

Science and Data Subcommittee of the Vermont Climate Council March 5, 2021 Meeting – Minutes

Date & Time:	March 5, 2021, 9:30 AM
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, Richard Hopkins, Jay Shafer, Lou Cecere
State Agency Staff Present:	Jane Lazorchak (GWSA Director, ANR), Bennet Leon (ANR); Collin Smythe (ANR); Claire McIlvennie (PSD); John Adams (VCGI), Andrea Wright (AOT), Brian Woods (ANR)
Minutes Recorded By:	Bennet Leon

The meeting was convened at 9:33 AM

9:33 AM Welcome/Introduction of New Members

Co-chair Poor introduced himself and asked the members of the committee and state agency staff to introduce themselves for the benefit of several new members who accepted positions on the committee since the last meeting.

9:51 AM Agenda Overview

Co-chair Poor proposed adding an agenda item to discuss items for the next meeting's agenda, in between initial work plan discussion (agenda item #6) and public comments (agenda item #7). No objections were made.

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9:53 AM Review/Approval of Minutes from the February 24, 2021 Meeting

Co-chair Poor asked if there were any comments on the [meeting minutes for the February 24, 2021 Science and Data Subcommittee meeting](#).

Director Lazorchak provided an overview of the consensus model of approving actions.

Co-chair Poor proposed approving the minutes of the February 24, 2021 Science and Data Subcommittee meeting. No objections were made.

The minutes of the [February 24, 2021 Science and Data Subcommittee Meeting](#) were approved.

9:55 AM

Subcommittee Discussion: Remaining Issues to Address Associated with Subcommittee Composition, Including Standing Meeting Times for New Members.

Co-chair Poor said that Lisa Ryan declined to join the committee. He asked for committee input on whether to seek another member that would fulfill similar geographic diversity.

Co-chair Dupigny-Giroux suggested that if another member could not be identified that the subcommittee co-chairs discuss with other subcommittee chairs to see if there would be other members, or the co-chairs themselves, who would act as liaisons among the subcommittees.

Member Duval suggested looking for a member who is familiar with working with underrepresented groups in Vermont.

Member Gray said he agreed with Member Duval's point about understanding where data used by the committee come from and how they are collected to ensure that they represent the state.

Co-chair Poor said incorporating equity would be true not only for existing datasets but new ones we create.

Director Lazorchak said that the Just Transitions Subcommittee may have 13 members and have more capacity for joining this subcommittee.

Co-chair Poor asked for volunteers among the subcommittee members then suggested that the co-chairs would liaise with the Just Transitions Subcommittee to identify another potential Science and Data Subcommittee member. Co-chair Dupigny-Giroux agreed to work with Co-chair Poor on this task.

Action item: The co-chairs will liaise with the Just Transitions Subcommittee to identify another potential Science and Data Subcommittee member.

Member Duval suggested if Linda McGinnis cannot join the subcommittee, then Steve Letendre of Synapse Energy Economics be considered for nomination; he was highly ranked for membership on the Cross-Sector Mitigation Committee. Member Duval said he was not aware of any other trained economists on the list.

Co-chair Dupigny-Giroux said she appreciated and supported that suggestion.

Co-chair Poor moved to the last item of this agenda section, scheduling a standing meeting time for the subcommittee. He asked if there were any objections to the established time of every Wednesday, 1:00-2:30 PM. No objections were made. Co-chair Dupigny-Giroux stated that there are some who may arrive late due to other obligations that end at 1:00 PM.

10:11 AM

Subcommittee Discussion: Scope of Committee

Co-chair Poor provided some background concerning a redline version of the subcommittee description that is available on the Supporting Documents page of

the Vermont Climate Council website (<https://aoa.vermont.gov/content/supporting-documents>). He presented the document on screen and opened the meeting to discussion.

The outcome of the discussion was that the draft would be reviewed in between this meeting and the next meeting on Wednesday, March 10, with particular attention to revisions in section 2.b. and 3.b.

Co-chair Poor said that he would like everyone to have another opportunity to review and then have final discussion on Wednesday.

Action items: Co-chair Poor will circulate the current draft of the subcommittee scope by March 8, 2021. Suggested revisions should be sent to him by noon on March 9, 2021.

Director Lazorchak presented procedural and logistical items: State of Vermont email addresses will be provided for committee members to use for meeting invitations and committee work; training will be required for committee members on the Vermont Open Meeting Law; finalization of the subcommittee charge is due to the Steering Committee by March 22.

Co-chair Poor reiterated that the scope should be finalized next week.

Action item: Director Lazorchak said she would compile ideas for scope of work for the subcommittee.

10:50 AM Subcommittee Discussion (To the Extent Time Is Available): Initial Work Plan
Co-chair Poor deferred discussion of the initial workplan to a future meeting due to time constraints.

10:51 AM Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- Review and approval of the subcommittee description and scope.
- Discussion of the initial work plan.

10:53 AM Public Comment
Public comments may be viewed at the end of the [video recording](#) of the meeting.

Commenter: Mark Whitworth

10:58 AM Adjourn
Co-chair Poor repeated his welcome to new committee members and Co-chair Dupigny-Giroux thanked members of the public for attending the subcommittee meetings.

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