

**Rural Resilience and Adaptation Subcommittee
of the Vermont Climate Council
9/27/24 Meeting - Minutes**

Location: Meeting was recorded and posted [online](#) here.
Subcommittee Members present: Andrea Wright, Eric Forand, Alice Peal, Marian Wolz, Ann Lawless, Dahlia Cohn, David Deen, Candace Pearson, Bronwyn Cooke
State Agency Staff Present: Anne Margolis, Jared Ulmer, Caroline Paske for Stephanie Smith, Otis Ellms-Munroe
Minutes by: Sue Plant

- 12:01 PM Welcome – Andrea Wright, RRA Co-Chair
Agenda Overview
Approval of [September 13, 2024](#) Minutes with the following changes:
- Add Bronwyn Cooke’s correction on the August 20th Minutes:
 - Bronwyn Cooke pointed out that Pathway 3 provides a good example for how splitting actions up by outcome risks losing sight of actions that should be coordinated across sub-committees to achieve both mitigation and resilience. E.G. Building codes. Cross sector mitigation is likely to be focused on how building codes could support emissions reductions (fuel switching, efficiency, etc.) but building codes should address emissions reduction and resilience in tandem.
 - Add Dahlia Cohn to Subcommittee Members present September 13, 2024
- Ann Lawless made a motion to approve as amended.
David Deen abstained
Minutes approved
- 12:06 PM VCC / Subcommittee Membership Updates
Subcommittee Membership changes – Chris Campany is joining the subcommittee he is the Executive Director of the Windham County Regional Planning Commission. He will be in the Community Capacity and Planning section of the Subcommittee as a counselor, representing Municipal Government.
- 12:10 PM Getting Grounded - Opportunity for Questions on the Process
Andrea Wright reviewed the timeframe and steps to be taken for the Task Groups from now through December as outlined in the [2025 CAP Subcommittee Review Updated Guidance](#). She then reviewed other documents and the structure for Task Groups to conduct their work from. The intent being to ensure everyone has a clear understanding of the work to be performed and how to go about getting it done with the resources provided. Everyone indicated a clear understanding of the work.
Alice Peal mentioned a public event to be held on the statehouse lawn and suggested others advertise or put up notices of any public events coming up.
- 12:47 PM Cross Cutting Pathways

Andrea reviewed the Cross Cutting Pathways document and ask for participation from the Climate Action Office. She then thanked Alice, Candace, and Bronwyn and Eric for stepping up to represent RRA on the education, workforce development, and compact settlement tasks groups, respectively.

Alice mentioned that Health and Housing have some crossovers that may be overlapping. She'd like to talk with Bronwyn on that.

Caroline brought up considering how Initial CAP actions were revised slightly for incorporation to the updated SHMP. She would like to track revisions in comparison with the revised SHMP actions. Caroline will post the SHMP actions on the SharePoint site for reference. Marian and Caroline will review and highlight the SHMP action document together to note the actions revised for the SHMP.

12:54 PM

Stakeholder Engagement

Andrea provided an overview of input received via survey regarding which groups should be the focus of our stakeholder engagement meetings to be held in early November. She reminded all that in additions to the subcommittee focus groups, the Climate Action Office in partnership with RPCSs will host an additional two stakeholder groups. Much conversation ensued to determine the most valuable grouping of entities to meet with. Further detail on the conversation can be viewed per the [video](#) posted.

The final determination was that the two groups will include Municipal Support Organizations (i.e. RPCs, VLCT, VCRD, VCF, VCLF, Community Resilience Orgs) and Businesses and business support organizations (i.e. RDCs, chambers of commerce, downtown orgs, VBSR, and specific industry orgs or coalitions (like outdoor recreation sector, agricultural sector, forest products sector, etc)).

1:30 PM

Task Group - Progress Updates (Scott, Val, Alice)

This conversation will be postponed for later meetings.

1:45 PM

Public Comment

None

1:46 PM

Recap and Next Steps -

On specific actions, Andrea will correspond with Sophi on stakeholder groups to get a more direct pathway on refining the list of people we want to be included and will ensure contact are provided in the SharePoint document. David and Ann Lawless will get together a further list for the group.

Next meetings: 10/11 12-2 (if determined needed) and 10/25 12-2

1:52 PM

Adjourn