

Mutual Aide Meeting Minutes
September 20, 2006

Attendance: Caleb Dobbins, Ed Welch, Jim Tirrell, Kurt Grasset, Ken Daniels, Charlie Smart, Alan Côté, Vice-chairman of Mutual Aide

- The first item on the agenda the changes in the by-laws for Mutual Aide. Ken reported there was little feedback on the changes to the by-laws. 13 comments came back in favor of the changes and only 2 opposed to the changes.
Kurt Grasset moved to adopt the new by-laws. Jim Tirrell Seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Charlie Smart has been selected by the New Hampshire Building Officials Association to act as their representative.
- Jim Tirrell reports that he is still finishing up repairs from last October's flood damage.
- Last activation was in May (Mothers' Day Storm). Goffstown received assistance in the form of trucks.
- Discussion ensued regarding the reluctance of some towns to join the Mutual Aide. There was some discussion about trying to encourage towns to join by pointing out the benefits received by towns during the October and May floods.
- Alan Côté suggested that perhaps Mutual aide should prepare a "Boiler Plate" request for aide to facilitate the activation process for Mutual Aide. The request should include: Town requesting aide, Town aide is requested from, equipment needed, and duration needed. There was also discussion about asking Towns providing aide to use the FEMA form for billing purposes.
- Caleb Dobbins mentioned that the State DOT rates for equipment are lower than FEMA rates. Will FEMA pay only rates allocated in FEMA guidelines for government owned equipment or state or town rates based on them being higher or lower?
- Caleb Dobbins informed the group of a new program through FEMA. Of towns adopt minimum standards for reconstruction of their roadways and implement those standards whenever reconstructing their roads, FEMA will pay to upgrade roads during disasters to the standards adopted by the town. The minimum standards must be uniform throughout the state. Towns can opt to adopt more stringent standards if they choose to. It would be prudent for NH Public Works Mutual Aide to work on developing these minimum standards. Alan Côté suggested that it may be practical to develop minimum standards for drainage but that developing minimum standard for road base would be difficult. Many towns reclaim roadways but few do full depth reconstruction.
- Ken Daniel brought up the Ken Wad Memorial Plow Rally on Sept. 28. Mutual Aide is supposed to have a table at the rally. The cost is \$100.00. **Jim Tirrell moved to appropriate \$100.00 for the cost of the table at the plow rally. Kurt Grasset seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**
- Discussion turned to the NHMA conference on Nov. 16&17. Mutual Aide will be sharing a table with the NHPWTC. Volunteers will be needed to man the booth. There was a suggestion that we prepare a slide show or pictures of the disasters

we have had over the past year. Jim mentioned that the Power Point presentation used at the Cape may be just what we need. There was further question as to whether or not mutual aide will be making a presentation at the NHMA conference.

- Board membership was discussed and the filling of vacancies. There was some confusion over the actual number of positions presently vacant. The Board suggested it would be beneficial to have a representative that comes from either Dist. 1 or Dist 3 as there are representatives from the other districts already.
- Jim Tirrell offered to wear a pager for PW Mutual Aide if needed.
- Next meeting will be Wednesday, December 13, 2006 at 9am at the LGC.
- **Motion to adjourn by Kurt Grasset, Seconded by Jim Tirrell. Motion passed unanimously.**