

MINUTES

Bethel Emergency Management Committee
Thursday, January 21, 2016
1:00 PM
Bethel Town Hall Conference Room

1. **Call to Order-Keith Arlund called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM. Members present: Arlund, Town Manager and EMD; Abbie Sherman, Assistant Town Manager; David Aldrighetti, Bethel Fire Chief; Carla Hodgdon, Shelter Coordinator. Others: Randy Bronson and Lisa Hill-Select Board Member.**
2. **VT Alert presentation-Randy Bronson VT DEMHS-Arlund introduced Randy Bronson, DEMHS, who provided an overview and introduction into the capabilities of the VAlert system. This is an all-hazard notification system contracted by the State from New York. The system allows a municipal “submitter” to send out public safety announcements to internal and external users groups. It is also a “true reverse E 911” in that messages may be sent to all E 911 addresses registered within the town. Bronson stated that Bethel could probably be on-line on/or about March 1, 2016. Arlund will draft a letter for the Select Board to enroll the first municipal users for the set up phase.**
3. **Discuss “America’s PrepareAthon” Program-Arlund provided copies of a power point presentation that has been made available to assist towns with preparation and conduct of a town-wide preparedness exercise. Chief Aldrighetti suggested that it would be appropriate for the Select Board and key players to begin discussion of the idea with a working session to outline the roles of all that would be part of the local Incident Command Emergency Operations Center. Hill and Arlund will discuss the Select Board at its next meeting. It was noted that Lynn Thomas was not available for this meeting due to family obligations. Arlund stated that Lynn has worked hard to keep the C+ Group functioning since Irene. There are two suggested national PrepareAthon days suggested of April 30 and September 30th. Arlund thinks the September date is more realistic given town meeting in March.**
4. **Other business-There was no other business.**
5. **Adjourn-The meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM.**