

# Rural Resilience and Adaptation Subcommittee of the Vermont Climate Council

## July 2, 2021 Meeting Minutes

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Date/Time: July 2, 2021 1:03PM  
Location: Zoom Meeting Recorded and [Posted Online](#); physical location at the ANR offices in Montpelier.  
Subcommittee Members Present: Erica Bornemann, Catherine Dimitruk, Chad Farrell, Joe Segale, Mike Burke, Ann Lawless, David Snedeker  
Staff Members Present: Chris Cochran, Patrick Field (CBI), Marissa Yanez, Marian Wolz, Anne Margolis, Stephanie Smith, Sue Sharbino, Jens Hilke, Ben Rose

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### Review and Approval of Agenda and [6/11/21 Minutes](#)

No changes, approved

### Guest Introductions

Dale Azaria

### Sub-Committee Liaison and Member Updates

- Chris Cochran – reviewing an internal draft list on land use and development recommendations to share with stakeholders.
- Marian Wolz gave an overview of the Climate Council meeting. Discussion on Just Transitions and environmental justice and equity policy. Putting out a RFP to help subcommittees with their recommendations and using the guiding principles rubric. Science and Data held a public forum to discuss the greenhouse gas inventory and opened to public comment.
- Stephanie Smith explained the BRIC announcement - \$600,000 funding, national review done and now to FEMA for approval. Two large dam removal projects were not selected. Direct technical assistance for future mitigation and regional projects approved in Pittsfield (Region 1). Regarding recommendations for program enhancements, small rural states face challenges applying for funds with other large states. Inherent inequities are in the program. 35 of the 200 points awarded, went to states with building codes criterium. The dam removal projects were not ineligible, just not selected.
- Chad Farrell reported on the Cross Sector Mitigation meeting, which had a Just Transitions workshop, and drafted recommendations.

### Task Group Updates

Stephanie Smith - Task 4: Policy and Program Inventory Work Group developed a list of threats and hazards and looked at the impact and overall climate change resilience and ranked them in terms of impact and probability.

Anne Margolis

- Tasks 2 & 3: Climate Action Plan Recommendations
- Structured Approach to Resilience Planning

Joe Segale

- Work Group 2 report on Objective 2/Task 2, Develop recommendations for fortifying transportation infrastructure.

Marian Wolz

- Subcommittee Strategy PowerPoint Template
- Assembling the Climate Action Plan Overview

**Public Comment**

Ian Hitchcock – comments may be viewed in video online

Next week Task #3 – program recommendations

Task #4 & #5 – Critical community infrastructure

Meeting in person on 7/16 on Task #1 with Zoom ability as well

3:10 PM      Adjourned

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