

CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Draft MINUTES
September 12, 2023

Commissioners:

<input type="checkbox"/> Barre City	Janet Shatney, Sec/Treas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moretown	David Stapleton
<input type="checkbox"/>	Vacant	<input type="checkbox"/>	Joyce Manchester, Alt
<input type="checkbox"/> Barre Town	George Clain	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Northfield	Royal DeLegge
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alice Farrell, Alt	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jeff Schulz, Alt
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Berlin	Robert Wernecke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Orange	Lee Cattaneo
<input type="checkbox"/>	Karla Nuissl, Alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plainfield	Paula Emery
<input type="checkbox"/> Cabot	Brittany Butler	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bob Atchinson, Alt.
<input type="checkbox"/> Calais	John Brabant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roxbury	Jerry D'Amico, Chair
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jan Ohlsson, Alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waitsfield	Don La Haye
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Duxbury	Alan Quackenbush	<input type="checkbox"/>	Alice Peal, Alt.
<input type="checkbox"/>	David Wendt, Alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Warren	Alexis Leacock
<input type="checkbox"/> E. Montpelier	Vacant	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jenny Faillace, Alt.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Clarice Cutler, Alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Washington	Peter Carbee, Vice Chair
<input type="checkbox"/> Fayston	Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waterbury	Doug Greason
<input type="checkbox"/> Marshfield	Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Williamstown	Richard Turner
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Middlesex	Ron Krauth	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacqueline Higgins, Alt.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mitch Osiecki, Alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Woodbury	Michael Gray
<input type="checkbox"/> Montpelier	Ariane Kissam	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worcester	Bill Arrand
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mike Miller, Alt.		

Staff: Christian Meyer, Nancy Chartrand, Clare Rock, Elaine Toohey

Call to Order: Chair D'Amico called the meeting to order at 6:32; a roll call was conducted and a quorum was present.

Adjustments to the Agenda: Christian Meyer advised he wanted to add an Executive Director update; and the Rules of Procedure will not be addressed as they need to be reviewed and recommended by Executive Committee prior to coming before the Board. Rich Turner of Williamstown thanked Christian for coming to the Williamstown Selectboard meeting this week to explain the RPC role.

Public Comments: None

Executive Director Update: Christian introduced Elaine (Eli) Toohey as our new Community Development Planner. He also provided an update on flood response and recovery, noting the region will begin to transition to a planning phase to work with municipalities for a more resilient flood prepared future. Lots of municipalities are already having these conversations locally. The RPC will collaborate in the future through a regional meeting such as a Commission Flood Meeting with partners from other organizations to create action steps and we

1 would welcome any feedback from all of our municipalities. He noted we will also be trying to get to each
2 municipality in person.

3
4 It was also noted that a round table will also be hosted for municipal planners and staff related to FEMA
5 collaboration and common issues being dealt with. It is anticipated this will be scheduled in the next few weeks.

6
7 The CVEDC annual priority list of projects is forthcoming and our Project Prioritization Committee (Robert
8 Wernecke, Rich Turner and Peter Carbee) will be activated soon to address. They should be looking for
9 information forthcoming from Melissa Bounty. Also noted was for municipalities to be considering what
10 projects should be applied for to get on the priority list.

11
12 He advised we are recommending the dues will remain constant going into FY25 – and this will be on the
13 October Board agenda. Also that we are currently working with our auditors, Sullivan Powers, for our FY23
14 audit, which should be ready for the Board/Executive Committee in December.

15
16 **ACCD/VAPDA Regional Future Land Use Initiative & Regional Plan Update:** Christian provided a brief overview
17 of the information as outlined in the packet, noting VAPDA has gone through an initial phase to assess what
18 regions have done in the past and set the methodology for moving forward. We are looking to find the common
19 ground for universally accepted regional categories. VAPDA should have a formal draft to the Commissions in
20 October/November with a final draft to legislature by December 15th.

21
22 Clare Rock provided additional information related to future land use and how this initiative may better
23 represent regional and municipal goals in state policy and investment. Clare shared a presentation (available on
24 the website) related to what is a future land use map and how is it used? It doesn't necessary reflect current
25 uses, but desired uses for the future and is a prescription for future growth and guide for land use change.

26
27 This endeavor is an opportunity for us to more clearly identify what we want as a region and the RPC would like
28 to collect what individual municipalities would like to see on a new land use map to advocate for municipal and
29 regional goals.

30
31 Discussion ensued related to the timing of the changes and impact on municipal plans that are currently being
32 updated, as well as the regional plan update. It was confirmed that the report is statewide and regionally we
33 will be developing our own regional land use map but would use the land use symbology from the state report.
34 We don't lose control as to where we designate different zones within a regional land use map, but want to use
35 the same terminology, etc. as is being used statewide.

36
37 We are looking from the Board is how they feel our future land use map can better position the RPC to better
38 advocate for municipal and regional development goals. We want input from our regional commissioners, in
39 order for Christian to be able to advocate for goals in the statewide classification system. It is hoped that we will
40 have the draft report in October for commission review.

41
42 There was also discussion related to how goals of the Comprehensive Energy Plan or other state initiatives are
43 likely to be met through this process, and how different plans need to be in conformance with each other.

1 It was confirmed that the Regional Plan Committee is also involved in this process with Clare and she plans to
2 get further recommendations from that at a future meeting.

3
4 We would like to hear from municipalities their vision of land use in the various categories and would request
5 that commissioners help bring that municipal perspective to the RPC. With regard to creation of future land use
6 map it is a combination of looking to municipalities and their future land use maps to help inform a more unified
7 land use district classification.

8
9 Chair D'Amico, asked that any comments be provided to Clare Rock or Alice Peal, Chair of the Regional Plan
10 Committee. Staff will do their best to ensure that Central Vermont priorities are represented in any initial draft
11 and work from there.

12
13 **Approve Committee Rules of Procedure:** This item was not addressed as the Rules of Procedure
14 recommendations need to be reviewed by Executive Committee prior to action.

15
16 **Minutes – (6/13/23 & 7/18/23)**

17 *Rich Turner moved to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Bill Arrand.* Michael Gray stated he wasn't
18 present at meeting so wasn't sure he should vote and Rich Turner advised Roberts Rules states you do not need
19 to be present at the meeting in order to vote on the minutes. Vote called and *motion carried.*

20
21 Paula Emery left the meeting at 7:22 pm

22
23 **Reports:**

24 Christian provided some highlights of the reports provided in the packet, specifically related to the July flood
25 event. Also highlighted was the Municipal Energy Resilience Program. It was also noted that the new FEMA
26 maps should be released later this fall.

27
28 Rich Turner thanked Sam Lash for her assistance with both energy and emergency management issues in
29 Williamstown.

30
31 *Rich Turner moved to accept the reports as presented. Seconded by Don LaHaye. Motion carried.*

32
33 There was question as to whether or not they needed to be accepted separately, and a request to accept the
34 Committee report separately.

35
36 *Peter Carbee moved to accept the committee report, seconded by Lexi Leacock. Motion carried.*

37
38 **Adjournment**

39 *Don LaHaye moved to adjourn at 7:28 pm; seconded by Lee Cattaneo. Motion carried.*

40
41
42 Respectfully submitted,
43 Nancy Chartrand, Office Manager
44