Bennington County Regional Commission

Minutes

Thursday, January 15, 2026

6:00 PM

Old First Church Barn, Bennington, VT
and via Zoom

Commissioners Present: John LaVecchia, Walter Klinger, Dana Rozycki, Donald Campbell, Joan Nash, Sheila Kearns, Brian Lent

Public Present: Mark Rondeau – Bennington Banner

Guests: Jonah Spivak -Town of Bennington, Bennington 250th Committee

BCRC Staff: Bill Colvin, Callie Fishburn, Samantha Page, Nick Zaiac, Scott Grimm-Lyon, Jim Henderson

The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm.

1. **Approval of Minutes of November 20, 2025, meeting**
   Motion by Dana Rozycki, second by John LaVecchia. Approved.

2. **Public Hearing – *Bennington Town Plan***
   Donald Campbell made a motion to open the public hearing which was seconded by Rozycki. Colvin shared that the *Bennington Town Plan* was adopted by the town on November 10, 2025, and the town has requested confirmation of the planning process by the BCRC. He noted that the staff evaluation tool had been distributed to commissioners and made available to the public. Staff has deemed the plan contains all required elements and meets all statutory requirements. There were no public comments. Colvin called for votes from commissioners. Lavecchia moved and Campbell seconded that the hearing be closed.

3. **Public Hearing – *Bennington Enhanced Energy Plan***
   LaVecchia made a motion to open the public hearing which was seconded by Campbell. Colvin shared that the *Bennington Town Plan* contained and *Enhanced Energy Plan* and the town has requested certification of energy compliance of that plan by the BCRC. He noted that the staff evaluation tool had been distributed to commissioners and made available to the public. Staff has deemed the energy plan contains all required elements and meets all statutory requirements. There were no public comments. Colvin called for votes from commissioners. Rozycki moved and Campbell seconded that the hearing be closed.

4. **Bennington Region 250th Celebration Update**
   Jonah Spivak, Communications Coordinator, Town of Bennington; Chair, Bennington Region 250th Celebration Advisory Committee; State of Vermont 250th Anniversary Commissioner (https://www.bennington250.org/250-committee), provided an update on events that have occurred and which are planned for the State of Vermont and Battle of Bennington 250th celebrations from 2025 to 2027.

5. **2026 *Bennington Regional Plan Public* Engagement Update**
   BCRC Planner Callie Fishburn provide an overview and provided statistics for the extensive public engagement activities BCRC has conducted for the 2026 *Bennington Regional Plan*. She answered questions and shared a timeline for the drafting and proposed process leading to adoption of the plan later this year.

There being no other business from commissioners, Colvin announced the results of the voting on the *Bennington Town Plan* and *Enhanced Energy Plan*. The planning process for the *Bennington Town Plan* was confirmed with a total of 15 votes, including 11 votes from unique municipalities, thereby exceeding the requirement of a majority of municipalities in the region approving. Certification of energy compliance for Bennington's *Enhanced Energy Plan* was approved with a total of 15 votes, including 11 votes from unique municipalities, thereby exceeding the requirement of a majority of municipalities in the region approving.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:17pm.

Respectfully submitted,

William Colvin
Director