

Science and Data Subcommittee of the Vermont Climate Council Meeting Wednesday March 31, 2021 Meeting – Minutes

Date/Time: Wednesday March 31, 2021; 1:30pm-3:00pm
Location: Microsoft Teams: [Meeting recorded and posted publicly](#)
Subcommittee Members Present: TJ Poor, Dr. Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux, Julie Moore, Brian Gray, Jared Duval, Richard Hopkins, Jason Shaefer, Lou Cecere
State Agency Staff Present: Jane Lazorchak, Bennet Leon, Collin Smythe, Claire McIlvennie, Brian Woods, Ken Jones

1:32 Welcome/Agenda Approval

- TJ Poor reviewed the agenda and proposed a new standing agenda item on miscellaneous administrative updates. An agenda item on that note was added for the current meeting.
- Jared Duval noted he had not seen the previous meeting minutes and they were not posted on the website. Review of the minutes was postponed to the next meeting.

1:35 Miscellaneous Updates

- Jane Lazorchak requested that all new subcommittee memberships send her a brief bio, particularly highlighting work they do relevant to the subcommittee by Friday April 9th.

1:37 Co-chairs Meetings Update

- TJ Poor raised the question of identifying subcommittee members to serve as liaisons to the other four subcommittees. Jared Duval already serves as a liaison for the Cross-Sector Mitigation (CSM) subcommittee. Jay Shaefer volunteered to serve as liaison with the Rural Resilience subcommittee; Dr. Dupigny-Giroux will serve as liaison with the Just Transitions subcommittee; For the Agriculture and Ecosystems (AE) subcommittee, Jared Duval noted Lauren Oates from AE also serves on the CSM subcommittee and that could prove a useful point of coordination.

1:46 Discussion: [Request for Proposals \(RFP\)](#)

- The subcommittee discussed the draft RFP regarding key technical services required to meet the statutory requirements of the Global Warming Solutions Act.

- The subcommittee discussed the RFPs consideration of the GHG reduction inventory and relationship to understanding carbon sequestration, the role of the Science & Data subcommittee in working with any future contractors hired, budgets for future RFPs as additional needs for technical services are identified, the treatment of climate assessments in the RFP, and preferences for hiring a contractor or team of contractors capable of delivering the whole scope of work.
- The subcommittee decided to separate the RFP tasks around GHG inventory (Task 1) and carbon budget (Task 1b) into two separate tasks so that the work required around understanding emissions sequestration could be described in more detail.
- The draft RFP will be circulated for subcommittee members and additional feedback was requested by the end of the week.

2:48 Discussion: Work Plan

- Richard Hopkins and Jared Duval both voiced support of an early review of the state's current GHG inventory methodology given the central nature of that to the subcommittee work.
- The subcommittee spoke about the need to discuss and define common terms. Subcommittee members were asked to consider key terms that will require definition and to send them to TJ Poor and Jane Lazorchak so they could be compiled and discussed at the next meeting.
- The work plan was circulated to the subcommittee for review and TJ Poor requested comments and changes be sent to him by next Monday at 12pm so they could be compiled and circulated for discussion at the following meeting.

2:59 Next Meeting

- The subcommittee will discuss the workplan and common terms as discussed above. They will also review and approve the final version of the RFP.

3:00 Public Comment

- TJ Poor opened the floor for members of the public to comment. Mark Whitworth, George Gross, and Steve Crowley each made comments and those comments can be viewed in the video recording [posted online](#).

3:13 Adjourn

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