Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2026 CHEAPR Board Meeting via ZOOM || View Recording (Passcode: L94xl+7+)

Present:	Board Members: Acting Commissioner Emma Cimino, Kevin Moss (Green Bank), Eric Sandstrom & Rebecca Andreucci (DOT) CSE Staff: Andrew Chesser and Sara Stockman CT DEEP Staff: Acting Deputy Commissioner Tracy Babbidge, Paul Farrell, Pete Babich, Walter Barozi, Wade Packer and Nicole Foertsch
Not in Attendance:	Bryan Cafferelli (DCP), Julia Dumaine/Jason Small (PURA), Paul Wessel, Jody Ellant & Bradley Hoffman
Next meeting:	December 10, 2026
Prepared by:	Nicole Foertsch, DEEP

The September 10, 2026. meeting of the CHEAPR Program Board was held and recorded online via Zoom. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss EV sales data and program health, proposed incentive changes to be implemented in the upcoming months and to used EV eligibility requirements.

Call to Order and Announcements

- ***Opening Remarks:*** The meeting began at 3:02 p.m. where Acting Deputy Commissioner of Environmental Quality, Tracy Babbidge, welcomed everyone, introduced the agenda and took roll. Acting Commissioner Emma Cimino also provided opening comments and discussed efforts to gain active Board members and maintain program effectiveness in advancing EV adoption amid federal pushback on EVs.
- ***Attendance:*** Board member attendance was taken where Acting DEEP Commissioner Emma Ciminio, Kevin Moss, Eric Sandstrom and Rebecca Andreucci were present. It was noted that Kate Rozen resigned from her position on the Board effective August 17, 2026.
    - Personnel changes within DEEP were also noted with Paul Kritzler transferring to a new position within the Attainment Planning group. Efforts to fill the supervisor position for the Mobile Sources group are ongoing.
- ***Minutes Approval:*** The minutes from the previous meeting on June 11, 2026, were brought forward. Tracy instructed board members to reply via email for their approval of the minutes or any suggested changes.
- ***Board Member Appointments:*** After the November elections, DEEP is preparing to contact the proper appointing authorities about open positions and non-active members on the Board. Board members were instructed that if they wish to remain in their current position, let DEEP know so that can be passed along as a recommendation.

Staff Reports

- ***Data Update:*** EV market share and sales data were discussed on a national, state and program level for quarter two of 2026 (Q2 '26). Nationally, market share and sales continued to rise with June '26 being the strongest sales month since the expiration of the federal EV tax credit. Staff also reported that data is showing that consumers are turning towards electrification more as gas prices remain high. Another important note is that the used EV market is strong throughout many

states, even after the expiration of the federal EV tax credits. Atlas Public Policy predicts that if utilized properly, the used EV market could act as a key factor to increasing EV adoption. Staff also showed through NESCAUM data in slides 11-13 that CT Q2 PEV market share is at 7.6%, ranking 16th overall, and is only slightly below the national average of 8%.

- Kevin Moss asked if the 1.1% increase in Q2 '26 PEV market share on slide 12 was comparing the difference between Q2 2025 to 2026. Wade Packer answered that it is the difference between Q1 '26 and Q2 '26.

The other presented NESCAUM graphs show that the state has decreased in PEV sales compared to year-over-year, but Connecticut (CT) does remain on par with our neighboring states and §177 states.

Looking strictly at CT Q2 data from Atlas Public Policy, EV market share rose to 7.5%, following the national trend. Specifics of the rise in market share and sales data can be seen in slide 13.

- After June 30th, 2026, DMV sent DEEP its semiannual vehicle registration data and as of July 1, 2026, there are 75,210 EVs registered in CT with 49K+ BEVs and 25K+ PHEVs. The specifics can be seen on slide 14. More data can be seen in the EV registration Factsheet.
- ***CHEAPR Stat Highlight:*** With the figure shown in figure 15, August 2026 rebate redemptions are on par with what has been recorded in August 2025.

- ***Budget Update:*** DEEP staff provided an update on the budget whereas of August 23, 2026, $3.7+M has been billed out so far which keeps pace for an approximate $6M budgeted for incentives this year which is below the previous years. DEEP staff explained where incoming funds come from throughout the rest of the year and the plausible amounts.
- ***Program Considerations for CHEAPR:*** DEEP staff is looking into how other states operate their used EV programs and are looking to make changes within CHEAPR for Rebate+ Used. DEEP staff presented earlier that the used EV market plays a significant role in general EV adoption and CHEAPR would like to help amplify that. After looking at other used EV programs across the country, DEEP discussed proposing changes to used EV eligibility that would utilize sales price rather than MSRP and have no year restrictions. DEEP mentioned these changes could be put in place before the end of CY26.

Update on Public Act 22-25

- ***Mobile Sources Master Contract Progress:*** As of the September meeting, the CT Department of Administrative Services (DAS) was finishing the contract negotiations with the last vendor who applied. Once that is finalized, DEEP staff is preparing to send out the Request for Proposals (RFPs) for CHEAPR to continue in 2027 and a third round of the eBike Incentive Program.
- ***Community Resource Hubs:*** CT DEEP is working to implement resources specific to CHEAPR within proposed Community Resource Hubs within EJ communities throughout the state. DEEP staff involved in this meeting is specifically looking for feedback on how we can make program information useful in this endeavor.

Board Roundtable

- Kevin Moss asked is the new contracting process part of the overall update for eligibility criteria and income levels.
  - Tracy responded saying no, that will be part of the Scope of Work (SOW). What DEEP staff has been explaining within these meetings is creating a broad scope to send out to

all possible vendors to show the mechanics of the program and the general operations of CHEAPR.
    - Kevin also added that in his collaborations with PURA, they are starting to look more seriously at V2G (vehicle to grid) opportunities with EVs. In the future, it might be beneficial for CHEAPR to collaborate with that program to expand EV adoption.
- Eric Sandstrom added in the chat that he thinks that a higher used car value (allowable selling price) will encourage more EV adopters and is a good idea. With the amount of off lease vehicles coming from the tax rebate era, might be good timing.

Public Comments

- Barry Kresch was glad to hear about the used EV proposal but is wondering how it would be enacted. Would it require legislation changes, or would the board be able to approve it?
    - Tracy replied, saying there shouldn't be any legislative changes needed and that DEEP was looking for Board advisement. Pete added that in talks with the current vendor, CSE, the upkeep of a current used eligibility list of the past 3-4 Model Years (MYs) is not easy. But the timing to show this to the Board, get feedback, and implement these changes is very plausible now without waiting for the new SOW.
- Barry also asked whether the used EV eligibility list has been updated to meet current models. Are they on the portal but not updated on the list yet on the website?
    - Walter responded that DEEP and CSE are working together to keep this list updated. Even if models are reported, some information is needed by manufacturers so there are many levels of coordination involved so it can be a bit difficult.
- Barry also asked if Fleets will be a part of the program in seen in the upcoming contract.
    - Tracy said that we are definitely including Fleets in the next SOW and DEEP will have to see how it can work with the available funding. But it is definitely something we want to move forward with.
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Adjournment

The meeting was closed by Tracy Babbidge at **3:52** p.m.

The next Board Meeting will be held on **December 10, 2026**.

Attachment A: Attendee Report

1.	Walter Barozi
2.	Paul Farrell
3.	Wade Packer
4.	Nicole Foertsch
5.	Tracy Babbidge
6.	Emma Cimino
7.	Pete Babich

8.	Eric Sandstrom
9.	Kevin Moss
10.	Rebecca Andreucci
11.	Andrew Chesser
12.	Sara Stockman
13.	Barry Kresch
14.	Paul Aresta
15.	Charles Rothenberger
16.	Maddie Myers