



## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

January 10, 2023 at 6:30 pm

*Remote Participation via Zoom<sup>1</sup>*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81136818419?pwd=dDFDbDhrTm56TUNQUlp3WEorYzRZZz09>

One tap mobile: +19294362866,,81136818419#,,,,\*722490# US (New York)

Dial in via phone: 1-929-436-2866 • Meeting ID: 811 3681 8419 • Passcode: 722490

Or find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kcjBhj3bIX>

Download the app at least 5 minutes before the meeting starts: <https://zoom.us/download>

<u>Page</u>	<u>AGENDA</u>
	<b>6:30 Introductions</b>
	<sup>2</sup> <b>Adjustments to the Agenda</b>
	<b>Public Comments</b>
	<b>6:35 Clean Water Advisory Committee Membership – Brian Voigt</b>
2	<b>6:45 Open Meeting Law Resolution (enclosed)<sup>3</sup></b>
4	<b>6:55 USDA Rural Business Development Grant Resolution (enclosed)<sup>3</sup></b>
5	<b>7:05 Election of Nominating Committee (enclosed)<sup>3</sup></b>
6	<b>7:20 West Central Vermont Strategic Economic Development Strategy Update – Jon Ignatowski</b>
8	<b>7:35 Minutes (enclosed)<sup>3</sup></b>
11	<b>7:45 Reports (enclosed)</b> Update/questions on Staff, Director, and Committee Reports
	<b>8:00 Adjourn</b>

**Next Meeting: February 14, 2023**

Persons with disabilities who require assistance or alternate arrangements to participate in programs or activities are encouraged to contact Nancy Chartrand at 802-229-0389 or [chartrand@cvregion.com](mailto:chartrand@cvregion.com) at least 3 business days prior to the meeting for which services are requested.

<sup>2</sup> Times are approximate unless otherwise advertised.

<sup>3</sup> Anticipated action item.



### **Resolution on Complying with Vermont Open Meeting Law (1 V.S.A. § 312)**

Whereas the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission is a public body created in 1967 with membership from the 20 municipalities in Washington County and the Towns of Orange, Washington, and Williamstown in Orange County and is, therefore, subject to Vermont Open Meeting Law; and

Whereas that Law requires that the time and place of all regular meetings subject to Vermont Open Meeting Law shall be clearly designated by statute, charter, regulation, ordinance, bylaw, resolution, or other determining authority of the public body; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC):

1. Adopts the time of the CVRPC Board of Commissioners regular meeting as the second Tuesday of the month, 6:30 pm, at the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission, 29 Main Street, Suite 4, Montpelier, Vermont;
2. Adopts the following times for regular meeting of its committees:
  - a. Executive Committee: the Monday one week prior to the Board of Commissioners meeting, 4:00 pm.
  - b. Brownfields Advisory Committee: as needed, the third Monday of the month, 6:00 pm.
  - c. Clean Water Advisory Committee: as needed, the second Thursday of every other month, 4:00 pm.
  - d. Project Review Committee: as needed, the fourth Thursday of the month, 4:00 pm.
  - e. Transportation Advisory Committee: the fourth Tuesday of the month, 6:30 pm.
  - f. Regional Plan Committee: as needed, the first Tuesday of the month, 4:00 pm.
  - g. Winooski Basin Water Quality Council: the third Thursday of the month, 1:00 pm.

These Committees will meet at the CVRPC office, 29 Main Street, Suite 4, Montpelier, Vermont unless otherwise noticed on CVRPC's website: [www.centralvtplanning.org](http://www.centralvtplanning.org).

3. Facilitates public access to its meetings by video and telephone, Zoom will be used as CVRPC's virtual meeting platform unless otherwise noted on a meeting agenda. All members of the Board and committees have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during meetings through this platform. The public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if desired, to participate in meetings by using the meeting link or dial in information provided on each meeting's agenda.
4. Names the following locations for posting of meeting notices and agendas:
  - a. CVRPC website: [www.centralvtplanning.org](http://www.centralvtplanning.org).
  - b. CVPRC office, 29 Main Street, Suite 4, Montpelier, Vermont.
  - c. Cabot Town Clerk's Office, 3084 Main Street, Cabot, Vermont.
  - d. Waitsfield Town Office, 4144 Main Street, Waitsfield, Vermont.

Adopted by the Board of Commissioners:      /      / 2023.

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Steve Lotspeich, Chair  
CVRPC Board of Commissioners



**RESOLUTION**  
**for USDA Rural Business Development Grant Amendment**

Whereas the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission was awarded a Rural Business Development Grant from the United States Department of Agriculture to assist the Plainfield Co-op with an updated market study, building design update, financial feasibility study, internal readiness process, and action/business plan.

Whereas the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission entered into a Financial Assistance Agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture on September 1, 2022 to administer the grant award.

Whereas Bonnie Waninger, former Executive Director of the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission, was authorized by the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission Board of Commissioners on February 8, 2022 to sign grant documents and administer the project.

Whereas Christian Meyer was appointed to the position of Acting Director on October 11, 2022 by the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission Board of Commissioners; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission Board of Commissioners authorizes Christian Meyer, Acting Director, to sign grant documents and administer the project.

ADOPTED by the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission on January 10, 2023

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Steve Lotspeich, Chair



## MEMO

Date: January 5, 2023  
To: Board of Commissioners  
From: Executive Committee  
Re: Nominations for Nominating Committee

➔ **ACTION REQUESTED:** Elect three Commissioners to the 2023 Nominating Committee.

Under CVRPC's Bylaws, the Executive Committee nominates candidates for the Nominating Committee, and the Board of Commissioners elects candidates. The Executive Committee nominates the following Commissioners to the 2023 Nominating Committee:

Laura Hill-Eubanks, Northfield  
Lee Cattaneo, Orange  
Michael Gilbar, Barre Town Alternate

Additional nominations for the Nominating Committee will be requested at the Board meeting.

### Nominating Committee Role

The Nominating Committee identifies and recommends to the Board:

- a slate of candidates for the positions of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary/Treasurer and at-large members of the Executive Committee.
- candidates for Standing and Special Committees and CVRPC representatives appointed by the Board to other organizations.

The Nominating Committee will nominate candidates for FY24, which begins July 1, 2023.

### Nominations Process

The Nominating Committee presents an initial slate of Board Officers and at-large Executive Committee members at the Board's April regular meeting, with a final draft slate of candidates presented at the May regular meeting. Additional candidates may be nominated from the floor at the May regular meeting provided the candidate is present to accept the nomination, or has provided the Chair written acceptance if nominated, at which time nominations will be closed, and those nominations added to the slate.

The Nominating Committee also presents a slate of other Standing and Special Committee members and appointed representatives to other organizations, at the Board's May regular meeting. Additional candidates may be nominated from the floor at the May regular meeting, at which time nominations will be closed, and those nominations added to the slate.



The following are comments staff have received from CVRPC commissioners on the West Central Vermont Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

**From:** Mike Gilbar

**Received:** 11/23/2022

- 1) In the key findings, the first bullet indicates that “West Central Vermont is the most economically impactful region of Vermont.” Although accurate in terms of the overall area, most of this is driven by Chittenden County. They have the lion’s share of the population, number of employers and employees and drive the political climate in the state which in turn heavily impacts our state goals, let alone goals in a multi-county initiative. The bulk of the responses to the surveys feeding into the CED goals was from Chittenden County, over 60%. I think that needs to be clear in this bullet. The devil is always in the details and I would be interested in seeing a comparison of the survey responses from the different counties to determine if priorities are truly the same. I also would be interested in seeing who responded and whether or not the respondents were representative of the mix of businesses in each of the counties or “urban” centers of those regions. If not, then the basis for this “West Central Vermont” concept, and in fact this strategic plan, is tenuous at best.
- 2) The priorities of this strategic plan seem to be less strategic than reactive. The goals rely on government and non-profit collaborations which to me (after 30 years in municipal finance) means feeding from the government trough, preferring grants to more self-sustaining economic programs or initiatives. The first goal should be attracting employers that will be strategically aligned with the needs of the individual counties. Instead, Goal #1 is to attract workers and expand the labor force and Goal #2 is equity. These are meaningless and not really achievable without good paying jobs to attract such workers. Our little retail shops all over the state are not sustainable without larger employers bringing in not only jobs that will increase earnings potential, but that will pull in a younger and more anchored work force. Diversity of economic opportunity is also important; the more diverse the businesses or firms in an area, the less chance for a disaster when a larger employer leaves the state. Our legislature has tried to solve labor force problems by relying on government spending to increase earnings and provide more benefits to attract workers, rather than focusing on creating an environment that will bring in employers that can ultimately strengthen economic opportunity without burdening the taxpayers. The goals in the CEDS seem to be following this same pattern. I would recommend adding a number one goal of developing a more robust and sustainable plan for attracting businesses that will strengthen the region’s economy.
- 3) The collaboration between the EDCs and the RPCs is a good idea in theory. However, in practice, there will likely be opposing interests, with the RPCs opposed to specific types of development and the EDCs supporting the same development. Or there could be some communities supporting development initiatives with others opposing them. My point is that this strategic plan needs to stand on its own as

a general guide for economic development. The RPCs' charge is set in Chapter 117 and it seems that they have been stretched rather thin with the addition of a number of social goals that are outside their jurisdiction. Therefore, I do not believe we should incorporate the CEDS goals into the RPC's regional plans. I believe this further erodes our towns' local control that was at least partially preserved in Chapter 117. Individually, our communities should be able to have a say in their local plans without another layer of restrictions or "goals" that they may not necessarily agree with or be legally obliged to comply with. So, I would propose that somewhere in the Executive Summary of the CEDS, a statement be added that recommends that the individual towns discuss the plan and decide how they wish to make use of it.

**From:** George Clain

**Received:** 12/15/2022

- 1) How is substance abuse addressed in CEDS. It has a major impact on economic output.

1 **CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**  
 2 **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
 3 **Draft MINUTES**  
 4 **December 13, 2022**

5 **Commissioners:**

- |  |                          |  |                           |
|--|--------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barre City | Janet Shatney, Sec/Treas | <input type="checkbox"/> Moretown                | Dara Torre                |
| <input type="checkbox"/>                       | Vacant, Alt.             | <input type="checkbox"/>                         | Joyce Manchester, Alt     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barre Town | George Clain             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Northfield   | Laura Hill-Eubanks        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>            | Mike Gilbar, Alt         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Orange       | Lee Cattaneo              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Berlin     | Robert Wernecke          | <input type="checkbox"/> Plainfield              | Paula Emery               |
| <input type="checkbox"/>                       | Karla Nuissl, Alt.       | <input type="checkbox"/>                         | Bob Atchinson, Alt.       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cabot                 | Vacant                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roxbury      | Jerry D’Amico, Vice Chair |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Calais     | John Brabant             | <input type="checkbox"/> Waitsfield              | Don La Haye               |
| <input type="checkbox"/>                       | Jan Ohlsson, Alt.        | <input type="checkbox"/>                         | Vacant, Alt.              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Duxbury    | Alan Quackenbush         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Warren       | Alexis Leacock            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>                       | David Wendt, Alt.        | <input type="checkbox"/>                         | Vacant, Alt.              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> E. Montpelier         | Spencer Harding          | <input type="checkbox"/> Washington              | Peter Carbee              |
| <input type="checkbox"/>                       | Clarice Cutler, Alt.     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waterbury    | Steve Lotspeich, Chair    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fayston               | Vacant                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Williamstown | Richard Turner            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marshfield            | Vacant                   | <input type="checkbox"/>                         | Jacqueline Higgins, Alt.  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Middlesex  | Ron Krauth               | <input type="checkbox"/> Woodbury                | Michael Gray              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Montpelier | Ariane Kissam            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worcester    | Bill Arrand               |
| <input type="checkbox"/>                       | Mike Miller, Alt.        |  |                           |

6  
 7 Staff: Christian Meyer, Nancy Chartrand, Jon Ignatowski, Clare Rock  
 8 Guests: Terri Sabens, Vermont Municipal Grand List LLC; Karen Sauther, Fayston Planning  
 9 Commission/Moretown Zoning Administrator

10  
11 **Call to Order**

12 Chair Lotspeich called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm. Quorum was present to conduct business.

13  
14 **Adjustments to the Agenda**

15 None

16  
17 **Public Comments**

18 None

19  
20 **Shared Assessor Presentation**

21 Chair Lotspeich introduced Terri Sabens of Vermont Municipal Grand List LLC. She advised that she is a semi-  
 22 retired assessor working for a few towns with a goal to create a shared position construct for recruiting new  
 23 assessors. Lamoille County Regional Commission (LCPC) has written a memorandum of understanding for a  
 24 shared position in Lamoille County and currently Hyde Park, Johnson and Wolcott have agreed to share a 20  
 25 hour/week position; and there are two to three additional towns interested in order to make the position full-



1 time. Christian Meyer advised CVRPC's bylaws include language related to Municipal Service Agreements which  
2 would allow CVRPC to create this type of position should it be of value to towns in our region.

3  
4 Discussion ensued on the funding and benefits of such a position and the need for towns to commit to a certain  
5 number of hours, the hosting RPC would offer benefits and then the RPC bills each town for their portion of the  
6 funding for the position (wages and benefits). Terri advised it is anticipated that an average of five towns could  
7 be served by one person (~32 – 40 hours) and that she has volunteered to help towns train new hires. She also  
8 plans to approach community colleges, technical centers and high schools to generate interest in recruitment.

9  
10 Further discussion ensued on the contracting aspect, benefits distribution, VLCT involvement, and challenges in  
11 recruitment. It was advised that for specific contract questions, that Tasha Wallis of LCPC would be a good  
12 contact.

13  
14 Christian advised he can provide sample contracts to share with the Board if they are interested and confirmed  
15 that we are just exploring if there is interest in our region for such a shared position.

#### 16 17 **West Central Vermont Strategic Economic Development Strategy**

18 Chair Lotspeich directed the Board to the information in the packet. An update was provided by Jon Ignatowski  
19 on the current status of the CEDS process. A review of the schedule was completed, and it was reiterated that  
20 we are currently in the comment period (which ends January 13<sup>th</sup>) before the final document is prepared that  
21 the Board will be asked to vote on (likely in March). Comments were prepared by Michael Gilbar and shared in  
22 the meeting packet and he provided further detail on those comments.

23  
24 It was confirmed that the CEDS document does not have any statutory bearing on the Regional Plan and the  
25 strategic plan can be used separately. It was also confirmed that local municipal plans are not mandated to do  
26 anything specific as a result of the strategic plan.

27  
28 There was also discussion how the final draft will address which comments were or were not incorporated, how  
29 permitting is addressed in the plan, and whether or not the CEDS meetings were open to the public. Staff  
30 advised they will confirm whether the meetings are open and report back to the Board

#### 31 32 **Minutes - (October 11, 2022, November 8, 2022, November 14, 2022)**

33 Minor corrections (missing words) were noted for the November 8<sup>th</sup> and November 14<sup>th</sup> minutes.

34 *R. Wernecke moved to approve the minutes for October 11, 2022; November 8, 2022 and November 14, 2022 as*  
35 *amended. L. Cattaneo seconded. Motion carried.*

#### 36 **Reports**

37 Chair Lotspeich directed the Board to the information in the packet. He provided an update on Executive  
38 Director search, noting they have received 18 applications. The Executive Director Search Committee met and  
39 reviewed all applications (excluding applicant names and using a numbering system), the field was narrowed to  
40 five applicants and they have scheduled interviews for this Thursday and Friday. Interviews will be held  
41 remotely and in executive session and the field will then be narrowed again with recommendations for the  
42 Executive Committee to conduct second interviews with finalists. There will also be potential staff interaction  
43 with finalists and then the Executive Committee will bring a recommendation to the full Board.

1  
2 **Adjournment**  
3 *L. Cattaneo moved to adjourn at 7:43 pm; J. D’Amico seconded. Motion carried.*  
4  
5 Respectfully submitted,  
6 Nancy Chartrand, Office Manager  
7

DRAFT

**Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission**

P: 802-229-0389

Staff Report, December 2022

F: 802-223-1977

Staff are in the office on Mondays through Thursdays. Due to telework schedules, please schedule in-person meetings in advance. Masks are required in public areas of the office.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

Contact Clare Rock, [rock@cvregion.com](mailto:rock@cvregion.com) unless otherwise noted.

**Municipal Planning & Plan Implementation:**

- Attended Middlesex Planning Commission meeting to discuss planning for wildlife and recreation.
- Participated in the Marshfield workshop planning meeting as part of the towns Recreation Economy planning process.
- Presented information about the regional plan and about the town plan process to the Warren Planning Commission in light of a cell tower proposal and the PC's consideration of making possible changes to its town plan.
- Discussed Town Plan adoption process with the Waitsfield ZA.
- Researched RAPs and ADU information, created presentation and hosted Zoning Administrators Roundtable (9 municipalities attended.)
- Started sketching out municipal trainings for next 6 months and discussed coordination with all staff.
- Attended informational meeting with Northfield and DHCD to discuss the town's eligibility and process for seeking Downtown Designation.
- Communicated with staff from Orange regarding next steps for mapping trails in the Town Forest.
- Created a project site map to support Moretown Better Back Roads grant proposal to support culvert replacement.

**Regional Planning and Implementation:**

- Researched the PUC review process and state review criteria for Section 248a telecom projects
- Provided five Letters of Support for Community Recovery & Revitalization Program funding
- Regional Plan Update
  - Staff met to coordinate the development of an updated regional plan and were tasked to develop draft outlines for chapters in the new plan.
  - Continued to add to the data catalog and outline for the new Regional Plan.
  - Gathered data and worked on outlining the economy chapter of the new plan.

**Health Equity: (Contact Sam Lash, [lash@cvregion.com](mailto:lash@cvregion.com))**

- Participated in RPC statewide meetings to discuss Health Equity Toolkit (next steps and training), update on grant, and Implementation Projects.
- Provided comments on draft toolkit and additional resources and figures.
- Conducted target outreach to solicit toolkit draft comments to relevant community-facing collaborators (including THRIVE partners via monthly meeting update and follow-up).
- Continued to develop integrated health equity workshop to host toolkit introduction and training, get feedback, identify projects for implementation, and identify community locations/partners for frontline community outreach.
- Collaborated with Health District Office including meeting new hires (discussed vulnerable population identification, chronic disease trends, community program design and recruitment, etc.)
- Outreach regarding launch of VDH and DHCD [Health Equity and Community Design Technical Assistance Pilot](#) and [Health Equity Ambassador](#) programs.

**Economic Development:** (Contact Jon Ignatowski, [ignatowski@cvregion.com](mailto:ignatowski@cvregion.com))

- Plainfield Co-operative Business Assistance
  - Published a Request-For-Bid for Task 3 (Internal Readiness Assessment) of the grant and sent directly to 14 different firms.
  - Received one proposal for Task 2 (Financial Feasibility) of the grant and reviewed the proposal with the Task 2 advisory group.
  - Contacted references of Task 1 (Architectural Review and Design) proposers and selected Coe + Coe Architecture, LLC to perform the Task 1 scope of work. Developed a draft contract with Coe + Coe.
- Continued involvement for the Western Central Vermont CEDS to ensure local needs are reflected in the multi county report. Included presenting draft document to the Board of Commissioners and discussing how the plan aligned with the regional plan.

**Brownfields:**

- Received application for a site in Northfield. Submitted form to DEC and prepared materials for Brownfields Committee Meeting.
- Received update on Phase II ESA for Barre City Site. Anticipate Phase II completion in January.

**Partnerships for Progress:**

CVFiber: Processed incoming mail.

THRIVE: Participated in monthly meeting; provided update and asks on RPC Health Equity Toolkit and upcoming regional training; updates included Foundation House opening, Homeless Day of Actions (shared with Municipalities via newsletter), whitepaper Achievable Solutions for Vermont's Housing Crises (reviewed), and Crisis Intervention Team.

CVEDC: CVRPC representatives supported CVEDC project prioritization and scoring of 13 regional projects.

WBRD: no meeting in December. Notified that the four District towns have approved WBRD's requested increase in the cap of their annual per capita assessment to \$4.00, with the expectation that the assessment will increase to \$2.50 for this coming season.

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & HAZARD MITIGATION

Contact Keith Cubbon, [cubbon@cvregion.com](mailto:cubbon@cvregion.com), unless otherwise noted.

**Local/Regional Planning:**

- Participated in Vermont Emergency Management/RPC monthly meeting.
- Posted Capital Fire Mutual Aid (CFMA) agenda to CFMA page on CVRPC website.
- Provided support to Plainfield for Brook Road Bridge #21 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program application
- Created and emailed 9 Emergency Relief Assistance Fund (ERAF) report.
- Began search for speaker for February Regional Emergency Management Committee meeting.
- Collected data for flooding section of regional plan.
- Attended meeting with Vermont Department of Health (VDH) about Hot Weather Planning
- Met with VDH Barre office for introduction of new Emergency Preparedness Specialist
- Met with Calais and Vermont Emergency Management about Kent Hill Rd Culvert Scoping Study.

**Local Hazard Mitigation Plans (LHMP):** Staff supported communities in the development, review, and adoption of local hazard mitigation plans. Contact Sam Lash at [lash@cvregion.com](mailto:lash@cvregion.com).

Fayston- Prepared LHMP Update Draft for review for public and stakeholder comment, and by Vermont Emergency Management. Briefed Selectboard on review and approval process.

Orange:- Prepared LHMP Update Draft for review for public and stakeholder comment, and by Vermont Emergency Management.

**American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA):** Following survey results for Barre project prioritization

## TRANSPORTATION

Contact Christian Meyer, [meyer@cvregion.com](mailto:meyer@cvregion.com), unless otherwise noted.

### Field Services:

Met with Fayston Road Foreman to deliver Bridge and Culvert inventory maps and correct errors.

**Public Transit:** CVRPC represents Central Vermont on the Green Mountain Transit (GMT) Board of Commissioners. Staff participated in the following GMT meetings:

Board of Commissioners – See Committee updates.

Leadership Committee – Endorsed recommendation of General Manager Search Committee on primary candidate and authorized chair to negotiate a contract in preparation of full Board approval.

Operations Committee – Discussed public safety concerns at transit centers, received an update on the regulations on conduct on GMT property and received an update on seasonal service.

### Municipal Assistance:

- Supported TA set-aside grant application for the Town of Orange
- Worked on Northfield Falls crosswalk project to create safer pedestrian connectivity to neighborhood.
- Supported East Montpelier in tracking down road segment data for Better Roads grant submission.
- Wrote a TAP Letter of Support for Berlin.

### Regional Activities:

- Completed development of sidewalks dataset within Designated Village Districts in the CVRPC region. This work was a collaborative effort between CVRPC and a UVM student intern.
- Attended VTrans TPI meeting at Berlin office
- Catalogued road surface data on major collectors across the region for VTrans

## NATURAL RESOURCES

Contact Brian Voigt, [voigt@cvregion.com](mailto:voigt@cvregion.com), unless otherwise noted.

### Tactical Basin Planning Assistance:

- Attended regional coordination meeting to discuss approaches to Japanese Knotweed eradication.
- Attended Chittenden County RPC Clean Water Advisory Committee meeting to offer updates on Winooski Basin Water Quality Council.
- Hosted DEC Basin Planners at December Winooski Basin Water Quality Council meeting to discuss the basin planning process and the timeline for implementation of the revised Winooski Tactical Basin Plan.

### Clean Water Service Provider (CWSP):

- Prepared a draft co-benefits matrix and methodology for quantifying project-level so-benefits.
- Attended DEC CWSP check-in meetings to discuss start-up grant extension, Operations & Maintenance funding and financial report.
- Organized and hosted a Basin Water Quality Council meeting.

- Prepared draft language to revise the CVRPC Procurement and Grants Management Policies to meet the requirements of Act 76.
- Reviewed draft of Chapter 6 Guidance and provided DEC with feedback.

**604b:**

- This effort has concluded for SFY23.

**Stormwater Projects:**

Barre City Auditorium Final Designs – Staff reviewed project proposals and met with project partners to select a contractor. Notified applicants of decision.

Calais / Woodbury Stormwater Implementation – Reviewed revised contract. Presented contract to Executive Committee. Authorization for Executive Director signature granted by Executive Committee. Awaiting signed copy from DEC.

Moretown School Stormwater Implementation – No activity.

Plainfield Gully Stormwater Implementation – Project has been shut down for the winter. Minor landscaping and site recovery will be completed in the spring.

## CLIMATE & ENERGY

Contact Sam Lash, [lash@cvregion.com](mailto:lash@cvregion.com) unless otherwise noted.

**Municipal Planning and Implementation**

- Consulted Northfield on timeline, phasing, and rebates/incentives based on top site candidate for EVSE charger; provided memo to support proposal to Selectboard.
- Provided Marshfield with current and upcoming funding opportunities & programs, incentives, and resources for woodheat and EVSE.
- Responded to Orange with further questions to support funding search to replace failed town hall furnace failure.
- Checked-in with regional and state partners on current initiatives and upcoming opportunities for municipalities (programs and feedback) including ACCD (EVSE programs, Better Places, etc), ANR (Municipal Vulnerability Index and VT Climate Toolkit), PSD (Regionalized LEAP Data and Generation Scenarios update for Enhanced Energy Planning), and VCRD (Community Visits, Resilient Communities, etc.).
- Conducted outreach regarding applications, programs, and policy changes including passage of Advanced Clean Cars II (+), Act 172 Municipal Energy Resilience Grant Program updates, upcoming ACCD EVSE grant programs, etc.
- Consulted VCRD on all Central VT applicants and additional candidates, including consultation on designing multi-town efforts around several proposals (including potential coordination with utilities).

**Regional Planning and Implementation**

- Attended VECAN Annual Conference including sessions on: Energy Inequity; Municipal Energy Resilience Grant Program (Act 172), Transformation Transportation (Short & Long Term Planning), Local Renewable Energy Generation & Community Ownership Models, and Tackling the Split Incentive (multi-family/renter weatherization); conducted outreach to towns and included highlights in December Energy Digest (outgoing).
- Consulted Public Service Department on Renewable Energy Standards outreach and community engagement including development of educational materials, convening topic-specific focus groups, etc.; provided examples and recommendations on process and policy (e.g. energy equity report).
- Concluded with Middlebury College Capstone student projects and attended final presentation. The two projects resulted in 1) development of a municipal energy use baseline and tracking template to support Enhanced Energy

Planning and project development, and 2) literature review on disparities in rural energy, social, and community infrastructure and adaptability of community resilience hub model.

- Closed-Loop Networked Geothermal Working Group (Energy Action Network) Meeting- discussed existing examples, candidate sites/communities, models of ownership, and existing relationship to regulatory processes/entities.
- Participated in Clean Heat Standard Stakeholder Discussion: reviewed changes to policy since last legislative sessions and stakeholder feedback.
- Participated in DriveElectric Annual Stakeholder Meeting including: EV Charging Planning and Funding updates (VTrans NEVI plan, ACCD programs, and VEIC “Right to Charge”), Federal Inflation Reduction Act EV Incentive update; Advanced Clean Cars II/Trucks Rulemaking updates, Renewable Energy Standard Tier 3 updates and more (see outgoing Energy Digest for summaries!)

**OFFICE & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Office:**

- 2023 Insurance benefits enrollment completed.
- Provided administrative support to Executive Director Search Committee.
- FY22 CVRPC Annual Reports provided to municipalities for inclusion in their Town Reports.
- Assisted Executive Committee in Nominating Committee recruitment process.

**Professional Development:**

- 

**Upcoming Meetings:**

CVRPC meetings will host a physical location and offer remote access unless otherwise noted. Meeting access information is provided on agendas at [www.centralvtplanning.org](http://www.centralvtplanning.org).

<b>January</b>		
Jan 2		Office Closed - Holiday
Jan 3	4 pm	Executive Committee
Jan 10	6:30 pm	Board of Commissioners
Jan 12	4 pm	Clean Water Advisory Committee
Jan 16		Office Closed - Holiday
Jan 19	1 pm	Winooski Basin Water Quality Council
TBD		Project Review Committee
TBD		Brownfields Committee
Jan 24	6:30 pm	Transportation Advisory Committee

<b>February</b>		
Feb 6	4 pm	Executive Committee
Feb 14	6:30 pm	Board of Commissioners
Feb 16	1 pm	Winooski Basin Water Quality Council
Feb 20		Office Closed - Holiday
TBD		Project Review Committee
TBD		Brownfields Committee
Feb 28	6:30 pm	Transportation Advisory Committee

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## RECENT WEEKLY NEWS HEADLINES

Click on a week to read more about the headlines listed. *To receive Weekly News via email, sign up on our [website](#).*

Visit CVRPC's web site at [www.centralvtplanning.org](http://www.centralvtplanning.org) to view our blog and for the latest publications and news.

### [December 9th](#)

- Request for Bids – Internal Readiness Assessment
- Better Connections Program Accepting Applications
- Application Now Open for Community Recovery and Revitalization Program
- Vermont Better Roads Grant Program
- CVRPC Seeks 2023 Winter Planning Technician
- Downtown Transportation Fund and Clean Water Funding Applications Now Available
- Applications Open for Interested Communities\* and Health Equity Ambassadors

### [December 23<sup>rd</sup>](#)

- Regional Project Priority List Announced
- Funding to Install or Replace Water or Wastewater Systems
- Flood Resilient Communities Fund
- Technical Assistance Opportunities for Communities
- Looking to grow your local economy? Apply for a Rural Business Development Grant!
- 2023 Clean Water Lecture Series - "Agriculture, Climate Change and Water Quality"



**Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission**  
**Committee & Appointed Representative Reports, December 2022**

*Meeting minutes for CVRPC Committees are available at [www.centralvtplanning.org](http://www.centralvtplanning.org).*

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** (Monday of week prior to Commission meeting; 4pm) [1/3/2023]

- Authorized the Acting Executive Director to sign Department of Environmental Conservation – Clean Water Service Provider Start Up No Cost Extension amendment; Department of Buildings and General Services – Municipal Energy Resilience Grant Program Agreement; and Dubois & King – Stormwater Final Design for Barre City Auditorium contract.
- Received a report from Fred Duplessis of Sullivan Powers related to the FY22 Audit and accepted the audit.
- Accepted the November 2022 unaudited financial reports.
- Approved a slate for recommendation to the Board of FY24 Nominating Committee members.
- Received updates of the Executive Director Search Committee in executive sessions.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE** (A sub-committee of the Executive Committee)

Met multiple times to review and discuss applicant resumes, and interview candidates.

**PERSONNEL POLICY COMMITTEE** (A sub-committee of the Executive Committee)

Did not meet.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE** (February - April; scheduled by Committee)

Did not meet.

**PROJECT REVIEW COMMITTEE** (4<sup>th</sup> Thursday, 4pm)

December 22, 2023 meeting cancelled, will be rescheduled if/when Warren Verizon cell tower project is re-noticed. Staff continue to monitor other projects.

**REGIONAL PLAN COMMITTEE** (as needed; scheduled by Committee)

Did not meet.

**MUNICIPAL PLAN REVIEW COMMITTEE** (as needed; scheduled by Committee)

Did not meet.

**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE** (4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday; 6:30 pm)

Did not meet.

**CLEAN WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE** (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 4pm)

Did not meet.

**BROWNFIELDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE** (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, 6pm)

Meet on December 19, 2022 to recommended enrollment of Northfield project – private investors propose redevelopment of historic granite shed lot for multi family housing.

**WINOOSKI BASIN WATER QUALITY COUNCIL (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 1pm)**

- Provided update on CWSP policy development.
- Described eligibility requirements and reviewed schedule for the two Request for Qualifications to be issued by the CWSP – one for Project Implementors and the other for sub-contractors.
- Hosted the DEC Winooski Basin Planners to discuss the schedule for updating the Winooski Tactical Basin Plan and the role of the BWQC in this process.
- Presented a draft Co-benefits matrix and scoring methodology for quantifying project-specific co-benefits. There was extensive discussion on this topic and it will be revisited at the next meeting.

**VERMONT ASSOCIATION OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES (VAPDA)**

Discussion in the December meeting included:

- A presentation by representatives of the Vermont Bond Bank on how public financing will be made available for climate work under the Inflation Reduction Act. RPC staff are coordinating on a list of projects to demonstrate demand.
- Progress toward regional coordination to support municipal adoption of the modified flood maps
- RPC participation in the state Emergency Management Seminars
- How to equip municipalities to take advantage of the programs in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.
- Better connections applications are being accepted – projects will be able to access the At the Ready list for consultants.
- The Bylaw Modernization Program and the number of applications received. Excess funds may be shifted to the Municipal Planning Grant program is possible.
- EV charger funding is coming for multi-unit dwellings
- Downtown Transportation Fund is accepting application through 1/31/2023.
- The contract for the Act 172 Energy Resiliency Program will be distributed in December. Details regarding implementation are still under development.
- GIS layers will be available soon for potential rooftop solar.
- Erica Borneman from Vermont Emergency Management discussed their work, upcoming events and how RPC staff can be involved, and the role of RPCs in emergency response.

**VERMONT ECONOMIC PROGRESS COUNCIL**

No Central Vermont activity.

**GREEN MOUNTAIN TRANSIT**

- General Manager interviews and tour were conducted.
- Received presentation on FY24 budget.
- Authorized staff to award an urban 180 fuel contract for 120,000 gallons at a price of \$3.8914 per gallon, for a 181 maximum contract value of \$466,968.00 for a term of 5-months.
- Ratified an offer of employment be made to Clayton Clark as GMT's next General Manager.

**MAD RIVER VALLEY PLANNING DISTRICT**

Staff representative was unable to attend monthly meeting. As MRVPD approaches the completion of its fourth decade of service, its Steering Committee recognizes the needs, priorities, successes, and challenges of the MRV community have changed and evolved since its creation. As such, it is hosting this event with organization partners in order to review MRVPD's purpose and work, assess its relationship with its members, and identify elements that will ensure organizational relevance and community success in the years to come. This is an opportunity to take stock of where both MRVPD and the MRV have been, where it is, and ensure the best process in charting a path forward. The meeting is scheduled for January 12, 2023, 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm at the Village Meeting House (4355 Main St, Waitsfield)