

# MEETING MINUTES- REGIONAL QUARTERLY

## BOARD OF ASSESSORS MEETING

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Date:	November 18, 2025
Time:	6:00 PM
Meeting Hosted by:	Town of Rangeley
Location:	Rangeley Town Office, 15 School Street

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### IN ATTENDANCE

Town of Rangeley (Host): Ethan Shaffer, Sam White, Jake Beaulieu

Dallas Plantation: Linda Jones, Patricia Ellis, Linda Casper

Rangeley Plantation: None

Sandy River Plantation: Rodney Varney, Joanne Taylor, Lisa Kinsman, Ethna Thompson (BOA Secretary)

Public: Mark Beauregard, Linda Dexter, Chris Farmer, Casey Johnsen, David Miller

### 1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at **6:00 PM**.

### 2. Introductions / Attendance

Representatives from the following municipalities and organizations were present:

- Town of Rangeley
- Dallas Plantation
- Sandy River Plantation
- Other regional stakeholders (as applicable)

Attendees introduced themselves and noted their respective affiliations.

### 3. Regional Funding Formula

Participants reviewed and discussed the current regional funding formula used for shared services and cost-sharing arrangements. Municipal representatives provided input on how the formula functions for their respective communities, raised questions regarding transparency and equity, and shared perspectives on potential areas for clarification or improvement. No formal action was taken. The group agreed that discussion will continue at future regional meetings, including further consideration of structure counts and how those counts may be accurately determined using software systems available to most, if not all, participating municipalities.

### 4. Fire Services Coordination

The group discussed regional coordination of fire protection and related services, including communication, training, and consistency in operational expectations. Each municipality provided comments on existing practices and areas where additional coordination may be beneficial. This included discussion of how training opportunities are communicated and how municipal staff or board members may participate.

### 5. ISO Ratings Update

Rangeley Fire Rescue provided an update on ISO-related matters. Participants discussed how ISO ratings impact municipalities across the region, including insurance classifications and what improvements may influence future ratings. No decisions were required.

## **6. Clarification of Saddleback References in the Rangeley Comprehensive Plan**

Sandy River Plantation requested discussion regarding recently adopted language in the Rangeley Comprehensive Plan referencing collaboration with Saddleback Resort. All municipalities participated in a general conversation to clarify the intent of the language, regional expectations, and how intermunicipal coordination should occur for matters involving Saddleback, given that the resort lies partially within Sandy River Plantation and Dallas Plantation and has region-wide impacts.

There was consensus that continued communication among municipalities is important and that future discussions involving Saddleback should include all affected communities to ensure coordinated regional planning.

## **7. Community Resilience Partnership**

A representative from CEBE attended to provide an overview of the Community Resilience Partnership and to discuss the potential benefits of municipal participation. The Town of Rangeley is currently a member of the program. Other municipalities listened to the presentation but did not take any action or indicate formal interest in joining at this time. The information was received for general awareness, and no regional decisions were made.

## **8. Announcements**

Attendees provided general updates from their respective municipalities as appropriate. Brief discussion occurred regarding a regional funding request submitted by Craig Sargent for the 2026 July 4th fireworks display.

## **9. Other Business**

Linda Dexter and David Miller attended to provide an overview of their ongoing project aimed at advancing a multi-year initiative to establish an internationally recognized dark-sky designation for the region. They explained that the effort focuses on creating a connected dark-sky corridor extending from the Rangeley area north toward Coburn Gore, which would align with and eventually abut the existing Mont-Mégantic International Dark Sky Reserve in Québec. Their update highlighted the long-term nature of the project (estimated at one to two years), the potential regional benefits, and the need for continued coordination among municipalities and stakeholders. No action was requested of the group at this time.

## **10. Schedule Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the next Regional Quarterly Meeting will be hosted by Sandy River Plantation in April 2026. The exact date and time will be determined and announced in coordination with participating municipalities.

## **11. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 PM.

## **Respectfully submitted,**

Ethna L. Thompson, Clerk

*These minutes are a summary of the meeting and not a verbatim transcript.*