

Westmoreland NH Emergency Management

Minutes 11 July 2024

Present: Tom Finnegan, Mark Terry, Scott Talbot, Bill Chase

Mark Terry has joined our Emergency Operations Committee as Selectboard Representative. The minutes of the 6 June 2024 meeting were approved.

Old Business

1. Tom and Bill have revised the Emergency Operations Plan 2022 - Resources. Bill says that there are still some phone numbers he needs to call to see if they are still valid.
2. Tom and Bill have inventoried the storage containers containing the Shelter supplies. All supplies were intact except the drugs and food which had been removed several years ago because they had expired. We decided that we should have a storage container with expendable items such as food, drugs and batteries that we would plan to replace every 2-3 years. We also thought we should have more toilet paper and paper towels.
3. Scott reports that the parts for the radio tower and cables have been ordered and should be here by the end of the month. Scott and Graham Gitchell will get it installed.
4. Scott has come up with a recommendation for an EOM email. He proposes "wstmrlndoem@_____". Mark said that the town is working on a secure email address for the town and once it is finalized will be shared with town committees.
5. Tom said that Charles Firth of Northern New England Red Cross will be in touch with us to discuss whether it would be necessary to do a resurvey of the Westmoreland School as our emergency shelter since it has been over 10 years since our last survey.
6. Tom says that we have yet to hear from the town lawyer regarding the issue of "liability of volunteers working during an emergency".

New Business

1. The NH Alert System was discussed. This is what had been known as "Code Red". There is an App available for individuals to sign on to be included in the system. One of the questions is how best to get town members to sign. It was suggested that we set up a table at Old Home Days in August and invite individuals to sign up for the App. Another suggestion was to include this in the survey we are preparing to send out to each Westmoreland family. Tom will check with NH HSEM as to what information they have for town members.
2. The question came up as to who is primarily responsible for Emergency Management when Tom is away. It was decided that we will create a list alternating deputies Bill and Scott.
3. Next Meeting Thursday August 1 at 4pm..

Bill Chase 17 July 2024