

Town of Stratton Selectmen's Meeting

August 29, 2011

Hurricane Irene Recovery Emergency Meeting

Members present: Selectmen – Al Dupell, Larry Bills, Chris Liller, Greg Marcucci and Kevin Robinson; Road Foreman – Ralph Staib, Road Crew – Stuart Chapin, Residents – DR Holton and John Nault, and Clerk – Kent Young.

Incident Summary: Rain associated with the storm began early Sunday morning, August 28, and flash flood conditions began occurring in the early morning – sooner than expected. The Stratton Road Crew monitored the roads early, and mitigated some damage, but could only watch as brooks became torrential, washing out culverts, bridges and roads. Fortunately wind was not a factor in this storm. During the day, the road crew kept the eastern end of the Stratton-Arlington Rd. open, by repairing the washout at Pike Hollow Rd.. Power went out by midday. The Selectmen opened the Town Hall as a shelter, and phone-trees were established to track residents and second-homeowners who were in town at the time of the storm. One transient needed shelter and spent the night. Road crew employee, Stuart Chapin also stayed the night, as he was unable to get to his home.

Assessments of the road had been made by late Sunday – the Kidder Brook culvert on Mountain Road was washed out. County Rd. culvert at Pikes Falls was washed out. The culvert at the Jamaica Town line on the West Jamaica Rd. was washed out. Culverts on the Stratton-Arlington Rd. at the Sunderland town line were out. A culvert across Old Forrester Rd. was washed out. A culvert across Bills Rd. (private) was washed out. The road was damaged at the Stratton-Arlington Rd. / Pike Hollow Rd. intersection. The Penny Avenue Bridge was washed out. The Steiner driveway (private) on Pike Hollow was washed out. Damage on the upper part of Penny Ave. existed. In Wardsboro, the bridge to Snow Mountain Farms West was washed out, and Canedy Road was severely damaged near the Wardsboro Town line.

On Monday morning, the Stratton Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was established at 5:30am at the Town Office and contact with the Vermont EOC established. All phones were out except for the fax machine line; therefore, internet access was not available.

Al Dupell called the emergency meeting to order at 7:00am.

The following plan was devised: The road into the Forrester gravel pit in Jamaica is to be repaired first (into Jamaica) so that material is available for repairs from that pit. For the emergency repairs to roads and infrastructure, local individuals and local excavating companies (including their employees and necessary equipment, at their discretion) / or individuals with available equipment were approved to be hired, including Bills Excavating, Hunter Excavating, DR Holton, Paul Bernard, Kevin Robinson, Fitzpatrick Excavating, Plimpton Excavating and Greg Hoffmann (his time to be put toward community service, while his equipment is to be hired) – Al Dupell and Greg Marcucci agreed to work as well. The Stratton Corporation Maintenance crew may also be used on town roads north of Kidder Brook, if necessary.

The main objectives are 1) to replace the culvert washed out on Mountain Rd., at Kidder Brook, so to establish access to the north part of town and Stratton Resort; and 2) clear access all along the Stratton-Arlington Rd. from the Town line into Wardsboro and out to Rt. 100. Once the priorities given above are met, work will commence to restore access to major roads for all private homes and businesses. All work will be coordinated via the Selectman Chair and Road Foreman.

The Emergency Shelter will remain available until further notice. The Emergency Operations Center for this event will be the Stratton Town Office.

Adjourn: Greg Marcucci motioned to adjourn at 7:35a.m.. Chris Liller seconded. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned.

Minutes by:

David Kent Young