

Science and Data Subcommittee of the Vermont Climate Council Meeting Wednesday July 7, 2021 Meeting – Minutes

Date/Time: Wednesday July 7, 2021; 1:30pm-3:30pm
Location: Zoom: [Meeting recorded and posted publicly.](#)
Subcommittee Members Present: TJ Poor, Dr. Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux, Jay Shafer, Lou Cecere, Richard Hopkins
State Agency Staff Present: Claire McIlvennie, Marian Wolz, Andrea Wright, Collin Smythe, Brian Woods

1:30 Welcome/Agenda Approval, Approval of [06-09-21](#) and [6-23-21](#) Minutes

- TJ Poor reviewed the agenda and asked for revisions. None were given. The minutes from the June 9th and June 23rd meetings were approved.

1:35 Reflections on GHG Inventory Workshop comments (S&D Subcommittee)

- Subcommittee members reflected on the GHG inventory workshop from the previous week. Richard Hopkins noted he felt the workshop was well organized and that everyone who wanted to had a chance to speak. With regards to process, he said he hoped the consultants would take input from public to inform their recommendations, also noting he was not sure the subcommittee itself had given the consultants as detailed feedback as the public.
- TJ Poor noted he thought the workshop allowed for input from the public that would not have been possible within the structure of a regular subcommittee meeting.
- David Hill, one of the consultants, noted he appreciated the structure of the workshop and clarified, regarding process, that per the contract the consultants would be providing recommendations for future changes or enhancements to the GHG inventory, not a recalculated inventory.

1:47 Vermont Climate Assessment presentation (Dr. Gillian Galford, University of Vermont and Dr. Stephen Posner, Gund Institute for Environment)

- Dr. Gillian Galford provided an overview of the Vermont Climate Assessment, which touches on a wide range of climate-related issues and seeks to inform decision making in the state at a variety of levels.
- Following the presentation, subcommittee members posed questions to Dr. Galford on topics related to granularity of data available, the extent to which the assessment was based on trend analysis versus simulation modeling, and data gaps that emerged from conducting the assessment. With regards to data granularity, Dr. Dupigny-

Giroux shared the [Climate Explorer tool developed by NOAA](#) that offers climate data down to the zip code level.

- TJ Poor opened the floor to the public to pose questions. Steve Crowley and Mark Whitworth both spoke and those questions can be viewed on the video recording [posted online](#).

2:58 Task Lead Updates

- TJ Poor provided brief updates on a number of workplan tasks, including the GHG inventory recommendations, social cost of carbon, LEAP modeling, and monitoring and assessment strategy.
- Dr. Dupigny-Giroux noted that the climate data and human impacts workplan tasks had been combined into a cross-cutting systems task, involving members of each Climate Council subcommittee. She noted the group had just met for the first time and their initial task was to develop a common terminology regarding the issues of concern given the diverse background of the task group members.

3:10 Subcommittee Liaison Updates

- TJ Poor opened the floor for updates from liaisons to other subcommittees. None were given. TJ suggested subcommittee members may want to look at the supporting documents of the Cross-Sector Mitigation subcommittee regarding their initial proposed strategies.

3:20 Public Comment

- TJ Poor opened the floor to public comment. None were offered.

3:27 Adjourn

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