

# Clean Energy Development Board

## Approved Minutes of 05/22/2024 Meeting

**In Attendance** (*Meeting held at electronically via video and in-person at PSD's Offices in Giga Conf. Room*)

<u>Board Members:</u>	<b>Attending</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Cara Robechek ( <b>CR</b> ) <i>Chair</i>	X	
David Farnsworth ( <b>DF</b> )	X	
Ken Jones ( <b>KJ</b> )		X
Sam Swanson ( <b>SS</b> )	X	
Johanna Miller ( <b>JM</b> )	X	
Paul Zabriskie ( <b>PZ</b> ) <i>Co-Chair</i>		X

**State Employees:**

- Andrew Perchlik (**AP**), Clean Energy Development Fund Director, Public Service Department (PSD)
- Christopher Heine (**CH**) Clean Energy Program Specialist, PSD;

**Other Attendees:** None

**CR** called the meeting to order at 1:04PM

- I. Review Agenda** – Agenda was reviewed as presented and agreed to.
- II. Draft Minutes of the Board's 03/18/24 Meeting** – Draft minutes were presented by the PSD. **JM** moved to approve the minutes as presented; **DF** seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.
- III. Program & Spending updates** – **AP** explained recent changes at PSD organizational structure related to the CEDF. He explained the establishment of a State Energy Office Division where CEDF was moved to from the Planning Division. There was a discussion of divisions within the PSD and the roles of each of the divisions as it relates to the CEDF and clean energy work at the PSD.
  - a. **AP** provided an update to the few operating CEDF programs: the ARPA programs, Small-Scale Renewable Energy Incentive Program, Windham County Program, and outreach to City of Montpelier to discuss updating terms of the CEDF-ARRA loan for their district heat system. **CR** asked if there was any news from VELCO regarding TDI's transmission project. **AP** said he had not heard any new news on that. Regarding the Montpelier district heating **JM** said that Montpelier hired an Executive Director for the Commission on Resilience and Recovery and that it may be helpful to speak with him about the City's district heating system. **AP** said he'd do that.

**IV. Draft Fiscal Year 2025 Budget** – **AP** gave an overview of the PSD’s proposed draft budget for the CEDF. **DF** asked about the Clean Energy Industry Report and if the CEDF always done this? **AP** said the CEDF has issued it annually since 2014. He said the cost used to be substantial when the CEDF paid for the survey work, but that is now done by the US Dept. of Energy for all states and that has brought the cost for the Vermont report is under \$10,000. **DF** asked PSD doesn’t collect the data or if the PSD would be the better entity to produce the report. **AP** said the PSD doesn’t collect the data but that they might be willing to take on the cost of the report. **AP** said he would find out about that.

**SS** asked about the what the 2026 budget will look like? **AP** said it would be very low on CEDF funds and that there wouldn’t be sufficient to funds to pay the Fund Manager and thus the PSD will need to decide if there are state or federal funds that could be used to pay the Fund Manager in FY 2026 or terminate the position and have PSD staff carry on with any CEDF related tasks. He also said that when the SSREI Program and the Windham County funds get spent down there would not be much left in the fund or active programs.

**AP** said he would like the CED Board to vote on this budget and Annual Plan at their next meeting in June.

**V. Next Meeting Discussion** – It was decided that the Board would meet on June 12<sup>th</sup>, which was previously scheduled as a tentative meeting. The meeting will start at 1:00 pm.

**Adjournment** – **CR** adjourned the meeting at 1:46 pm