



## Connecticut River Joint Commissions

2011 Annual Meeting

Tuesday, June 21, 2011

### MINUTES

Present: Vermont Commission: Michaela Stickney, Gary W. Moore, Bev Major, Norm Wright, Chris Campany, Peter Gregory, New Hampshire Commission: Cleve Kapala, Bob Harcke, Donna Drouin, Bob Christie, Glenn English, Mary Sloat.

Guests: Rick Walling, Riverbend Subcommittee, Steve Couture, NHDES, Mark White, Upper Valley Subcommittee, Bernard Folta, Claremont, Interested citizen

Presiding Chair Glenn English called Meeting to order at 10:15

Minutes of April 26, 2010 meeting. Approved, Motion Gary Moore, Second Norm Wright

State Caucuses

#### **Report of Vermont Caucus:**

Elected officers:

Chris Campany, Chair

Gayle Ottman, Vice Chair

Tom Kennedy, Secretary Treasurer

#### **Report of New Hampshire Caucus:**

Elected Officers:

Glenn English, Chair

Cleve Kapala, Vice Chair

Mary Sloat, Secretary Treasurer

**Election of CRJC Officers on Motion Bob Christie, Second Bev Major All in favor of:**

President, Chris Campany

Vice President, Glenn English

Treasurer, Mary Sloat

Secretary, Tom Kennedy

Adoption of new By Laws on motion of Peter Gregory, Second of Norm Wright with following addition:

Under section 8.4 (a) add Vermont Agency of Natural Resources after (DES) Commissioner.

Vote unanimous

Check signing authorization: Remove Peter Gregory, Add Tom Kennedy and Chris Campany. Glenn English and Mary Sloat already approved.

A Request for proposals was sent to all Regional Planning Agencies in Valley who might be interested in providing services for CRJC. It was clear that following the financial and administrative difficulties of the past few years that we could not continue independently and add programming with one staff member but needed more help. Four RPC' offered proposals, with lump sum bids for administration and lump sum for programming. The Steering Committee felt that the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Commission Proposal was the strongest and in addition was in the most central location. In addition it came in at the lowest cost which may permit some matching funds for grants. Mary Sloat moved and Donna Drouin seconded acceptance of UVLS Commission Proposal. Vote Unanimous in favor.

Theresa Darling will need to help move files and information to UVLSC and Peter Gregory will help them with ongoing contracts. Peter reported that an attempt was made to have all contracts completed but it was not quite possible.

The Budget for July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012 was discussed. There may be a carryover of up to \$15,000 according to financial statements. In the future Christine Walker will work with us on Audit. There was some discussion of needs for Independent Single Audit in the future. Until our budget is greater, this will not be necessary. At such time as we have a large budget, we shall return to an Independent Audit.

Motion to accept Budget Bob Christie Second Donna Drouin Vote to accept Budget unanimous

Comments from Subcommittees

Northern Pass: Mark White asked the CRJC to write a letter supporting the letter from Connecticut River Watershed Council written by David Deen which asked that the Northern Pass be held to "Meet highest environmental standards in the Project." Motion of Bev Major, Second Donna Drouin. Two abstained,

Michaela Stickney and Gary Moore; Bob Harcke voted no; and others voted in favor of sending letter. Copy of letter from Connecticut River Watershed Council attached. Chris Campany will draft a letter.

Rick Walling said that Riverbend Subcommittee has not met to discuss the issue, but the project might go through Bath and the town is against this route and has appropriated money to fight it.

Mary Sloat reported that the Headwaters Subcommittee is against the Northern Pass coming through the area. Consensus that CRJC will not oppose it but the Subcommittees may do this. The Headwaters Subcommittee is also concerned with creosote dripping into the river from a railroad bridge. Steve Couture reported that the NHDES is on this.

Glenn English said that shortly after the agreement is finalized with UVLSC that there will be a meeting of the chairs of all Local Subcommittees as all sub committees will get support from the UVLSC. Permits will come through UVLSC. (Mark White suggested state environmental agencies also attend meeting)

Steve Couture reported that there will still be one full time staff member working on Rivers and Lakes with a part time staff assisting. This was due to the Senate putting some help back in which had been cut by the House. He thanked the Commissions for the letters of support.

Gary Moore said we need more active individuals and new blood on the Commissions. Bob Christie commented that this was the purpose of the New By Laws. Everyone will be involved in committee work. At present three individuals are pending approval of Governor and Council in NH according to Glenn English. The Executive Committee now includes all officers and two at large members. Bob Christie was elected to fill one at large position. We need someone from Vermont for the other At Large position.

Bernie Folta commented that with the resurrection of the CRJC it seemed that it has an Environmental orientation and the By Way Council a Tourism orientation. Cleve Kapala said that NHCRRRC has a mandate by state law to cover many issues from economics to agriculture.

Michaela Stickney said that the State of Vermont will be accepting proposals, by July 15 for Ecosystem Restoration under Clean and Clear Water Quality. If there are any ready to go projects they might be able to be submitted.

Chris Campany said the Corps of Engineers has identified structural deficiencies in several dams. There are questions concerning bacterial loading and other bacterial issues and what should be done.

Motion by Bev Major, Second by Cleve Kapala to adjourn at 11:45

Respectfully submitted,

Mary E. Sloat