

Rural Resilience Subcommittee of the Vermont Climate Council March 25, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Date/Time:	March 25, 2022 12:00 PM
Location:	Zoom meeting recorded and posted online
Subcommittee Members Present:	Catherine Dimitruk, Erica Bornemann, Ann Lawless, Mike Burke, Joe Segale, David Snedeker
Staff Members Present:	Ben Rose, Bronwyn Cooke, Marian Wolz, Jens Hilke, Anne Margolis, Jane Lazorchak, Stephanie Smith, Caroline Massa
Minutes By:	Sue Sharbino

12:04 pm Greeting, Review and Approval of Agenda and [1/25/22 Minutes](#)

No changes to agenda, minutes approved

Task Group Updates – Jane Lazorchak

- The task group working on the Municipal Vulnerability Index met to discuss their work and Catherine updated the group on the RRA Subcommittee’s work and framework. Looked at tools from Leslie-Ann, compiled RFP sent out to task group.
- Met with IT folks on a progress tracking tool. Will be vetted by Agency of Digital Services and IT. Marian is putting the Climate Action Plan into a story map. Hope to have both RFPs out before June.
- Comments and questions by the subcommittee may be submitted to Jane by next Friday.
- Measuring and assessing database was with a task group from the Science & Data subcommittee, went to the Council and the framework was adopted for the Climate Action Plan. Because there is rural resilience and adaptation pieces, it would be beneficial if someone from the RRA subcommittee was represented. Jane will follow up with the group when the time comes.

Climate Toolkit – Marian Wolz

- Tracking metrics may use the tool Colorado is using, specifically for public engagement.
- Climate Toolkit task group drafted a project scope, focusing on municipalities and creating a hub for existing resources and tools. The next step is putting together a focus group of end users of the toolkit.

Subcommittee nominations - Co-Chairs

The subcommittee reviewed and discussed possible nominees as well as quorum requirements. A standardized message will go out to them, outlining what membership entails, and then go from there.

Legislative Updates - Jane Lazorchak

- The Climate council was on the agenda to address the legislature on relevant bills. The Governor's budget bill increased funding to the Agency of Natural Resources, in support of a climate office which was a recommendation in the Climate Action Plan. Reallocations of existing positions and new positions for roles and responsibilities of the group will go through on July 1st. Catherine sent a message regarding support for resilience and adaptation. There will be 8 positions in this office and Jane and Marian will be included.
- Capital ARPA dollars are for municipal resilience centers, using public spaces and municipalities to set up resilience zones.
- The clean heat standard is the primary emissions reduction measure passed out of the House with majority support and is now with the Senate.
- The environmental justice bill is under JFO review on costs.

Public Comment

None

Updates and Next meeting on April 29th

Update on RESCON in New Orleans by Erica Bornemann

Hosting 2 public broad engagement events 4/12 6 pm 4/13 noon

Adjourn 1:35 PM