

1 **NRPC Board of Commissioners Meeting**
2 **February 26, 2025 at 6:30 PM**
3 **Hybrid Meeting (Zoom and NRPC Office)**
4 **Northwest Regional Planning Commission**
5 **75 Fairfield Street, St. Albans, VT 05478**
6

7 **Attendance:** *See attached.* A quorum was present to conduct business. Also in attendance via
8 Zoom were Andy Julow and Carl Watkins.
9 Staff: Catherine Dimitruk, Shaun Coleman, Danielle Turin

10 **Welcome, Introductions, Opening Remarks**

11 Chair P. Zamore called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. He welcomed the Commissioners and
12 introduced the additional attendants.

13 **Adjustments to Agenda**

14 None.

15 **Opportunity for Public Comment**

16 None.

17 **Minutes of the January 2025 Meeting**

18 *H. Demars motioned to approve the January 2025 meeting minutes. E. Nance seconded. The*
19 *motion carried.*

20 **Grand Isle County Economic Update**

21 A. Julow presented. He explained the functions of Lake Champlain Islands Economic
22 Development Corp. and discussed the various stages of current projects. Completed projects are
23 the Alburgh Clubhouse and the North Hero water project. Projects remaining include South Hero
24 village wastewater; Alburgh village wastewater; Grand Isle town green and new library; CIDER's
25 new purchase in South Hero for nonprofit functions; pickleball courts at Knight's Island State Park
26 in North Hero; the Island Arts barn in North Hero; the South Hero meeting house; South Alburgh's
27 waterline extension; Turn To Joy childcare facilities in Grand Isle and South Hero; and increased
28 parking at the Grand Isle County Courthouse. An upcoming project to be added is affordable
29 senior housing at the Round Barn apartments in Grand Isle.

30
31 **Franklin County Regional Chamber of Commerce**

32 C. Watkins explained the Chamber's purpose of providing representation throughout Franklin
33 County and operational differences from Franklin County Industrial Development Corp. The
34 Chamber's goals include creating events such as awards banquets for Franklin County businesses
35 as an opportunity to network and socialize; to create relationships with municipalities; and to
36 provide information for businesses such as planning and development regulations and grant
37 assistance.

38
39 **Commission Reports:**
40

41 Finance/Operations - No additions. The Committee is working with the new auditor on the
42 upcoming March audit.

43
44 Personnel - No additions.

45
46 Executive Committee - P. Zamore reported there will be a 3% increase in funding for RPCs; C.
47 Dimitruk is meeting with municipal board regarding housing targets and new land use maps.

48
49 Project Review - No additions.

50
51 Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) - H. Garrett noted the Committee met with St. Albans
52 Town about sidewalks; working on an update for the Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail plan; and is
53 working on NRPC transportation highlights for 2026.

54
55 Brownfields Committee - No additions.

56
57 Regional Plan and Policy Committee - No additions.

58
59 Vermont Economic Progress Council (VEPC) - No additions; the report is included in meeting
60 packet.

61
62 Green Mountain Transit - B. Buermann noted the state is reviewing potential route transfers and
63 additional route changes to increase efficiency and reduce costs.

64
65 Healthy Roots Advisory Committee - No additions.

66
67 Northwest Vermont Regional Foundation - K. Waite noted the Committee reviewed its financial
68 report and minor bylaw changes and discussed the funds transfer policy.

69
70 Office - No additions.

71
72 E. Nance asked whether EPA funding will be pulled from active projects. C. Dimitruk replied it
73 has not been confirmed either way and the project is cautiously moving forward.

74
75 **Spotlight on the Town of Alburgh**

76 A. McCracken shared a Powerpoint presentation on the town's accomplishments. Highlights
77 included the construction of the Alburgh Family Clubhouse; joining membership with the
78 Northwest Solid Waste District; infrastructure enhancements; new and expanded businesses; a
79 reduced FY26 budget; and the availability of additional ARPA funding.

80 C. Dimitruk asked if the town administrator's role has been beneficial. A. McCracken answered
81 that it has been enormously valuable to the town.

82
83 **Election of At-Large member on the Executive Committee**

84 P. Zamore noted at the January meeting that there was a vacancy after S. Hadd's resignation
85 and asked for nominations.

86

87 *K. Waite nominated B. Murphy for the position of At-Large member on the Executive*
88 *Committee. B. Irwin seconded.*

89 *The Board unanimously voted to appoint B. Murphy as At-Large member.*

90

91 **Commissioner Announcements**

92 H. Garrett noted the Town of Swanton town report did not list N. Draper and H. Garrett as
93 commissioners for the town. C. Dimitruk will look into the process for sending out the reports
94 and follow up.

95

96 **Adjournment**

97 *E. Nance motioned to adjourn. H. Demars seconded.*

98 The Commission adjourned at 7:11 PM.

99

FY25 NPRC Board of Commissioners- Meeting Attendance

Municipality	Board Member	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June
		7/31/24	No Meeting	9/25/24	10/30/24	TBD	TBD	1/29/25	2/13/24	3/13/24	4/10/24	5/28/24	6/25/25
Frkln Cty Youth	Vacant												
Gl Cty Youth	Vacant												
Alburg Town	Alex McCracken	X		X			X	X	X				
Alburg Town	Donna Boumil												
Alburg Village	Vacant												
Alburg Village	Vacant												
Bakersfield	William Irwin	X			E		X	E	X				
Bakersfield	Linda McCall	X		X	X		X	X	X				
Berkshire	Josh Grims						X	X	E				
Berkshire	Claude Charron												
Enosburg Falls	Leonard Charron												
Enosburg Falls	Vacant												
Enosburgh Town	Jesse Woods												
Enosburgh Town	Vacant												
Fairfax	Barbara Murphy	X		X	X		X	X	E				
Fairfax	Sarah Hadd 1/25	E		X	X		X						
Fairfax	Nicholas Nadeau							X					
Fairfield	Julia Callan	X		X	X		E	X	X				
Fairfield	Chuck Verderber	X		X	X		X	X					
Fletcher	Vacant												
Fletcher	Lori Ruple	X			X		X	X	X				
Franklin	Yvon Dandurand	X		X	X		X	E	X				
Franklin	Wesley Kempton												
Georgia	Carl Rosenquist	X		X	X		X	E					
Georgia	Kirk Waite	X		X	X		X	X	X				
Grand Isle	Barclay Morris	X			X		X	X	E				
Grand Isle	Howard Demars	X		X	X		X	X	X				
Highgate	Jack Pelkey	X			X		X	X	X				
Highgate	vacant	X		X									
Isle La Motte	Sylvia Jensen	X			X			X	E				
Isle La Motte	Mary-Catherine Graziano												
Montgomery	Leanne Barnard												
Montgomery	Mark Brouillette												
North Hero	Andy Alling	X		X	X		X	X	X				
North Hero	Mike Curtis	X		X	X			X					
Richford	Marissa Tessier												
Richford	Vacant												
Sheldon	Vacant												
Sheldon	Jeff Kane												
South Hero	Peter Zamore	X		X	X		X	X	X				
South Hero	Bob Buermann	E		X	X		X	X	X				
St. Albans City	Elisabeth Nance	X		X	E		X	X	X				
St. Albans City	Chip Sawyer			X	E		X	X	X				
St. Albans Town	Marietta Scholten			X	E		X	X					
St. Albans Town	Megan Sherlund	X			X		X	X	E				
Swanton Town	Harold Garrett	X		X	E		X	X	X				
Swanton Town	Nicole Draper			X	X		X	X	X				
Swanton Village	Heidi Britch-Valenta	X		X	X		X		E				
Swanton Village	Neal Speer				X								
	# Municipalities	16	0	14	14	0	16	15	12	0	0	0	0

QUORUM = 12

E= Excused ; X=Present