

1 **CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**
2 **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**
3 **Draft MINUTES**
4 **January 14, 2025**

5 **Commissioners:**

<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barre Town	Alice Farrell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Northfield	Royal DeLegge
<input type="checkbox"/>	Vacant	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Calais	John Brabant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roxbury	Jerry D'Amico, Chair
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Melanie Kehne, Alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waitsfield	Don La Haye
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Duxbury	David Wendt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alice Peal, Alt.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Vacant	<input type="checkbox"/> Warren	Alexis Leacock
<input type="checkbox"/> E. Montpelier	Zoe Christiansen	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jenny Faillace, Alt.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Clarice Cutler, Alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Washington	Peter Carbee, Vice Chair
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fayston	Andrew McNealus	<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 type="checkbox"/> Woodbury	Michael Gray
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Montpelier	Mike Miller	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worcester	Bill Arrand

6
7 Staff: Christian Meyer, Nancy Chartrand, Keith Cubbon, Eli Toohey

8 Guests: Stephen Whitaker, Montpelier resident

9
10 **Call to Order:** Chair D'Amico called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm, a roll call was completed, and a quorum
11 was present.

12 **Adjustments to the Agenda:** None

13 **Public Comments:** Stephen Whitaker of Montpelier shared his concerns related to the Montpelier Growth
14 Center application and Municipal Plan. He requested discussion at a future meeting for the board to adopt a
15 protocol on who is speaking for the Commission. Chair D'Amico stated staff is currently tasked with
16 representing Board positions. John Brabant suggested Montpelier can work on their project and provide an
17 early draft to the Board of Commissioners and Christian and staff can provide periodic updates. Mike Miller
18 noted that he is the professional planner and staff representative on the Commission working for the City. He
19 noted Steve does not agree with the way and order the process is proceeding. Information will be presented to
20 the Commission, and he is having preliminary conversations with staff. He has not represented that the Board
21 has approved anything yet. Montpelier will be bringing information to the Board when it is ready and it appears
22 current direction is appropriate and the Commission should be comfortable with the process and what is being
23 put together.

1 **Nominating Committee Appointments:** Chair D’Amico reviewed the information that was provided in the
2 meeting packet and opened the floor to additional nominations for the FY26 Nominating Committee – none
3 were heard and nominations were closed.

4
5 *John Brabant moved to approve the recommended slate of Alice Peal, Don La Haye, and Peter Carbee for the*
6 *FY26 Nominating Committee, seconded by Lee Cattaneo. Motion passed unanimously.*

7
8 **Open Meeting Law Resolution:** *Peter Carbee moved to adopt and have the Chair sign the Open Meeting Law*
9 *Resolution, seconded by David Stapleton. Discussion included comments on the Transportation Advisory and*
10 *Regional Plan Committees. It was also suggested that we need to include details related to required recordings*
11 *of Executive Committee & Board meetings. An amendment to the motion was suggested to include “with the*
12 *understanding that it will be amended to include recording information as needed.” Peter and David agreed to*
13 *the amendment. Vote called and motion passed unanimously.*

14
15 A revision of the resolution, as needed, will be addressed at the February meeting.

16
17 **Regional Plan Update - Infrastructure:** Christian Meyer advised we will be discussing the Infrastructure
18 chapter which has been brought before Regional Plan Committee, comments received and updates made. Staff
19 will review the goals and strategies to point out areas where there are proposed changes from the previous plan
20 and why those changes are being considered. Eli Toohey and Keith Cubbon provided a presentation (available
21 on website). There was discussion on why the Infrastructure chapter has been updated to be the Utilities,
22 Facilities and Services chapter and where information was combined and/or added to other chapters. Language
23 was also changed to clarify goals and strategies. A timeline has not currently been established, strategy is being
24 laid out for getting all chapters into final draft stage.

25 John Brabant suggested we have language in the plan that deals with the PFAs. It was also noted that there may
26 need to be clarification in the reference to biosolids (Class A and/or B). Chair D’Amico requested John Brabant
27 work with Keith on this. Alice Peal also made note that it would be coming back before the Regional Plan
28 Committee.

29 Lee Cattaneo urged caution in changing language around shall and should. Christian advised that the Regional
30 Plan Committee is going to work through the goals to determine where shall and should be utilized.

31 Alice Peal advised the Regional Plan Committee is now working twice per month on the Regional Plan and in
32 many cases each chapter will have two meetings of review. Christian noted we want to find a platform to allow
33 commissioners to provide feedback on goals themselves to find balance.

34 It was clarified that public health is included in the Utilities, Facilities and Services chapter. There was also
35 discussion related to communication towers and also flexibility in inter-utility connections where there will be
36 beneficial impact to consumers and the environment.

37 The crosswalk of the chapter was briefly reviewed and it was noted that the crosswalk will be shared with all
38 commissioners in the near future to obtain additional comment.

39 John Brabant shared the following in the chat for additional info on PFAs - Milorganite and PFAS story from local
40 Milwaukee Journal Sentinel: [https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/wisconsin/2021/06/07/milorganite-
41 fertilizer-what-you-should-know-forever-chemicals-pfas-pfos/7491610002/](https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/wisconsin/2021/06/07/milorganite-fertilizer-what-you-should-know-forever-chemicals-pfas-pfos/7491610002/)

1 **Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement:** it was noted that this information was introduced to the Board
2 previously. Our role is as host and it was noted we are allowed to host this type of agreement under our Bylaws.
3 It is an administrative in function which should have a beneficial impact on our municipalities.

4 *Paula Emery moved to approve the Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement, seconded by Alice Farrell.* There was
5 discussion on how the information will be rolled out to municipalities and those doing the work, and concern it
6 will be a shelf item and those with boots on the ground will not be aware of it. It was noted it will be advocated
7 at the road foreman level through our transportation program and it was suggested there needs to be a visual
8 that municipalities can post on-site. Vote was called and *motion passed unanimously.*

9 **Minutes – (12/10/24 & 12/30/24):** *Peter Carbee moved to pass the consent agenda minutes, seconded by*
10 *John Brabant. Motion passed unanimously.*

11
12 **Reports:** Christian Meyer provided a very brief overview of the information provided in the meeting packet.
13 Chair D’Amico noted the most important task is the Regional Plan in the coming year and the importance for
14 Board to provide feedback and attend meetings.

15 Eli Toohey advised the Board of the opening of Municipal Planning Grants on January 27th, \$30,000/town or
16 \$45,000 for consortium of towns. Grants are for municipal plans, climate resilience and flood recovery projects,
17 housing projects, capital programs/budgets. She will be sending info out to all the towns regarding this funding.

18 Paula Emery noted that on February 8th Plainfield is holding a community design event that may be of interest to
19 commissioners. It is scheduled for 10:00 am at the Opera House.

20 *Doug Greason moved to accept the Staff and Committee reports, seconded by David Stapleton. Motion passed*
21 *unanimously.*

22 **Commissioner Round Table:** John made note of the devastation done to Brook Road in Plainfield as a result of
23 the July flood. Paula Emery noted the federal government states they are going to rebuild it.
24 Chair D’Amico advised that all municipalities are required to do ethics training annually and suggested individual
25 commissioners view the 45 minute video put together by VLCT. Nancy will share the link to the video with
26 members.

27
28 **Adjournment:** *Don La Haye moved to adjourn at 7:57 pm; seconded by David Stapleton. Motion passed*
29 *unanimously.*

30
31 Respectfully submitted,
32 Nancy Chartrand, Office Manager