

## Vermont Climate Council March 18, 2024, Meeting Minutes

---

**Virtual Meeting Option to Attend via Zoom:** All participants (Council members and observers) use the following Zoom link: Join Zoom Meeting:  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84402241618?pwd=KdCOFm8bucPpIh7ErWlawgYLDF74BA.1>  
Meeting ID: 844 0224 1618  
Passcode: 321926

---

10:55 AM Climate Council Members and Subcommittee Co-Chairs Join via Attendee Link

### Participants:

#### Councilors

- David Deen
- Jared Duval
- Rich Cowart
- Liz Miller
- Paula Melton
- Johanna Miller
- Lily Weinstein Terry
- Michelle Boomhower (for Secretary Flynn)
- Kristin Clouser
- Ryan Patch (for Secretary Tebbetts)
- Denise Bailey
- Bram Kleppner
- Secretary Julie Moore
- Eric Forand
- Allie Webster
- Eric Forand
- Jaiel Pulskamp
- Jared Ulmer
- Mark Levine
- Dr. Lesley-Ann Dupigny- Giroux
- Kelly Klein
- Allie Webster
- June Tierney

#### Staff

- Jane Lazorchak
- David Plumb
- Charlotte Goodman

11:00 AM Convene/Welcome/Overview and Approval of Agenda/Approval of Minutes

- Minutes approved with a correction to spelling of Dr. Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux

11:10 AM Updates on implementation of the Clean Heat Standard

- Deidre Morris from the Public Utilities Commission spoke to the commission's efforts to implement the Clean Heat Standard.
- Mia Watson, who chairs the Equity Advisory Group for the Clean Heat Standard, spoke about the group's effort to meet its charge of developing an equity framework that will accompany the PUC's January 2025 report to the legislature.
- Elena Mihaly from the Conservation Law Foundation spoke about a letter from environmental advocates urging the PUC to maintain its timeline for implementing the Clean Heat Standard.
- Councilors offered comments and questions, including:
  - With ongoing public engagement connected to the Climate Council and its Just Transitions Subcommittee, is there a plan to reinforce work between these two entities?
  - Justice delayed is injustice multiplied, meaning there is further harm in delaying implementation of this measure to cut climate pollution.

11:43 AM Guidance Document for Subcommittees - Overview  
*David Plumb, CBI*

Councilors reviewed the draft document in detail and requested the following changes. The Council agreed that the Steering Committee would sign off next week on a final version that incorporates these changes.

- Incorporate the concept of equity more centrally in the document. Councilors offered specific edits, including mentioning in the first paragraphs the importance of the public engagement work that will support the subcommittee deliberations.
- Signal the level of administrative support that the subcommittees will have.
- Highlight cross-cutting issues and high-level considerations, such as the new science that will help inform all the subcommittees.
- Signal that future detailed guidance will be developed in the coming months, specifically around how subcommittees can best prioritize, the appropriate level of detail in their output, and a detailed public engagement plan.
- Clarify the role of Just Transition liaisons in other committees.
- For Agriculture and Ecosystem, add additional detail (Councilor provided specific suggestions) and add an additional bucket for food security.

1:32 PM Just Transition Reflection Mona Tolba, Just Transition Subcommittee Member

Just Transitions Subcommittee member Mona Tolba spoke about her personal experience and how it influences her drive to ensure voices from her community are included in climate action decisions.

1:50 PM      Public Comment

- There was no public comment

1:55 PM      Next Steps Jane Lazorchak, Climate Action Office

- David Plumb will work with Council members this week to make edits to guidance document. The Steering Committee will review it next Monday and approve it
- Jared Duval will email life cycle analysis and social costs of GHGs next two meeting information (March 29 9-11am, April 24 1-3 pm) — will also add to calendar
- Next Council meeting is not until June - Steering Committee meeting next week and once a month
- Subcommittees up and running with new [membership](#)
- Public engagement and technical work ongoing
- The Climate Action Office is updating the Progress Report tool for subcommittees

2:00 PM      Adjourn