

Lamoille County Planning Commission Board of Directors – Meeting Minutes
 October 24, 2023

LCPC Board Members present

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Belvidere	Carol Caldwell-Edmonds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Morristown	Dan McLaughlin
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cambridge Town	Dick Goff		Morrisville	<i>Vacant</i>
	Cambridge Town	Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stowe	Marina Meerburg <i>(Video)</i>
	Cambridge Village	Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stowe	Brian Leven <i>(Video)</i>
	Eden	Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Waterville	Jeffrey Tilton
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Elmore	Trevor Braun <i>(Video)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Wolcott	Maxfield English <i>(Video)</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hyde Park Town	Greg Paus	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	County Director	Leo Clark
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hyde Park Town	Richard Pearson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	County Director	Liz Courtney <i>(Video)</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hyde Park Village	Riki French	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	County Director	Caleb Magoon
	Jeffersonville	Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	County Director	Linda Martin <i>(Video)</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Johnson Town	Duncan Hastings <i>(Video)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	County Director	Roger Murphy <i>(Video)</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Johnson Village	GiGi Beach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ex Officio	Pat Ripley <i>(Video)</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Morristown	Judy Bickford			

Lamoille County Planning Commission Staff: Tasha Wallis, Seth Jensen, Meghan Rodier, Georgeana Little

Guests: Pat Bradley *(Video)*, Peter Danforth *(Video)*, Keith Fritschie *(Video)*, Jacquie *(Video)*, Catherine *(Video)*

Caleb Magoon called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Caleb began by telling everyone that we were experiencing some issues with our internet connection. This problem was external to our system.

He also reported that Jill Lindenmeyr died recently. Jill was the longest serving member of Lamoille County Planning Commission's (LCPC) Board of Directors before resigning 2 years ago. She was a wealth of institutional memory and a wonderful person to be around.

Changes to the Agenda and Public Comment

There were no changes to the agenda and no public comment

Open Public Hearing – Cambridge Enhanced Energy Plan

Meghan Rodier, Regional Planner, explained that the Enhanced Energy Plan had been adopted by the Cambridge Selectboard and the Cambridge Village Trustees. The Board will need to confirm that the plan is in conformance with state statute. Questions on two sections in the checklist were addressed. Both were simple mistakes and will be corrected before the plan is filed.

Caleb explained, for the benefit of new Board members, that the Enhanced Energy Plan gives towns greater standing before the Public Utilities Commission on energy matters, called substantial deference.

Close Public Hearing – Cambridge Enhanced Energy Plan

PPR Report – Dick Goff

Dick said there were 2 items before the Project and Planning Review Committee tonight – the enhanced energy plan and a T-Mobile Northeast Telecommunications Facility at 52 Portland Street, Morrisville. The T-Mobile project involves putting 3, 2-antennae installations on the roof of the building. The new installation will be 10', the same height as the current installation. There was some confusion about whether the old installation would be removed and it was determined that it would be.

Dick Goff motioned that the staff be directed to write a letter to the Public Utilities Commission, with copies to the applicant and the Town, indicating that the project was in conformance with the Regional Plan and reserving the right to revisit the issue if the project changes. Leo Clark seconded. Motion carried.

Determination of Energy Compliance for Cambridge Enhanced Energy Plan

Dick Goff motioned to confirm that the Cambridge Determination of Energy Compliance complies with the energy planning requirements set forth in 24 V.S.A. Section 4352. Jeff Tilton seconded. Motion carried with 13 votes in the affirmative and 0 votes in the negative with only Municipal Directors voting.

Approval of September 26, 2023 Minutes

Greg Paus motioned to accept the minutes of the September 26, 2023 meeting. Judy Bickford seconded. Motion carried with two abstentions.

Presentation of Draft Winooski Basin Plan

Keith Fritschie from the Vermont Division of Environmental Conservation (DEC) gave a short presentation on the Winooski Basin Plan. The comment period is from October 10 to November 10. He explained that the plan is developed to protect the quality of surface waters and restore those waters that do not meet state standards. In Lamoille County, Stowe is the only town with a substantial area in the Winooski Basin although small sections of other towns (Cambridge, Elmore, Morristown) are also in the basin.

The LCPC Board will be voting on this plan at the November meeting with another presentation to the Executive Committee in November.

Approval of 2023-2031 Regional Plan

Caleb read the resolution for Plan adoption. Brian Leven, chair of the Regional Plan Committee, thanked the staff for their work on the plan as well as Regional Plan Committee members who worked on this update for over a year. There were no major changes to the plan but substantial small “tweaks”.

Dick Goff motioned to adopt the resolution as read. Dan McLaughlin seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of FY24 Budget Adjustment

Leo Clark told the Board that the budget has been reduced from what was approved in June by \$326,757. This decrease is due to the Smugglers’ Notch project being ahead of schedule. Funding slated for FY24 was actually used in FY23.

Revenues, not known about at the time of the original budget adoption, have been added as well as associated expenditures.

We are in a good financial position with reasonable revenues.

Tasha Wallis added that it is unusual to bring a revised budget to the Board at this time, but the large construction project this year made it necessary. We may still need to approve another adjustment in January.

Duncan Hastings motioned to approve the FY24 Budget Adjustment. Leo Clark seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of FY24 ACCD Agreement

This item was tabled because of the poor internet connection, making voting by those on Zoom difficult.

Approval of FY24 EMPG and TPI Agreements

This item was tabled because of the poor internet connection, making voting by those on Zoom difficult.

Act 47 Land Use Mapping Project

Seth Jensen reported that this Act was introduced to develop a process to create more cross-regional consistency in Future Land Use Maps. This is just a study. Lamoille County classifies center areas differently than do other counties and there is a north/south divide on how resort areas are classified.

Because of the poor quality of the internet connection, those on Zoom could hear little of the presentation. The decision was made to close the meeting and present the remaining items at the next Board meeting.

Meeting Adjourned

Leo Clark motioned to adjourn. Rich Pearson seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:39 pm.