



Administrative Assistant to the Selectmen

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Storm Damage Assessment – October 30, 2017 Wind Event

On Monday, October 30, 2017, the State of Maine and Lamoine experienced a wind event that caused a significant damage around the community. The purpose of this report is to enumerate the problems that were observed, any actions the town took to address those issues, and what lingering effects there were from the storm.

The high winds started in the early morning hours and the first call to the fire department came at about 4:30 AM on Bay Road in the Bar Harbor Highlands Subdivision. The fire department responded, finding a tree on the power lines that they could not address other than by placing cones around the scene.

At about 7:30 AM the fire department received three more calls of trees on lines or in roads. They responded to Lamoine Beach Road, Mud Creek Road, and Douglas Highway. Again, because some of the calls involved power lines, the only appropriate response was to contact Emera Maine. By this time the County was inundated with similar calls. In all, Lamoine VFD was dispatched to 5-total calls overall. After dealing with the three back to back calls, the fire department placed cones on Buttermilk Road to mark several trees that were uprooted and laying across the power lines.

At the station, Tiffany Davis stopped to report numerous trees down on Shore Road, some involving wires. Department members deployed in personal vehicles with chainsaws. We deployed cones at 1132 Shore Road where a tree was involved with lines. We hooked up a chain/rope/tow line to my truck and pulled a limb down that was only involved with telephone cable, then cut that up and put the remnants alongside the road.

At about 1319 Shore Road we came upon neighbors cutting up a large tree that had fallen across the road. I assisted Bill Smith, Tammy Kelley and Neil Salisbury with that effort while the remainder of the crew pressed on. They coned off another location where power lines were involved and were dealing with a large tree that fell across the road at 1311 Shore Road. Matthew Jordan assisted with a small tractor, pushing the bulk of the tree out of the way. That allowed an oil truck that had passed by moments earlier to leave, as it was stopped by a tree near Coolidge Crossing. That tree involved power lines and cones were placed.

Upon return to the town office, the town clerk had contacted me to say she was unable to get off MDI due to the road being closed and would not be in. I received a phone call from Nancy Boynton saying her elderly husband was headed to Rabbit Run as her granddaughter was trapped on that road by trees across the road. Steve Valleau was in his vehicle outside and offered to help. On the way I broadcast on my portable fire radio where we were headed, and the fire department crew showed up. We cleared Rabbit Run as there were no lines involved.

Following the above referenced event, I conducted a damage survey tour of the town on October 31, 2017 to assess any extraordinary costs to the town in terms of infrastructure.

Following return from the fire station I stopped at the former Baptist Church parsonage after observing a tree had come down on Priscilla Hukki's car. I spoke with her and she was not hurt, and she still had power.

On return to the town office we opened for business at about 10:00 AM. I changed the phone message on the answering machine to give instructions about the storm. I also posted the first of many updates to our Facebook page about the storm.

The town office had power pretty much the entire time. A power bump did disable the TV equipment, which I was able to reset.

Upon leaving for the day, I set the phone to call forwarding so that calls to the town hall would come to the cell phone I carry.

Overnight, we received a request from Hancock County EMA to submit a damage assessment form.

Tuesday, October 31st, I set out to conduct that survey and to address any emergent matters. I took a picture of the Saleski home on Lamoine corner as the owner had contacted the town via Facebook to inquire about the extent of damage. The service entrance was ripped off their home.

All town buildings and parks were checked along with each public road. The following damage was noted:

- Lorimer Road – Tree over phone lines, will have to be addressed after Emera deals with it.
- Walker Road – Some tree debris on roadside between Mill Road and Route 204
- Fire Station – Trees along the property boundary fell into the neighbors back yard.
- Buttermilk Road – Some large trees in the ditch need to be cleaned up
- Shore Road – This has a lot of trees along the road that were cut and the debris needs to be cleared away. One of the Chevron signs near Fox run came down and a new post is likely needed.
- Gully Brook/Berry Cove – This was closed at the intersection because of a downed wire and there will need to be some debris cleanup after Emera does its thing.
- Asa's Lane – some minor debris cleanup is needed
- Bloomfield Park – several limbs came down, one blocks the access road.

My estimate to clean up the town is about \$4,000. I have left a message with Richard McMullen to call the town hall.

We have posted two to three Facebook messages a day on the town sign updating the power restoration situation and advertising that the town office is open to come get warm, recharge phones, get some non-drinkable water and use the WiFi. Several people have taken advantage of that.

November 1

A few private roads remained closed into Wednesday, waiting for Emera to show up, including portions of Berry Cove Road, Old Schoolhouse Lane, and Meadow Point Road.

All the public roads are open with the exception of the intersection of Berry Cove and Gully Brook.

The fire department cones remained on Bay Road, Meadow Point Road, and cones were placed on Berry Cove Road.

I checked with the Harbor Master, and there was no significant damage at the Harbor.

November 2

Barry Balach stopped by the office and informed me that they are not able to get their motor home down Lorimer Road because of a tree hanging on the wires over the road.

I took another ride around town this afternoon and took some pictures of some of the trouble spots. The tree over the wires on Meadow Point Road has been cut, not by Emera. I removed the traffic cones from there and moved them to Old Schoolhouse Lane which is closed beyond #21.

Larissa Thomas had inquired why they were still out of electricity on Coley Cove Road and a quick patrol down Seal Point found a set of crossed lines.



Old Schoolhouse Lane, closed by a tree completely blocking the road and involved with power, phone and CTV lines. Five houses are cut off from access to Route 204 by this.



Berry Cove Road is cut off from Gully Brook to the south. One of the 8 homes beyond this closure is occupied, the rest are seasonal camps.

Pasture Way is without power due to this tree that fell on the lines at 22 Pasture Way. The road is passable. That problem apparently caused the fuse at Needles Eye Road and Asa's Lane/Walker Road to open up, knocking out the power to most of Needles Eye.



A shot of Bay Road near the Cove Road intersection. This was the scene of the first fire department call on Monday morning. The traffic cones remain in place.

Respectfully submitted,

Stu Marckoon, Local EMA Director