

Science and Data Subcommittee of the Vermont Climate Council
Minutes of the (Inaugural) Meeting
Friday February 19, 2021
4:00 - 5:00 PM

Location: [Microsoft Teams](#): Meeting was recorded to be [posted online](#).

Subcommittee Members Present: Dr. Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux (co-chair); TJ Poor (co-chair); Julie Moore; Brian Gray; Jared Duval

State Agency Staff Present: Jane Lazorchak (ANR); Bennet Leon (ANR); Collin Smythe (ANR); Brian Woods (ANR); Claire McIlvennie (PSD); Andrea Wright (AOT); John Adams (VCGI)

Members of the Public Present: George Gross, Steve Crowley, Annette Smith; Catherine Lowther; Cheryl H., Jeff Forward, Darren Benoit; Rowland Davis

Welcome by co-chairs.

Overview of subcommittee nominee review and selection process by Jane. Subcommittee members will have until Monday, February 22, 2021 at 5:00 PM to review and assess nominees. Total of 267 nominations received for all subcommittees (note: those for Science & Data are a smaller subset).

Introductions of State Agency staff (see list above).

The discussion about the roles and responsibilities of subcommittee members was tabled until the full subcommittee is assembled.

Co-Chair Poor presented red-lined version of committee responsibilities/ scope of work. Comments by multiple members are summarized below:

- Secretary Moore asked about the word choice “description”, which is currently “reflect” in Section 592, D2 of the statute. This will be revisited as we continue to edit and refine the charge.
- Co-Chair Poor flagged that we will be modelling the analysis that comes from the Cross-Sector Mitigation group and should address any sectors that they may not.
- Member Jared Duval noted that it is important for pathways analysis re: mitigation measures to guide policy design -- not just for policy ideas to be assessed for their mitigation potential (the latter approach alone risks falling short of our legal requirements).
- Member Jared Duval suggested that we might want to move the framing on

mitigation, adaptation and resilience to a broader, over-arching theme at the beginning of the document.

- He raised questions/ concerns re: proposed language that "a regional approach shall be used" noting that while regional analysis is valuable, we have Vermont specific responsibilities for tracking and analysis. Co-Chair Dupigny-Giroux requested clarification on this approach from Secretary Moore.

Co-Chair Poor suggested the tabling of the discussion on milestones until the full subcommittee is assembled.

***Action: Subcommittee members should send any edits or comments directly to TJ.*

***Action: Dr. Dupigny-Giroux will send a scheduling poll for our next meeting.*

Member Jared Duval noted that, as we prepare to review nominees for our subcommittee, given the focus we will have on VT's GHG inventory and on mitigation pathway assessment, he thinks it will be particularly important to identify additional subcommittee members with that training and expertise. Similarly, given the importance of economic impact analysis, it will be important to add trained economists/ economic experts to the subcommittee.

Member Brian Gray agreed and said that technical expertise should come first, then other considerations including geographic, demographic, and sectoral diversity should be taken into account.

Co-Chair Dr. Dupigny-Giroux concurred and added that expertise in weather and climate modeling and climate resilience will also be valuable.

Public comments: Comments from members of the public can be viewed in the video to be [posted online](#).

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