

**CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
REGIONAL ENERGY COMMITTEE**

**April 27, 2017
MEETING NOTES**

The regular meeting of the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission's Regional Energy Committee was held on Thursday, April 27, 2017 at 4:00PM in the Memorial Room at the Montpelier City Hall.

Committee Members Present:

Jamie Stewart – Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation
Bram Towbin – Town of Plainfield Selectboard
Alex Bravakis – Novus Energy Development
Karin McNeill – Agency of Natural Resources
Jackie Cassino – Agency of Transportation
Julie Potter – RPC Representative - Town of East Montpelier
Robert Dostis – Green Mountain Power
Barbara Conrey – City of Montpelier Energy Committee
Ron Krauth – RPC Representative - Town of Middlesex
Don LaHaye – RPC Representative - Town of Waitsfield

Committee Members Not Present:

Patty Richards – Washington Electric Coop
Mark Sousa – Green Mountain Transit
Brian Fitzgerald – RPC Representative - Town of Duxbury
Dan Potter – Vermont Public Service Department
Janet Shatney – RPC Representative - Barre City
Steve Fitzhugh – Town of Northfield Planning Commission
Paul Zabriskie – Capstone Community Action
Karen Horn – Vermont League of Cities & Towns

Others Present:

Eric Vorwald – CVRPC Senior Planner
Marian Wolz – CVRPC Assistant Planner
John Brabant – Town of Calais
Harrison Snapp – Town of Waitsfield
Steven Mills – Times Argus Newspaper

CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME:

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Towbin at 4:06PM. A quorum was not present at this time, therefore no action could be taken on changes to the agenda or approval of minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Towbin asked for comments from the public. No public was present.

MUNICIPAL INPUT SURVEY & PUBLIC PARTICIPATION UPDATE:

Ms. Wolz provided an overview of the second proposed public input survey. She noted that this survey was more intended for the business community and less on a municipal focus. Ms. Wolz provided a list of possible groups or businesses that would be targeted for this survey and a list of the possible questions. The Committee discussed various options for who else might be included. Mr. Stewart noted that many of the groups listed were members of the Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation and they could help distribute the survey on our behalf.

During a discussion of the survey questions it was noted that including information on siting may not be appropriate for the intended respondents. It was also noted that a question should be included pertaining to the number of employees each business has. The Committee agreed that these changes should be included. This was an informational item therefore no action was required.

CHANGES OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

With a quorum now present, Mr. Towbin asked if anyone had any changes for the agenda. No changes to the agenda were recommended.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Stewart made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Bravakis to approve the March 30, 2017 minutes of the Regional Energy Committee as presented. The motion passed by a vote of 8 – 0 – 1 with Mr. Krauth abstaining noting he was not at the meeting.

REGIONAL & MUNICIPAL TARGETS FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY:

Ms. Wolz provided the Committee with a brief overview of the information that would be included in the target and analysis summaries that would be provided to each municipality. She noted that the municipal summaries would be available by April 30th and a notification would be sent to each municipality when the information was available. Additionally, Ms. Wolz noted that a second training on the Act 174 standards would be provided on May 11th and part of that meeting would cover information related to the municipal analysis and targets.

REVIEW OF DRAFT REGIONAL ENERGY PLAN – PATHWAYS & IMPLEMENTATION:

Mr. Vorwald reviewed the standards of Act 174 and noted that tonight's meeting would be a review of possible pathways and implementation actions. A draft that addressed the various pathways and implementation actions was included in the agenda. Mr. Vorwald noted that this information was based on goals and policies included in the 2016 Central Vermont Regional Plan as well as guidance from the Department of Public Service.

The Committee spent the majority of the meeting discussing the pathways and making suggestions for changes, deletions, or reorganization of the information. Specific recommendations included identifying who would be responsible for each

implementation item and identifying a priority ranking for each item. Additional comments and suggestions were made in order to strengthen and clarify the pathways and implementation actions that were being proposed.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. Vorwald noted that the next meeting of the Regional Energy Committee would be on Wednesday, May 24th and be held in the Board Room at the Central Vermont Medical Center.

ADJOURN:

With no additional business to discuss Mr. Stewart moved to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Mr. LaHaye. The Committee voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 5:45pm.

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