

**Rural Resilience and Adaptation Subcommittee
of the Vermont Climate Council
April 9, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

Date/Time: April 9, 2021 1:00 PM
Location: [Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting](#): Meeting was recorded and [posted publicly](#).
Subcommittee Members Present: Chad Farrell, Joe Segale, Ann Lawless, Mike Burke, Dave Snedeker, Lindsay Kurrle, Mike Burke, Karen Horn
Others Present: Judith Jackson, Allison Ross, Pat Field, Anne Margolis, Ben Rose, Stephanie Smith, Marian Wolz, Sue Sharbino, Pat Field, Ian Hitchcock, Amanda Carlson, Dale Azaria, Ana Mejia, Luke Briccetti

1:00 Meeting came to order and Introductions of new members and roll-call

Co-Chair Erica Bornemann
Co-Chair Catherine Dimitruk

Review and approval to the Agenda

Add update from Chad Farrell to the Agenda

4/2/21 Minutes Review

To be added to the next subcommittee meeting on 4/16/21

Update from Chad Farrell

Chad Farrell has offered to take the liaison role from this subcommittee to the Cross-Sector Mitigation Subcommittee as a number of our tasks are outcomes of that subcommittee. With his expertise in the financial aspect, he can add to this role. Subcommittee members had no objection to Chad taking this liaison role.

Subcommittee members were encouraged to provide liaison roles to other related subcommittees as well.

Co-Chair Erica Bornemann - The Governor has released a proposal for the utilization of the American Escape Plan Funds.

Money is coming to Vermont to address climate change. 25 million dollars is for the State Hazard Mitigation program related to climate change. The program will establish a federal grant matching program to assist property owners with home buyouts, as well as home buyouts on a sliding scale for those that are ineligible for FEMA funding but at significant risk due to flooding. In next year's funding for the BRIC program, 6% of all eligible COVID costs will be eligible under this program.

Co-Chair Catherine Dimitruk - Just Transitions Committee meeting on climate action on Wednesday was great, encourage members to watch the video which will be posted online.

Subcommittee Members Update and member announcements – Erica Bornemann

Pat Field, from Consensus Building Institute, assisting the VCC in facilitation and supporting subcommittee's assignments. Pat will assist in facilitating this meeting in the future. He also facilitates the Agriculture subcommittee which will be helpful to this subcommittee's work. Ana Mejia of the VT Releaf Collective, will not join as a member at this time, but would like to look at the work this subcommittee is doing.

Kate McCarthy is unable to commit to membership of the subcommittee at this time.

Subcommittee workplan discussion – VCC R&A Scope of Work

Subcommittee members are encouraged to volunteer to be objective leads on any strategies.

Timeframes are aspirational and may need to be adjusted. Public involvement and input would be encouraged.

A lot of work has been included in towns regarding resilience, and those plans should be inclusive. Municipality leaders need guidance in using the vulnerability tools.

The workplan will be finalized and sent to the members and to subcommittee members who can email Catherine with comments.

Inventory of Adaptation/Resilience for the Global Warming Solutions Act – Joe Segale

Public Comment:

Ian Hitchcock and Amanda Carlson spoke – comments may be viewed in the video recording.

Next week's agenda –
We may extend the meeting
Friday 4/16 at 1:00 pm

Meeting adjourned 2:13

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