



Connecticut River Joint Commissions
10 Water St., Lebanon, NH
Monday, August 21, 2017
Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present: NH–Jim McClammer, Jennifer Griffin, Barbara Robinson, Robert Harcke, Lionel Chute; VT– David Deen, Jason Rasmussen, Steven Lembke, Chris Campany, Tara Bamford, Kari Dolan, Michael Storace **Commissioners Absent:** Alison Low, Chris Yurek, NH. **Guests:** Sharon Francis, Scott Laban, Steven Schneider, Brian Fitzgerald, Ron Rhodes, John Mudge, Tom Kenyon, and John Bruno.

Presentation on Deadbeat Dams conducted by Brian Fitzgerald, Vermont Natural Resources Council and River Steward Ron Rhodes, Connecticut River Conservancy. (Attached)

Commissioners broke for 30 minutes to observe the solar eclipse and resumed the meeting at 2:50 p.m.

Business Meeting

Adoption of June 2017 Minutes

Comm. Lembke moved to adopt the minutes, and Comm. Campany seconded the motion.

Comm. Bamford questioned the wording regarding Comm. McClammer' s authorization to speak on behalf of CRJC at the upcoming meeting with NHDOT on the Route 12 project in Walpole. The wording of the original motion was clarified to indicate he was authorized to act as the CRJC liaison to that committee. Two minor typographical errors were corrected on page 2. Vote: Unanimous

Accept the June Financials.

Comm. Campany moved and Comm. Lembke seconded to accept the June financials as presented. Vote: Unanimous

Draft Annual Report for FY 16

Comm. Lembke moved and Comm. McClammer seconded the motion to accept the FY 16 Annual report with typographical edits. Vote: Unanimous

Letters to Governors Regarding Appointments

Copies of the letters had been distributed with the meeting packet. Both Governors had responded and efforts to proceed with appointments have begun.

VT Contract

Vermont requested that the language be modified to include measurable deliverables. Comm. Rasmussen and staff worked on revisions and these were accepted by project manager Kari Dolan. The new agreement is in process.

LAC Reports

Comm. Bamford provided a verbal report. Headwaters continues to work on the Northern Pass; Upper Valley meeting tonight; Mt. Ascutney will meet prior to September septic workshop scheduled for Claremont. Commissioners had an opportunity to see the display that had been purchased with funds from the NH Charitable Foundation; the Wantastiquet group will be meeting on August 30.

Comm. Bamford announced that she was leaving North Country Council at the end of August. Comm. Robinson advised that support for the LACs will be provided by one of two internal staff of NCC.

Membership

Comm. Lembke has identified four potential new members, he reported on discussions he had with two of them: Scott Laban and Beth Kennet. Ms. Kennet is the president of the Connecticut River Watershed Farmers Association. The next meeting will focus on Agriculture and she helped to recruit two Ag secretaries to speak at the CRJC October meeting. John Mudge of Lyme introduced and spoke about his background and Janet Rebmond would be the individual representing tourism.

Walpole Route 12 DOT Project

Route 12 design phase is over and now they are in the permitting phase. NHDES Wetlands will hold a public hearing on the NH wetland application at 2:00 in Concord on Monday, 28 August. John Bruno expressed his concerns about the proposed road infiltration system not having the ability to separate debris before it goes into the river. The design would allow water to remain under the roadway and there is no pretreatment system in the design to filter the storm water, but there is concern that at 4 feet beneath the road, it is within the frost level. The items of concern among the Commissioners were reviewed and discussed.

Comm. Lembke made a motion to have Comm. McClammer represent the CRJC at the 08/28 public hearing in Concord NH on the reconstruction of Route 12 between Charlestown and North Walpole. The CRJC encourages all parties involved in the repairs to consider and study all options and methods to ensure that the areas of lane width, drainage, filtration, hydraulics, flood hazard mitigation and aesthetics (guardrails and plantings) are constructed to meet basic industry standards for safety and design aesthetics in keeping with this stretch of the scenic byway. Comm. Robinson seconded the motion.

Vote: Unanimous.

Adjourn

Comm. McClammer moved to adjourn seconded by Comm. Griffin at 4:30 p.m.

Adopted: October 16, 2017