

Lamoille County Planning Commission Board of Directors – Meeting Minutes
January 28, 2025

LCPC Board Members present

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Belvidere	Carol Caldwell-Edmonds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Morristown	Dan McLaughlin <i>(Video)</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cambridge Town	Dick Goff <i>(Video)</i>		Morrisville	Vacant
	Cambridge Town	Sam Lotto		Stowe	Marina Meerburg
	Cambridge Village	Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stowe	Brian Leven <i>(Video)</i>
	Eden	Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Waterville	Jeffrey Tilton <i>(Video)</i>
<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		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>		County Director	Vacant
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Johnson Village	Lynda Hill		Ex Officio	Pat Ripley <i>(Video)</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Morristown	Judy Bickford			

Lamoille County Planning Commission Staff: Tasha Wallis, Georgeana Little

Guests: April Edwards, Frank Harris, Nick Jabour, Dawn Kress

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

Caleb welcomed new member Lynda Hill from Johnson Village. He reported that Roger Murphy, a County Director from Elmore, had resigned from the Board. Please consider applicants to fill this vacant position.

Changes to the Agenda and Public Comment

There were no changes to the agenda and no public comment.

Regional Plan Report

Tasha Wallis reported that the Board had received the outline of how we will proceed with our Regional Plan update. The Mission and Vision statements will need updating and we will be doing community outreach as we proceed with the revisions. Public outreach is required by Act 181 as are changes to the plan. This is not a line by line update but there are needed updates for Housing, Flooding, and Economic Development. The Regional Plan Committee meets the 3rd Monday of the month and all Board members are welcome to attend and participate.

PPR Report

The Plan and Project Review Committee (PPR) met and reviewed the Johnson Town/Village Plan, the Johnson Town/Village Planning Process, the Cambridge Town/Village Plan Amendment and the Cambridge Town/Village Planning Process. The Committee recommends to the Board that all be approved.

Open Public Hearing on Johnson Town/Johnson Village Plan

Greg Paus motioned to open the Public Hearing on the Johnson Town/Johnson Village Plan. Riki French seconded. Motion carried.

Public Hearing on Johnson Town/Johnson Village Plan

In addition to approving the Plan and Planning Process this evening, a Public Hearing will be held at the February Board meeting to approve the Town and Village Enhanced Energy Chapter.

Close Public Hearing on Johnson Town/Johnson Village Plan

Greg Paus motioned to close the Public Hearing on the Johnson Town/Johnson Village Plan. Judy Bickford seconded. Motion carried.

Open Public Hearing on Cambridge Town/Cambridge Village Plan Amendment

Judy Bickford motioned to open the Public Hearing on the Cambridge Town/Cambridge Village Plan Amendment. Riki French seconded. Motion carried.

Public Hearing on Cambridge Town/Cambridge Village Plan Amendment

Frank Harris, who advised the Cambridge Planning Commission on this amendment, explained that the plan supports colocation, establishes a committee on Telecommunications to report to the Selectboard, requires an annual assessment in the Town, and encourages competition between providers.

Close Public Hearing on Cambridge Town/Cambridge Village Plan Amendment

Judy Bickford motioned to close the Public Hearing on the Cambridge Town/Cambridge Village Plan Amendment. Riki French seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of Johnson Town/Johnson Village Plan

Greg Paus motioned to approve the Johnson Town/Johnson Village Plan. Rich Pearson seconded. Motioned carried with 11 ayes and 0 nays, one not voting.

Confirmation of Johnson Town/Johnson Village Planning Process

Judy Bickford motioned to confirm the Johnson Town/Johnson Village Planning Process. Riki French seconded. Motioned carried with 12 ayes and 0 nays.

Approval of Cambridge Town/Cambridge Village Plan Amendment

Rich Pearson motioned to approve the Cambridge Town/Cambridge Village Plan Amendment. Greg Paus seconded. Motioned carried with 12 ayes and 0 nays.

Confirmation of Cambridge Town/Cambridge Village Planning Process

Riki French motioned to confirm the Cambridge Town/Cambridge Village Planning Process. Judy Bickford seconded. Motioned carried with 12 ayes and 0 nays.

Approval of November 26, 2024 Minutes

Leo Clark motioned to accept the November 26, 2024 minutes. Judy Bickford seconded. Motion carried with one abstention.

Executive Director's Report

- There is a lot of confusion about the recent Executive Order halting federal funding. The EDA (Economic Development Agency) grant, Brownfields grant, and Safe Streets grant are all federal and we are in discussions with funders. A surplus of state funding this year will help.
- Senator Welch wrote an article in the New York Times offering to work with the administration on reform of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).
- The Newsletter went out today.
- There will be a meeting for Selectboards and Trustees in the County on April 10th at the Green Mountain Tech Center. Board Members are welcome to attend.
- There will be a minor budget amendment due to an added \$35,000.
- Staff is working hard to move all the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) grants forward.
- Questions for the public outreach on the Regional Plan are being drawn up.

Community Updates

Hyde Park – There is a movie about the controversy surrounding the Green River Reservoir up on YouTube.

Johnson – The Library is being moved to a new site next to the school and the rec fields. This site is still in the floodplain and will require an elevation of at least 3 feet.

Belvidere – The Community Club held the first AARP event in January, a dinner with live music. The next event will be in February.

Hyde Park Village – This is the 130th anniversary of the founding of the Village. Activities are being planned in conjunction with Home Day in September.

Morristown – The Planning & Zoning Administrator quit suddenly. The Town will hold a meeting on the budget with cuts to the library and the recreation department.

Elmore – Elmore Store is going through renovations and a summer opening is planned.

Wolcott – The Hardwick Trails Committee bought new equipment to groom the trails. The 1856 Schoolhouse is being restored with funds from the Preservation Trust of Vermont. It is proposed to move the Library to the restored building which will also have a café and space for the Historical Society.

Caleb – He and Tasha were interviewed for the VAPDA (Vermont Association of Planning & Development Agencies) review.

Meeting Adjourned

Greg Paus motioned to adjourn. Judy Bickford seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:34 pm.