



Government Restructuring and Operations Review Commission
Meeting Minutes No. X

DAY/DATE: **Tuesday, May 24th 2016**
TIME: **2:00PM—4:30 PM**
LOCATION: Ethan Allen Room—Vermont State House
ATTENDEES: John Sayles, Paul Costello, Jeff Wilson, Ian Davis, Jan Demers
ABSENT: Susan Zeller

PURPOSE: Regular meeting
DISTRIBUTED Email and post

Item Number	Item Description	Action By
1.0	2:00PM—Call to Order	John Sayles
2.0	Review Agenda	
3.0	MOTION: Approve meeting minutes from 4/26/16 as presented. 1 st by Jeff, 2 nd by Paul; unanimously approved.	
4.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jan Demers—Executive Director of Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO) • Serves Addison, Chittenden, Franklin and Grand Isle Counties. • Target populations are low-income individuals; individuals in crisis. Seek to move people out of poverty and/or stabilize people who are in poverty. • Jan: “ I am not a proponent of restructuring AHS because we are more connected than we think. Right now my organization has a structure that creates for an economy of scale. My administrative costs only account for 5.2% of the budget. If we restructure I fear that we may be duplicating efforts; restructuring would not benefit our organization (CVOEO)”. • Jan: “People are the ones who make the difference; conversation is what ties us all together, it is vital in order to get things done. I think we have the right people in the right place right now with regards to AHS. Again, efficiencies can come into play when people start having conversations, talking not only across agencies but from top down and bottom up. • John Sayles: “How many employees at CVOEO and what proportion of your money is state versus federal?” • Jan: “We have 150 employees at CVOEO. In terms of the money, it used to be 80% federal and 20% state, now it is more like 60% federal and 40% state. • Paul Costello: “What are the challenges you have with regards to data and how does that impact the client as well as the services your organization provides?” • Jan Demers “There is a secrecy that exists in Vermont, that is, the access to the system is bound. That makes things very hard to access. It is both a bureaucratic and a 	

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	<p>legal problem, but not one that is impossible to fix. There are examples, including at the UVM Medical Center, where data sharing exists and it positively impacts the client experience.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jan Demers: “One thing I do have an issue with is the fact that we are not being paid in a timely fashion for the work that our organization is doing. The state needs to pay their bills on time. Sometimes we have to wait ¾ of the way through the grant before we see payment from the state. Perhaps this has to do with the microscope on accountability, but at least tell us what you need as opposed to not communicating with us and withholding funds. • Paul Costello: “What percentage of people in poverty DON’T come to you?” • Jan Demers: “In Chittenden County 19,000 people are food insecure. Of that population 11,000 currently come to the food shelf. So we are not at 100%” • Paul Costello: “Does your organization have an official position with regards to restructuring AHS?” • Jan Demers: “Again, we are not in favor of restructuring because we think that you will spend more money on administration and less on the people who actually need services. I would like to see more integration as opposed to segregation. My message is about people; if they are in the right places and promoted than they have the ability to make positive changes. Put the money in the hands of the people that are on the front lines. Thank you” 	
5.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul Costello, John Sayles and Jeff Wilson: • For the next meeting Commissioners will have decided on the major areas they hope to “dig into” for the Final Report. • Jeff Wilson would like to reach out to someone from another state that has experience with LEAN, RBA, and Continuous Improvement. • Commissioners will reach out to RPA's to determine feasibility of public outreach meetings. 	
6.0	Meeting Adjourned	

This summary of the meeting forms the basis upon which we will proceed. Please respond with changes, corrections or questions to the originator within 5 working days. If no corrections, changes or questions are received within 5 working days, these minutes will become part of the permanent record.

By: Ian Davis
Cc: Committee Members