

SOUTHERN BERKSHIRE REGIONAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
Great Barrington Fire Station
Tuesday, January 27, 2026 at 8:00 AM Meeting Minutes

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	OUTCOME/ACTION
1. Call Meeting to Order –	Quorum established by Fire Service, Emergency Management, Hospital, Community Group, EMS, Law Enforcement, Local Elected Official, and Public Health.	Meeting called to order at 8:02 AM
2. Approval of October 28, 2025 Minutes	Pat Levine moved that the minutes should be accepted as read. Second by Christy Lemoine. Motion passed.	October 2025 Minutes Approved
3. Treasurer’s Report	Heather Barbieri reports spent approximately \$8,000 for the new shelter container. She did not have the current figures on hand. We have received 10 responses from the annual town letters.	
4. OLD BUSINESS 4(a) Grants	Chris Marsden updated the group on the status of the EMPG grant. The States won their lawsuit regarding the conditions set for the grant but the process is ongoing. The Commonwealth has not accepted the subgrant yet, but is expected to. The Notice should be coming within the next couple months. It is still recommended to do a group project. The potential project the SBREPC is looking at is the purchase of a portable generator for the regional shelter (and available to the member towns). Stockbridge has offered to take the lead and deal with the paperwork. SBREPC will be asked to contribute \$10,000 to the project. We did apply for a grant from WRHSAC but we did not receive funding. Chief Berkel asked about the possibility of a fixed generator. Chris explained there would be a lot of additional paperwork and delay for FEMA review. Barb Marchione asked about asking Towns for additional funding. Discussion followed regarding if towns would be open to this. We could look into other grants if necessary.	

<p>4(b)) EMS Task Force</p>	<p>The Task Force is still up and running but many towns have dropped out. The group is still reviewing data. The Collins Center will be meeting with Selectboards. The group is discussing governance models and working on financial information. By mid-February they hope to move on to the next phase.</p>	
<p>4(c) Regional Shelter Plan</p>	<p>We need an Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Berkshire South. Heather has the copy of the one from Simon’s Rock and will adapt it.</p>	
<p>4(d) Butternut Fire After Action</p>	<p>We were unable to get an outside person to run this. Scott Muir has volunteered to facilitate. It will be a dinner meeting possibly in March. Robert Gaughran volunteered to assist.</p>	
<p>4(e) Code Red</p>	<p>Chief Carlotto reviewed what Code Red is and its current status. It was hacked in October and has since been bought out. It has been down/limited since the hack. The new platform is up and running. Chief is working on rebuilding the SBREPC list.</p>	
<p>4(f) Social Media Policy Update</p>	<p>The committee did not meet in January. They will meet prior to the February meeting.</p>	
<p>4(g) Logo Committee</p>	<p>The committee did not meet in January. They will meet prior to the February meeting.</p>	
<p>NEW BUSINESS</p>		
<p>5(a) Annual Letters</p>	<p>The annual letters to the towns were sent out and we have received 10 out of 12 so far. Heather will reach out to the two towns we have yet to receive responses.</p>	
<p>5(b) Public Health Tabletop Exercise</p>	<p>Jayne Smith reported on the TTX. Participants reported on their experience. It was very successful and useful for bringing Public Health and Boards of Health into the emergency planning and response process. An After-Action Report will be distributed to each Town.</p>	

	<p>One outcome from the conversations during the TTX was communication. This prompted the conference call prior to the recent snow storm to discuss preparations which was well attended. It was agreed this was helpful.</p>	
<p>5(c) 2026 Goals and Wish List</p>	<p>The 2025 goals were reviewed and the 2026 goals were selected:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Purchase a generator for the regional shelter 2) Complete the MOU with Berkshire South 3) Conduct a sheltering TTX for the regional shelter 4) Introduction to the REPC for Local Elected Officials 5) Social media policy update 6) Update the SBREPC logo 	
<p>6. Election of Officers</p>	<p>Sandra Martin nominated the current slate of officers. Barb Marchione seconded. All in favor. The officers will be:</p> <p>Chair- Heather Barbieri Vice-Chairs- Jayne Smith/Scott Muir Treasurer- Heather Barbieri Secretary- Scott Muir Right-to-Know Officer- Jon Lyons</p>	
<p>7. UPCOMING TRAININGS/EVENTS</p> <p>7(a) Training</p>	<p>Mental Health First Aid in Chicopee on January 29th. See the WRHSAC for registration.</p>	
<p>8. MEMBER UPDATES</p>	<p>Heather reports in March there will be a 3-day Hospital Emergency Coordinator class. It is not open yet. More information will be available at the February meeting.</p> <p>Barb thanked mutual aid towns for their response to New Marlborough structure fire.</p> <p>Chris Marsden reported two upcoming courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -On March 10 from 8-12 will be EMD Orientation in Lenox. -On March 18-20 (all day) will be a Public Information Officer class in Pittsfield. 	

Jill	Sweet	Tri-Town Health	PH																
Christine	Thompson	ESBC	CG																
Brian	Tobin	Mt. Washington Selectboard/PD/EMD	LEO/LE/EM																
Shawn	Tryon	Monterey FD	FS																
Scott	Turner	Great Barrington FD	FS																
Cyndi	Ullrich	GB Fire District	DPW																
Crystal	VanDeusen	EMS Coordinator	EMS																
Lucinda	Vermeulen	Egremont Selectboard	LEO																
Kevin	Wall	SBAS	EMS																

***DISCIPLINE KEY**

CG – Community Group

DPW – Dept of Public Works

EM – Emergency Management

EMS- Emergency Medical Svcs

H - Hospital

LBI – Local Business and Industry

LE – Law Enforcement

LEO – Local Elected Official

LE – Local Environment

M – Media

PH- Public Health

T- Transportation

FS- Fire Service