

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS TASK FORCE

Special Meeting No. 18 – Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2025

Via Microsoft Teams

11:16 AM - Call to Order

Co-Chair Neal brought the meeting to order and conducted roll call for Task Force members. She reminded the attendees that the meeting was being recorded.

The following were in attendance:

Task Force Members Present

Barbara Neal, Vermont E911 Director, Co-Chair

Jennifer Morrison, Vermont Department of Public Safety Commissioner, Co-Chair

Paul White, Vermont Regional Dispatch Working Group, Vice-Chair

Michael Wright, CALEX Ambulance Service Chief Executive Officer

Ron Kumetz, Alburgh Volunteer Fire Department Chief

James ‘Jim’ Mack, Shelburne Dispatch

Mike Doenges, Rutland City Mayor – Joined at 11:29 AM

Others Present

Emily Mullaney, Task Force Clerk

Dominick Arcuri, Televate

Rick Burke, Televate

Jason Malloy, Mission Critical Partners

Phillip Sisk, Mission Critical Partners

Bonnie Maney, Mission Critical Partners

Bob Schlachter, Rutland County Fire Mutual Aid Association President – Joined at 11:19 AM

Approval of Agenda

No changes.

Approval of Minutes

- 12/18/2024 – Regular Meeting No. 41

Motion: At 11:18 AM, Paul White moved that the Task Force approve the minutes as written; 2nd by Jim Mack. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Co-Chair Neal opened the floor to public comment. No public comments.

Project Updates

Dom Arcuri from the Televate project management team provided the following project updates:

- The inventory and assessment report is ready for distribution to individual dispatch centers.
- The first draft of the system planning report will be ready this week, Friday, January 10th. The aim is to have a second draft by the end of the month ready for public and stakeholder feedback.
- All workshops have been completed except for the funding workshop, which requires further input before it can be scheduled.

Co-Chair Morrison expressed thanks for the enormous effort from Mission Critical Partners in recent weeks, thanks to Task Members who reviewed the inventory report, and thanks to Televate. She emphasized that this is close to the end of a significant portion of the Task Force's goals.

Jason Malloy from Mission Critical Partners clarified that budgetary information in the forthcoming document will be informed by the funding workshop. He added that MCP's next step is to create a worksheet for individual dispatch centers to provide their feedback on the inventory report.

The team discussed turnaround time for dispatch centers to return their feedback. They agreed on two weeks with a reminder at the one-week mark.

New Business

Co-Chair Neal opened the floor to discuss scheduling the funding workshop.

The team discussed whether the workshop should occur before or after the system planning report becomes public, because they will inform each other.

Bonnie Maney of Mission Critical Partners explained in detail what funding information MCP will need to look at for the purposes of the system planning document. She explained further that the document will lay out options for budgets and funding, cost sharing, and operational efficiencies, and that the numbers given in the report will be estimates, which can't account for every variable.

Co-Chair Morrison offered to connect MCP with subject matter experts when ready and asked that MCP inform the Task Force when they're ready to discuss scheduling the funding workshop.

Rick Burke from Televate provided the previously decided list of invitees to the funding workshop, some who are no longer with the legislature. He also added to Bonnie's remarks on variability in the system planning report: the funding and cost analyses require underlying assumptions.

Vice Chair Paul White asked what contributions were expected from the workshop.

Co-Chair Morrison explained that the Task Force hopes the invitees will have insight on navigating funding and costs from various perspectives, as well as potential obstacles.

Bonnie Maney added that such a discussion would help identify possible options and paths, as well as successes particular to Vermont.

Co-Chair Neal confirmed with the team that the Task Force will return to this item once the first draft of the document was disseminated, and she concluded the discussion.

Co-Chair Neal opened the floor to discuss strategies for receiving public and stakeholder feedback.

Dom Arcuri reported that the Task Force previously agreed on a three-week timeline for public review.

Co-Chair Neal suggested listening sessions as a way to gather feedback.

Co-Chair Morrison suggested offering multiple venues for feedback: Daily monitoring of the inbox and maybe an online form on the Task Force website.

Michael Wright suggested the Task Force recycle the framework used for the regional town halls.

Ron Kumetz remarked that it's likely some of those participating in the upcoming sessions may not read the provided material, so it might be useful to provide a quick start guide of the document.

Paul White remarked that the majority of engagement will likely be from stakeholders, not true members of the general public.

Bonnie Maney offered that MCP could make individualized quick start guides.

Co-Chair Morrison confirmed that the team approved of Michael Wright's idea to recycle the regional town halls for stakeholders, augmented with virtual public meetings and publicized ability to email the Task Force or fill out an online form, and that MCP will develop quick start guides.

Ron Kumetz expressed support for the idea of separate meetings for stakeholders and the general public, because the groups have different needs and perspectives.

Mike Doenges echoed Ron's sentiment.

Co-Chair Neal concluded the discussion.

Co-Chair Neal noted that a report is due to the legislature on January 15th. The details being unavailable at the time of discussion, the team decided to look into it offline and deliver what they can, be that the report if possible or a memo with an update.

Confirm Next Meeting Date and Adjournment

The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 15th, at 11:15 AM.

Motion: There being no further business, Paul White made a motion to adjourn; 2nd by Ron Kumetz. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Emily Mullaney, Clerk

01/08/2025
Date