

# West Central Vermont CEDS – Strategy Committee

Friday, December 17 – 10 AM to 12 PM

**Please join the meeting by clicking:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82062316313>

For those who would prefer to join by phone or those without a microphone on your computer, please dial in using your phone. (For supported devices, tap a one-touch number below to join instantly.) Meeting ID: 820 6231 6313  
One tap mobile: +16468769923,,82062316313#

Present:

Taylor Newton, CCRPC  
Regina Mahoney, CCRPC  
Sam Andersen, GBIC  
Whitney Coombs, GBIC  
Adam Lougee, ACRPC  
John Van Hoesen, ACRPC  
Dana Hanley, ACEDC  
Fred Kenney, ACEDC  
Tyler Richardson, CEDRR  
Sarah Pelkey, RRPC  
Ed Bove, RRPC  
Melissa Bounty, CVEDC

Taylor kicked off the meeting by welcoming everyone at about 10:02 a.m.

## 1. Changes/adjustment to agenda:

Taylor asked for any changes to the agenda. Hearing none proposed, he continued.

## 2. Minutes – November , 2021:

Taylor requested a motion to adopt the previous meeting minutes. **Sam Andersen moved acceptance of the previous meeting minutes. Tyler Richardson seconded the motion, which passed by voice vote.**

## 3. Task #3 - Engagement

- A. Employer Survey Report: Sam Andersen reviewed the Executive Summary of the employer survey the RDCs had created and conducted. She noted that they did not find any big surprises. She noted that employers remained concerned about workforce issues, taxes, permitting and workforce training. She also noted that broadband coverage and childcare had also risen as stronger new concerns. Lastly, she highlighted the fact that a lot

of the businesses that responded to the survey noted they were located in Vermont because of the Founder/CEO's affinity to the area.

- B. Review of Statewide Reports: Taylor reported they had created a good list of current reports. Taylor has created a form to summarize each report so the team can synthesize consistent information for each report into the CEDS. Taylor and Sarah continue to read and work through the 30 or so statewide plans. Sarah's summaries can be found on the website under statewide plans/ docs review/snapshots. Whitney asked about the Guidehouse Report and its relationship to the CEDS. They will create a document for the state about ARPA funds and coordination. It does not necessarily impact the CEDS.
- C. \$20,000 Consultant funds - Taylor and Regina have created an RFP that they will release in January looking for Equity Consultant. Taylor noted he will also consider adding a \$5,000 cash match from ACCD instead of ACCD using those funds for a website.
- D. Website - Sarah reported that the website is up and running. She encouraged all to visit it. She reviewed the website analytics with the group, noting traffic counts and sources of inquiry. **All should have links from our websites to the CEDS website.**
- E. Focus groups to High School Seniors/College Seniors - **Sam noted the RDCs had not reached out to students yet. She expects they will do it in January.**
- F. UVM Data - As part of Rutland's work on the website in the future, we will need to decide on our specific data indicators and the platform we will use. We will also need to figure out the CEDS relationship to UVM and the data they keep and maintain and how that data might feed the CEDS (and specifically goals/actions). Our use of UVM data will be our major topic of discussion for our January meeting.

**4. Task #4 - Creation of a CEDS: Taylor gave a presentation he had created starting to structure the CEDS. He noted we would include the Data CVRPC had created for each last region. He also noted we would include the SOAR work. He showed a document including the required elements of the CEDS. Taylor will work on refining his document and will send it out for everyone to comment on and for discussion at the January meeting.**

**5. January 21, 2022 Agenda** - Discussion with UVM about Data requests.

**6. Adjournment: Sarah Pelkey moved to adjourn, Whitney Coombs seconded the motion. By unanimous consent, Taylor adjourned the meeting at 11:05.**

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Lougee