



**STATE OF VERMONT**  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
LEGISLATIVE JOINT FISCAL COMMITTEE

Tuesday, July 30, 2024

Approved Minutes

Hybrid Meeting: Room 10 and [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E\\_2-J30ztKA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E_2-J30ztKA)

*To review specific testimony, please click the video time links {00:00:00} below.*

Members present: Representatives Harrison, Kornheiser, Lanpher, Scheu, and Wood. And Senators Baruth, Cummings, Kitchel, Perchlik, and Westman.

Other attendees: Joint Fiscal Office and Administration staff, and various viewers in person and through live streaming.

**Call to order and Approval of Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by Senator Kitchel at 1:00pm.

Representative Harrison moved to accept the February 27, 2024 minutes as written. Senator Westman seconded the motion. The committee voted 10-0-0 and adopted the minutes.

*{00:00:11}*

**A. Administrations Fiscal Updates *{00:00:49}***

Commissioner Greshin and Deputy Commissioner Merrill presented the Administrations fiscal update to include the FY 2024 preliminary closeout of the Education, General and Transportation Funds as well as the unencumbered balance transfer report.

**B. July 2024 Economic Review and Revenue Forecast Update *{00:17:55}***

Tom Kavet presented the July 2024 Economic Review and Revenue Forecast Update.

**C. Medicaid Year-end Report *{00:52:59}***

Nolan Langweil, Principal Fiscal Analyst with the Joint Fiscal Office, presented the Medicaid year-end Report.

**D. ARPA Update *{00:56:59}***

Douglas Farnham, Chief Recovery Officer for the State of Vermont, gave an update on the status of ARPA funds.

### **E. Flood Update** [{01:09:22}](#)

Douglas Farnham, Chief Recovery Officer for the State of Vermont, gave an update on the status of municipal grants related to the 2023 flood as well as a general update on the 2023 and 2024 flooding.

### **F. Housing Update** [{01:34:39}](#)

1. Jayme Bauer, Community Development Specialist for the Department of Housing and Community Development gave a status update on the VHIP program. Scott Sharland, Grants Management Specialist for the Department of Housing and Community development gave an update on the MHIR program. Lily Sojourner, Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity for DCF presented the DCF Report.
2. David Riegel, Director of Housing Policy and Planning for AHS and Miranda Grey, deputy Commissioner of the Economic Services Division with DCF, gave an update on the progress of the Vermont Council on Housing and Homelessness.
3. Pollaidh Major, Director of Policy and Special Projects for VHCB and Jenny Hyslop, the Housing Director for VHCB gave an update on the status of their projects to make additional housing units available.

### **G. Grants**

#### **1. JFO #3208 Department of Public Safety** [{02:28:18}](#)

*Eric Forand, Director of Vermont Emergency Management, Department of Public Safety*

Representative Wood moved to accept a grant of \$2,310,137 to Department of Public Safety from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to strengthen security of the State and local governments' critical electronic infrastructure against cyberattacks and improve the resilience of these services to the communities they serve. Representative Scheu seconded. The committee voted 9-0-1 and the grant was accepted.

#### **2. JFO #3209 Department of Public Safety** [{02:33:39}](#)

*Eric Forand, Director of Vermont Emergency Management, Department of Public Safety*

Representative Scheu moved to accept a grant of \$1,582,876 to Department of Public Safety from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). for the emergency work and repair of facilities damaged during the December 18-19, 2023 storm event in Essex, Lamoille, Orange, Orleans, Rutland, Windham, and Windsor Counties. Senator Baruth seconded. The committee voted 9-0-1 and the grant was accepted.

#### **3. JFO #3210 Department of Public Service** [{02:36:31}](#)

*Kelly Launder, Assistant Director of Efficiency and Energy Resources, Public Service Department*

Representative Lanpher moved to approve one (1) limited-service position in the Department of Public Service. The funding for this position was approved in JFO #3177 under a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through the Department of Natural Resources for updating Vermont's Climate Action plan. Representative Scheu seconded. The committee voted 8-0-2, with Senator Perchlik abstaining from the vote, and approved the limited-service position.

- 4. JFO #3211 Agency of Commerce and Community Development {02:43:48}**  
*Dan Dickerson, Administrative Services Director, Agency of Commerce and Community Development*

Senator Baruth moved to accept a grant of \$30,000 to Agency of Commerce and Community Development's Department of Housing and Community Development from the U.S. Department of the Interior National Parks Service to document the history of canal boat wrecks in Lake Champlain. Representative Lanpher seconded. The committee voted 9-0-1 and the grant was accepted.

- 5. JFO #3212 Department of Public Service {02:48:47}**  
*June Tierney, Commissioner, Public Service Department*

Senator Cummings moved to accept a grant of \$62,450,000 to Department of Public Service from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and approve 3 (three) limited services positions. Funds from the Solar For All Zero-Emissions Technology Grant Program will provide community solar, multi-family residential solar, and solar for low-income and disadvantaged Vermonters. Representative Wood seconded. The committee voted 8-0-2, with Senator Perchlik abstaining from the vote, and accepted the grant and approved the limited-service position.

#### **H. Fiscal Officers Report {03:00:00}**

Catherine Benham, Chief Fiscal Officer, presented the fiscal officer's report.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Erin Pedley, Senior Staff Associate  
Joint Fiscal Office

Link to recording: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E\\_2-J30ztKA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E_2-J30ztKA)