



VCEH Balance of State Continuum of Care
Board Meeting Agenda
Tuesday July 18, 2023
10:00-11:30 am

Meeting Minutes

10:00 Call to Order & Attendance

Board meeting business:

10:05 Consider approval of minutes for Balance of State CoC meetings held on June 20, 2023. Minutes are available here, <https://helpingtohousevt.org/minutes/>.

- **Ramsey makes a motion to approve the minutes; Mary seconds; motion carries with Kate Logan abstaining**

10:10 VCEH organizational update and staff report

- Martin Hahn, VCEH Executive Director, extended his stay in this role through the 2023 HUD CoC Competition NOFO, which has now been released and his last day will be October 15th
- VCEH-VT Affordable Housing Coalition merger is on track to take place.
- Our VCEH office space was affected by the flood and we have decided not to move back. TBD if we will have a new brick-and-mortar home or if we will be a fully remote organization.
- There is no VT BoS CoC Board meeting in August. We may have a special meeting as needed in July or August.

Other business:

10:15 Update on Landlord Relief Program.

- Read more at: <https://landlordrelief.vsha.org/>
- The program started Feb 1, 2023, and supported private sector landlords with \$300,000 in repair, damages, vacancy loss, and legal fees
- Effective July 1, this program is now available to non-profit landlords (which need to be housing literally homeless folks.)
- Thank you to landlord liaisons around the state!
- This funding can help landlords can hold rental units for lease-ups that take longer due to the time it takes some vouchers/programs.

10:30 Report on the [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) for 2023 CoC funding. Notice of possible special meeting of the CoC board.

- VCEH hosted a webinar on the HUD CoC Funding NOFO in June led by our Technical Assistance Anne Gass [View the slides HERE.](#)
- Broadly stated, VT gets about 5 million dollars in part to existing projects that have been renewed or to new projects for which new funding is available.
- VCEH is the Collaborative Applicant for this CoC Funding. We apply on behalf of the VT BoS CoC to HUD. We package the larger application that holds the individual applications for organizations.

- Our [Request for Proposals \(RFP\) is available on our site](#). This is how organizations apply to be a part of the application to HUD. RFP lists approximately the amount of money available. Reach out to Martin at mhahn@helpingtohousevt.org
- What is different this year:
 - 3% could go to Collaborative Application as a Planning Grant. This has been increased by 5%.
 - Funding for facilitating/coordinating activities for compliance with new VAWA act.
 - Rural projects can have eligible costs such as emergency lodging and staff development.
- The process of reviewing individual organization applications includes scoring by a committee of persons with no conflicts of interest. This includes using a scoring tool that must be reviewed and approved by the VT BoS CoC each year. The scoring tool must be approved by VT BoS CoC board members without a conflict of interest.
 - We will have a special meeting where we conduct a vote on this scoring tool and discuss conflict of interest.

10:45 Vote Warned: To authorize ICA to release aggregate data from HMIS to AHS for the purposes of creating two data dashboards- one public-facing and one operational. This information will help inform policy and funding decisions.

- **Mary makes a motion to approve; Zack seconds the motion; motion passes**
 - **Yes votes: Mary, Kate, Cherry, Ben, Lee, Alyssa, Kim, Star, Jason, Ari, Jessica, Sophie, Jess, Casey, Marie, Dan,**
 - **Abstaining: Robert, Daniel, Meghan**

10:55 Reports from the field – flooding aftermath.

- Erhard Mahnke from Sen. Sanders office: Biden approved Gov. Scott’s major disaster declaration last Friday, this authorizes federal assistance from a broad range of sources for VT recovery needs.
 - FEMA approved for assistance to state and local governments and non-profit organizations for all counties: Assistance for emergency work, funding for evac and shelter, saving lives, protecting property (cost share is 100% for a continuous 30-day period within 120 days after the disaster; then 75% will be the cost share)
 - FEMA is already on the ground, going door-to-door in hard-hit areas
 - Individual assistance for Chittenden, Lamoille, Rutland, Washington, Windham, and Windsor (repair, replacement, low-interest loans); folks can register at disaster.gov or 1-800-621-FEMA
 - Organizations keep receipts for anything you’ve replaced for clients that could be covered by FEMA funds. Register online at disasterassistance.gov.
 - Both our senators’ and congresswoman’s offices are focused on the state’s recovery
- Visit: <https://www.vermont.gov/flood>

Name	Board Member Position	Affiliation	Present?
Jess Graff	Co-Chair	CVOEO	Y
Kara Casey	Co-Chair	VT Network	
Alyssa Peteani	One rep for housing providers	VHFA	Y
Amanda Hilliker	One rep for victims of DV/SV	Voices Against Violence, CVOEO	
Jason Brill	One rep for veterans	U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs	Y
Kate Logan	One rep for Youth	VCHRYP	Y
Marie Lennon	Rep with lived experience		Y
Whitney Nichols	Rep with lived experience		Y
Ari Kisler	VT-AHS	AHS, DCF, OEO	Y
Daniel Blankenship	One representative for VSHA	Vermont State Housing Authority	Y
Meghan Morrow - Raftery	One rep for the HMIS Lead Agency	Institute for Community Alliances	Y
Hannah Heinchon	Representatives at large	WYCSB	
Star Barden	Representatives at large	NEKYS	Y
Ramsey Papp	Representative at large	Capstone Community Action	Y
Sophie Pickens	Addison Coalition	John Graham Housing & Services	Y
Mary Gerisch	Bennington Coalition	Bennington Housing Authority	Y
Robert Little	Caledonia & Essex Coalition	Rural Edge	Y
Ben Kaufmann	Franklin/Grand Isle Coalition	Samaritan House	Y
Kim Anetsberger	Lamoille Coalition	Lamoille Community House	Y
Cherry Sullivan	North Windsor & Orange Coalition	Upper Valley Haven	Y
Casey Winterson	Orleans Coalition	NEKCA	Y
Jessica Makela	Rutland Coalition	Homeless Prevention Center	Y
Lee Trapeni	So Windsor & No Windham Coalition	Springfield Supported Housing	Y
Dan Handy	South Windham Coalition	Groundworks	Y
Zack Hughes	Washington Coalition	Peer Plus Inc	Y