

# Vermont Climate Council Meeting

## January 14, 2021 Special Meeting – Minutes

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Date/Time: Thursday, January 14, 2021, 12:00 PM  
Location: [Microsoft Teams meeting](#) - Meeting was recorded and [posted](#) publicly  
Council Members Present: Abbie Corse, Anson Tebbetts, Catherine Dimitruk, Chad Farrell, Chris Campany, Erica Bornemann, Jared Duval, Joe Flynn, Johanna Miller, Julie Moore, June Tierney, Kelly Klein, Lauren Oates, Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux, Lindsay Kurrle, Liz Miller, Richard Cowart, Sean Brown, Sophia Clark, Sue Minter, Susanne Young  
Council Members Absent: Adam Knudsen, Brian Gray

12:02 PM Convene, welcome, review of draft agenda  
*Susanne Young, Secretary, Agency of Administration*

No changes to agenda as drafted.

12:04 PM Walk-thru [DRAFT Vermont Climate Council Report to General Assembly](#)  
*Julie Moore, Secretary, Agency of Natural Resources*

12:10 PM Council discussion of DRAFT Annual Report

- Suggested additions:
  - Prior to the ‘Activities of Council to Date’ on page two add: Public comments both oral and written were taken at each meeting.
  - In ‘Next Steps’ on page four add:
    - Council members also expect to discuss ways for the expertise of various members and their organizations to be utilized in Council or subcommittee meetings going forward.
    - Identify subcommittees established in the statute.
    - Within the first bullet pertaining to the recruitment of the three ANR staff positions add additional details of the positions and their status.
- Motion made, seconded and approved to file the report by midnight January 15, 2021 to the General Assembly with the noted changes above.

12:26 PM Organizational Updates/Needs  
*Julie Moore, Secretary, Agency of Natural Resources/Council discussion*

- Update on hiring process:
  - Project Manager (PM): Over 30 applicants received. An offer has been made to an individual with a response expected by the end of the week and will be asked to attend the January 25, 2021 meeting.
  - Project Technician (PT): The Department of Human Resources has the paperwork to create this new position within the State with the intention to have the position filled by mid-March.

- Legal Position: The goal is to fill this position by late spring in time for the action phase. In the interim, the plan is to utilize existing attorneys within the Agency of Natural Resources and cover these costs with the funding provided for GWSA staff.
- Update on GWSA Technical Services RFI
  - There is a [RFI](#) posted for Consulting and Technical Services support. Responses are due by February 6, 2021.
- Update on January 25<sup>th</sup> meeting
  - Goal to draft charter that identifies roles for the Council and subcommittees, including a leadership structure and decision-making process.
  - Position subcommittees to have one (or more) meetings before the next monthly Council meeting on February 22, 2021.
  - Consensus Building Institute (CBI) will facilitate the meeting. Their goal is to assist with the process of the Council and help set goals and timelines for the subcommittees. Secretary Moore provided CBI with contact information of Council members, who will reach out next week. CBI representatives are David Plumb, Pat Field, and Catherine Morris. As of now, CBI is only hired to work through the January 25, 2021 meeting. There will be a RFP developed for assistance again when it comes time for the action plan process.
  - Subcommittees: This meeting will go into more detail of subcommittees and discussions to continue around public involvement in the various parts of the Vermont Climate Council.

12:37 PM Motion made, seconded, discussed and approved to include additional language in the final report due to the General Assembly on January 15, 2021 that the Climate Council will have a need for additional funding/authority to be able to make per diem compensation available to subcommittee members who are not also members of the Council in order to facilitate more equitable participation and a greater diversity of expertise.

12:50 PM Public comment: Three members of the public spoke. Their full comments may be viewed in the Microsoft Teams video [posted online](#).

12:55 PM Motion to adjourn made, seconded and approved.

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