

**Vermont Climate Council
December 1, 2021 -Minutes**

Date/Time:	December 1, 2021, 8:30 AM
Location:	Zoom Meeting recorded and posted online
Physical Location to Attend in Person:	Agency of Natural Resources, One National Life Drive, Montpelier, VT 05602 in Catamount NL D215
Vermont Climate Council members:	Abbie Corse, Anson Tebbetts, Bram Kleppner, Brian Gray, Catherine Dimitruk, Chad Farrell, Erica Bornemann, Iris Hsiang, Jared Duval, Johanna Miller, Julie Moore, June Tierney, Kelly Klein, Kristin Clouser, Lauren Oates, Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux, Lindsay Kurrle, Liz Miller, Richard Cowart, Sean Brown, Sue Minter
Sub-committee co-chairs:	Peter Walke, Billy Coster, TJ Poor
Staff and support:	Jane Lazorchak, David Plumb, Marian Wolz
Minutes Prepared by:	Cameron Hager and David Plumb

8:30 AM Convene/Welcome/Overview and Approval of Agenda
Kristin Clouser, Agency of Administration & David Plumb, Consensus Building Institute

The Council approved the agenda and agreed to the following details:

- For the vote on the Initial Climate Action Plan, the Council will vote using the spreadsheet mechanism with all councilors voting at exactly the same time.
- The plan should include two appendices:
 - One for dissenting opinions on a particular substantive issue
 - Another for “signing statements” that councilors are invited (but not required) to write explaining the vote and providing more context.
 - The due dates for these items will be in 1-2 weeks, to be determined in the coming days.

9:00 AM Review and Approval of [Nov 29, 2021 minutes](#)
David Plumb, Consensus Building Institute

Minutes were approved by the Council.

9:15 AM Just Transition Reflection

Jane Lazorchak, Director, GWSA Director

Jane Lazorchak detailed that the Council will work with Judy Dow as a consultant on a Land Acknowledgment as discussed in prior meetings. The discussions on the Land Acknowledgment will take place at a Council meeting later this month. It was emphasized that learning and understanding will be at the centerpiece of these discussions.

9:20 AM Overview of edits and revisions to the final text of the Initial Climate Action Plan

Jane Lazorchak, Director, GWSA Director

Jane Lazorchak gave an overview of the edits and revisions made for the final text of the initial CAP.

9:30 AM Individual review by councilors of final text
Meeting pauses so that councilors can have individual reading time

Councilors spent slightly more an hour reading and reviewing the final text, ensuring that it incorporated the edits the Councilors had previously agreed to. Councilors alerted Jane Lazorchak and Marian Wolz of necessary edits in real time over email and in private chat.

10:40 AM Discussion of final text
David Plumb, Consensus Building Institute and Jane Lazorchak, , Director, GWSA Director

Jane Lazorchak listed a final set of edits requested by Councilors during the reading period as well as signaled further edits that were missed initially. Councilors named a handful of other minor edits as well. In addition, some councilors raised issues that they would like to see better addressed in the Council's future work:

- The CAP should do a better job in the future of highlight hazards beyond flooding and climate's more "human" impacts, such as mental health
- The CAP should do more in the future around "preparedness," ie the steps communities and individuals can do to be ready for future impacts.

11:25 AM Adopting the Initial CAP
David Plumb, Consensus Building Institute

Based on a formal vote, the Council voted to adopt the Initial CAP at a vote of 19 Yes and 4 No. Several councilors also signaled they intended to write issue-specific dissents.

11:30 AM Next steps
Jane Lazorchak, Director, GWSA Director

Jane Lazorchak discussed the next steps for the Council:

- There will be two more Council meetings in December, with a focus on developing a Council recommendation on use of ARPA funding, developing a Land Acknowledgement, and planning for public engagement in the New Year.
- ANR prepared a Press Release for the Initial CAP, written by Climate Access with review and revisions from the Steering Committee and ANR's Director of Communication. A summary of the CAP will be sent out with the press release and can be used by Councilors in their own communications.
- Council members would like a time to consider lessons learned in the Council process to date.

11:40 PM Public comment

No public comment was made.

11:45 Final Thoughts

Before adjourning, several Council members offered final reflections about the tremendous amount of work that has been done as well as the amount of work ahead, and an urgent call to make the volume of work more sustainable for councilors and subcommittee members.

12:00 PM Adjourn

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