

**Vermont Climate Council
Dec. 15, 2025, Meeting Minutes
11am-1pm**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86818001424?pwd=GZ6mV9rla6fVh40azYQzGPMYOPAWiz.1>

Meeting ID: 868 1800 1424

Passcode: 855945

Climate Councilors present:

- Chris Campany
- Secretary Sarah Clark
- Matt Cota
- Richard Cowart
- Dr. Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux
- Jared Duval
- Will Eberle
- Eric Forand
- Kerrick Johnson
- Kelly Klein
- David Mears
- Johanna Miller
- Liz Miller
- Stephanie Moffett-Hynds
- Secretary Julie Moore
- Ryan Patch
- Jaiel Pulskamp
- Quincy Sabick
- Michele Boomhower

11:00 AM Welcome/Overview of Agenda/Approval of [Minutes](#)
David Plumb, CBI

Councilors welcomed Quincy Sabick as the newest member of the Climate Council and approved the minutes from 9/15/2025.

11:05 AM Reviewing [Written Public Input](#)
Liz Amler, Climate Action Office

Liz Amler shared a comment notifying the Council about a virtual presentation on

electricity and affordability on December 16th that Councilors may be interested in attending.

11:10 AM [Proposal](#) to the VT General Assembly identified in the CAP on an ANR Reporting Program Julie Moore, Agency of Natural Resources,
Lauren Ashbrook and Jane Lazorchak, Climate Action Office

Secretary Julie Moore presented ANR's approach to a new emissions reporting rule, as envisioned in the CAP. ANR recommends adopting a standalone reporting rule, authorized by the General Assembly, as it will allow the state to define data needs, expand scope to other sectors, and fill voids left by rolling back federal reporting requirements. The program would require two FTEs, \$300,000 for platform development, and \$200,000 annually, covering transportation and RCI sectors (over 70% of statewide emissions), with scope to be further discussed by the legislature. The Council agreed on the following next steps:

- The Council will support a cover memo accompanying ANR's memo to the legislature that includes the following language:
 - This memo is consistent with one of the top priorities from the Climate Action Plan and the Council therefore strongly supports it. It is a foundation stone for future progress.
 - The Council also firmly supports the request of the agency to have the necessary resources to implement this effort.
- All Councilors present except one supported this text. Matt Cota opposed it, citing concerns about the rule's impact on small fuel dealers.

12:10 PM Clean Vehicle Regulations Update
Julie Moore, Agency of Natural Resources

Secretary Moore provided an update on Advanced Clean Trucks (ACT) and Advanced Clean Cars II (ACCII) following the Governor's pause last winter. ANR is advancing the California Air Resources Board's (CARB) proposed ACT amendments to address the Governor's concerns. Due to federal delays and litigation, ANR also proposes setting Advanced Clean Cars I as the regulatory floor while awaiting California's action on ACCII, with rulemaking expected to be completed by the end of winter. Reflections from the Council included:

- One Councilor raised concerns about the impact on Global Warming Solutions Act (GWSA) targets, noting that ACCII was the plan's most significant pollution reduction measure. They questioned how the July 2026 GWSA deadline for enacting rulemaking would be affected. The Council will return to this conversation in a future meeting.

12:20 PM Public Comment

Leendert Huisman, Matthew LeFluer, and Alice Peal offered public comment that included:

- What is the difference between this ANR report and the already existing Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory? Will the report focus solely on fossil fuels or will it also include biogenic greenhouse gases? 20% of greenhouse gases are biogenic, and this should not be overlooked.
- The Council should move forward despite challenges to meet statutory deadlines.
- The Council should actively pursue funding for important initiatives.

12:30 PM Approve [Draft Annual Legislative Report](#)
Jane Lazorchak, Climate Action Office

Councilors agreed to the following changes. The Steering Committee will take a final look at the document before submitting.

- To most readers, it's surprising that so much funding is reported as mitigation rather than adaptation/resilience, given the large spending on flood recovery and infrastructure hardening. Adding a brief explanation and listing a few major categories of mitigation spending would clarify where the funds were directed.
 - On page 7, note that categorization might significantly change the chart.
- On page 5, in the section on hazards and disasters, add a line about the 2024-2025 droughts, which caused significant personal damage and hardship.
- Add reference to the Vermont Evaluation of Rural Technical Assistance (VERTA) to the end of the Climate Toolkit Development section.
Recommended language:
 - The Vermont Evaluation of Rural Technical Assistance (VERTA) process has been tasked with developing recommendations for enhancing technical assistance and resources for rural communities under Act 181. This mandate underscores the critical need to align and prioritize resources and technical assistance to ensure the long-term vitality of rural communities. It is relevant to the use of this and other toolkits as many communities require technical assistance to make use of toolkits and to pursue policy and project implementation initiatives generally.
- Why does this report list bills that weren't successful?

- Add a note above the chart explaining that it lists bills in the same subject area and does not imply Council support for all of them.
- Use the summary on page 6 of the top 10 priority actions as an executive summary at the top of the report.
- Remove the errant “10” on page 6 in the sentence: “These sessions focused on different themes from the various subcommittees and at key moments, community-based organizations and Regional **10** Planning Commissions supported and collaborated on these events.”
- Consider adding a footnote to the chart directing readers to the detailed table of all programs.

12:40 PM [January Virtual Public Meetings](#)

David Plumb, CBI and Sophi Veltrop, Climate Action Office

Sophi Veltrop reviewed the approach for the virtual public meetings about the CAP on the evening of January 6th and the afternoon of January 12th. The following Councilors offered to support these meetings and others are encouraged to participate:

- David M., Kelly (on the 12th), Jared, Johanna, Chris, and Quincy

12:50 PM Outlook for 2026 Council Meetings and January Virtual Public Meetings
David Plumb, CBI

The Council approved the suggested approach for quarterly Council meetings and monthly Steering Committee meetings in 2026. A Councilor asked the following question:

- Is there a protocol if the legislature calls for testimony?
 - Broad testimony requests about the Climate Action Plan go to the Steering Committee, representing Senate and House appointees, while requests tied to specific recommendations or sectoral work go to the relevant subcommittee chairs, who represent that area of the Council’s work. This could be adapted to include a full Council-wide notice about testimony requests, and the Steering Committee can revisit this question in January.

1:00 PM Adjourn
##