

**Rural Resilience and Adaptation Subcommittee
of the Vermont Climate Council
4/12/24 Meeting - Minutes**

Location: Meeting was recorded and posted [online here](#)
Subcommittee Members present: Andrea Wright, David Deen, Alice Peal, Allie Webster, Marian Wolz, Mike Burke, Eric Forand, Dahlia Cohn, Candace Pearson, Dr. Mark Levine, Scott McCormick Bronwyn Cooke, Ann Lawless
State Agency Staff Present: Ben Rose, Anne Margolis, Jared Ulmer, Carloine Paske for Stephanie Smith, Otis Ellms-Munore
Minutes by: Sue Plant

12:02 PM Welcome/Agenda Overview (RRA Co-Chair(s)) – Andrea Wight & David Deen

- Introduction of new Subcommittee members
- Agenda Overview – Andrea Wight
- Review and approval of [December 8, 2023](#) meeting minutes
December 8, 2023, Minutes approved as drafted

12:28 PM Relevant documents – high level overview and discussion Climate Action Plan – Marian Wolz

- [Vermont Climate Council & Subcommittee Member and Onboarding Guide](#)
Marian gave an overview of the subcommittee members' role and the high level description of the five charges of the subcommittees.
- [Pathways for Adaptation and Building Resilience in Communities and the Built Environment \(starting on pg 138 of the document\)](#)
Clearly defined the charge, pathways, strategies, and actions in the latest Climate Action Plan (CAP). Reviewed the response letter to the Speaker of the House, identifying priorities and five action plans.
- [Pathways for Adaptation and Building Resilience in Natural and Working Lands \(starting on pg 168 of the document\)](#)
- [Rural Resilience & Adaptation Subcommittee Action Matrix Climate Council Response to Speaker's Letter Climate](#)

12:49 PM Preliminary discussion of [Subcommittee Guidance Document](#) and the role of the RRA Subcommittee in the CAP update process – Andrea Wright

- Reviewed the subcommittees involved, the work plan development, the timeline, and prioritizing the actions to follow.

- Identified the RRA workplan outline. Could have a breakout group analyze the outline, refine it and have it back to the group in May for review. (Gave history on groups that met between meetings. Noted small groups must be less than 8 voting members, as it is a public meeting.)
- Ben Rose, Hazard Mitigation Section Chief, VEM, linked current legislation to the CAP. Recommended reviewing our priorities in light of the July flooding experience. (Example; the majority of flood affected Vermonters that did not have flood insurance.)
- Marian Wolz suggested getting an update on the State Hazard Mitigation Plan and to ask the Science and Data Subcommittee to coordinate a presentation on the impact of climate change on Vermonters and how that reflects on our progress report and possibly a reprioritizing of actions.
- Caroline Paske, State Hazard Mitigation Planner, VEM, volunteered to give the subcommittee a presentation of the State Hazard Mitigation Plan. Can also speak on local hazard mitigation plans.

Public comment - None

Wrap-up and Next Steps

- Onboarding session scheduled for April 16th.
- Resilience Implementation Strategy public session coming up so try to participate in one of those and will look to provide overview at May meeting.
- Workplan review needed for next meeting, volunteers are; David Deen, Andrea Wright, Alice Peal, Scott McCormick.
- Have an exercise on the matrix update, Science and Data presentation, and State Hazard Mitigation Plan presentation by Caroline Paske.
- Meeting schedule – second week of each month, currently on Fridays, earlier morning was suggested.
- Next meeting is May 10th.

1:33 PM Adjourn