



RUTLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

RRPC BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2025, 7:00 PM

MEETING DETAILS

Virtual: [Teams Meeting](#), ID: 224 634 587 902, Pass: dBEdSy | Call: 1-8024401368, ID: 641278173#

In-Person: 16 Evelyn Street, Second Floor, Rutland, VT 05701

MEETING ATTENDANCE

(x = in person) (v = virtual)

TOWN	NAME	
Benson	Cheryl Murray	
Brandon	Jack Schneider	x
Castleton	Liz Mackay (alt)	x
Chittenden		
Clarendon	Brownson Spencer	
Danby	Andrea Stoddard	x
Fair Haven	Jason Coupal	
Hubbardton	Robert Gibbs	x
Ira	Bob Kirbach	
Killington	Will Austin	x
Mendon	Larry Courcelle	x
Middletown Springs	Steven Harrington	
Mount Holly	Jessica Metcalfe	x
Mount Tabor		
Pawlet	Harley Cudney (alt)	
Pittsford	Ann Reed (alt)	x
Poultney	Sarah Pelkey	x
Proctor	Richard Horner	x

TOWN	NAME	
Rutland City	Michael Doenges	x
Rutland Town	David Rosenblum	
Shrewsbury	Laura Black	x
Sudbury	Barbara Somson	x
Tinmouth	Judy Gilmore	x
Wallingford	Erika Berner	
Wells	Heather Thomas	x
West Haven	Rod Ethier	
West Rutland	Leona Minard	x
ACI-Natural Resources	Hilary Solomon	
Ex-Officio- CEDRR	Lyle Jepson	x
Ex-Officio- CEDRR	Cooper Babbit	
Ex-Officio- TAC		
Ex-Officio- RRWIB		

Staff: Devon Neary, Mary Kay Skaza

Public: Jim Haff, Laurie Wilson, and Abbey Bradish



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MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

Meeting called to order by Vice-Chair Black at 7:03 PM. Introductions were made.

2. APPROVAL OF MARCH 18th AGENDA

Motion to approve the March 18th agenda by Courcelle. Second by Minard. Approved by voice vote.

3. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 18th MINUTES

Motion to approve the February 18th minutes by Gibbs. Second by Stoddard. Approved by voice vote.

4. OPEN TO PUBLIC

None present.

5. JANUARY 2025 FINANCIAL REPORT

Mary Kay Skaza reviewed the January 2025 Financials. Report for informational purposes only.

6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The next Regional Selectboard Meet-Up will take place on April 9, 2025, at the Castleton Recreation Center (former Village School). The first meeting, held on January 16th at the West Rutland Town Hall, brought together 20 selectboard members from 13 towns across the region for a productive discussion on shared challenges and opportunities. Topics included reappraisals, paving, public wastewater systems, and housing, along with strategies for shared services, equipment, and staffing. The conversation was engaging and collaborative, with selectboard members strongly encouraging the RRPC to host these meetings on a quarterly basis to dive deeper into these critical issues, share experiences, and identify opportunities. These gatherings will rotate throughout the region each quarter to ensure broad participation.

The RRPC presented the draft Future Land Use Map to the Executive Finance Committee on March 10th and will be presenting to the full board on April 15th. The RRPC completed a draft town meeting schedule and will be reaching out to towns this month to schedule special selectboard meetings for April, May, and early June. The RRPC will host a meeting in each town that will include the selectboard, planning commission, and regional commissioners.

The RRPC is looking to add projects to its Brownfields Reuse Program. We are nearing the end of several projects throughout the region and have funding to support several new



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projects through the environmental assessment process. The new Brownfields Committee of the Board of Commissioners will review and approve any new sites for the program.

The Regional Planning Commission Assessment required by Act 181 and conducted by the National Association of Development Agencies (NADO) has been completed and sent to the Vermont Legislature. The executive summary, full report, and appendices can be found here: <https://www.vapda.org/legislative-reports.html>. Director Neary will discuss the findings and recommendations at the March 18th meeting. A special thank you to all the commissioners and municipal officials that provided input for this assessment.

Director Neary will ask the Rutland Delegation to join the April 15th board meeting to provide updates on the legislative session and hear from commissioners on issues and opportunities within the Rutland Region.

Congressional Directed Spending (CDS) and Community Project Funding (CPF) from the federal delegation is rolling out. The timelines for these opportunities are short, so be on the lookout for these opportunities as they arise. The RRPC will be sharing with towns.

7. REGIONAL PLAN UPDATE

Staff continue work on Task 3 Rev 2 which will be completed March 21st. Task 3 Rev 2 review is only one week (March 24 – March 28) and will be completed by the entire RRPC staff to allow for full plan review and alignment. The Regional Plan Committee will also review Task 3 Rev 2. Staff continue work on Phase 3 Engagement, “Alignment” which will run in May/June.

8. EXECUTIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Vice-Chair Black provided the Executive Finance Committee Report which met on Monday, March 10th. The committee had a presentation from RRPC staff on the draft Future Land Use Map. No action taken.

9. REGIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Minard provided the Regional Committee Report which met on two items: The committee reviewed 1R0981(Remanded)-1, which is an application to amend the existing LUP 1R0980 to reflect minor design alterations associated with the parking lots and stormwater pond, thereby reducing impacts on wetlands and their associated buffers per the direction from the DEC Wetlands Division. The committee was joined by the VHB consultant on the project, Dan Heil, who provided an overview of the project details. Pelkey asked about the previous LUP 1R0980, the current incomplete amendment letter, the construction timeline, and wetland permits. Heil stated that the incomplete items have been addressed; the timeline would likely



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be this summer to accommodate the Town of Killington's road reconstruction project, and the wetland permit had been issued. Jim Haff, selectboard chair from Killington, spoke about the project history and how the RRPC had supported the original LUP from 2013. Neary confirmed. Pelkey made a motion to recommend to the full board that a letter be issued stating that the project conforms with the regional plan and presents no significant regional impacts. Schneider seconded the motion. The motion was approved by voice vote. Haff requested that the minutes reflect his and the Town's thanks for supporting this critical project. Motion by MacKay to send the S.248a letter as presented. Seconded by Horner. Approved by voice vote.

The committee reviewed 25-0316-AN, a 60-day advance submission from Industrial Tower and Wireless, LLC, requesting a certificate of public good to authorize the installation of wireless telecommunications equipment at 440 Route 140. The committee assessed the materials and several issues emerged regarding potential impacts on scenic resources and the absence of a formal balloon test. Furthermore, this facility is very close to the 100-foot buffer for the Tinmouth Channel, recognized as the Region's Class 1 wetland and a significant natural resource. Additionally, Gilmore noted that the Town had evaluated the project, determining that it did not comply with the Town Plan or land use districts. A motion by Black recommended that the full board issue a letter conveying the expressed concerns to the PUC and the developer. This motion was seconded by Pelkey and approved by voice vote. Motion by Horner to send an Act 250 letter as presented. Seconded by Courcelle. Approved by voice vote.

10. REGIONAL PARTNERS

No report.

11. EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Lyle Jepson, Executive Director provided an update for CEDRR with included an update on the May 20th Bring Back the Trades Event, Regional Marketing Initiative, Hotel Task Force, Downtown Plaza Task Force, TIF District, and Real Rutland Feud.

12. COMMISSIONER UPDATES

Commissioners present provided updates on projects happening in their communities and throughout the Region.

13. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn by Courcelle. Second by Minard. Adjourned at 8:11PM.

Respectively submitted by Devon Neary