an offer on the brush truck.

98 Some members are in Boise, ID to inspect new truck.

99 Open House is scheduled for September 20th from 11 am to 1 pm.

100 Also, Bill Baron was honored as Citizen of the Year at the Vermont Lake Monsters game recently for his
101 contributions to the community and state.

102 Grand Isle EMD: Bill B. reported the Town's Local EM Plan was approved by the state.
103 North Hero Fire: Chief Murdock reported the bond vote for new fire station will be held on September
104 16. New truck is in service.
105 North Hero EMD: Brandy reported the town's Hazard Mitigation Plan has been submitted to FEMA.
106 Grand Isle Rescue: Chief Leake thanked everyone who responded to the fire.
107 Grand Isle Sheriff: The Emergency Responder Event was held on July 19.

108
109 **Other Business**

110 Sherriff Alan reported Fish and Wildlife helped capture a timber rattlesnake in Grand Isle that was called
111 in by a resident. Someone staying at residence was from Rutland so possibly it hitched a ride north. The
112 snake was ~54" long.

113
114 **Adjourn**

115 *Chief Robinson motioned to adjourn. Adam seconded. Motion carried.*

116
117 Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:50 p.m.