Commissioners Present:
Vermont: Jason Rasmussen, Samantha Holcomb, Tara Bamford, Brendan Whittaker, Jameson Doig, Kurt Staudter, Michaela Stickney.
New Hampshire: Rebecca Brown, Robert Ball, Rick Walling, Mary Sloat, Dick Sanders, Brendan Prusik, Elaine Levlocke, Cleve Kapala and Donna Drouin. Jim McClammer
Guests: State of Vermont Staff members Misha Cetner, Mike Kline, Kevin Burke, Marie Caduto, Rick Hopkins, and TransCanada staff member Jennifer Griffin,
Staff: Pat Crocker, UVLSRPC; Nathan Miller, UVLSRPC

Presentations
Commissioner Tara Bamford called the meeting to order and 1PM. Introductions followed
Guest Speakers Misha Cetner & Kevin Burke presented outline of the Vermont Shoreland Protection Act and explained its redevelopment impact by examples. The department also has a Lakewise Program to support lakefront landowners. A best practices handbook and permitting forms are on line at the VT Department of Environmental Conservation website (ANR). The new law applies only to lakes or river impoundments—specifically Moore and Comeford dams along the Connecticut River. Permits are required for clearing riparian buffers, but all invasives can be removed without a permit. Currently no municipalities have been delegated oversight on the Moore and Comeford Dams.

Commissioner’s requested that DEC notifications of actions on Moore and Comeford to be sent to the Joint Commissions. Although this is not currently required by law as it is in New Hampshire, it was suggested that some thought be given to whether this requirement could be added. Commissioner Whittaker requested that the Commission put on record its gratitude for the work that David Deen and his legislative committee’s work on the ACT.

Mike Kline noted that David Deen is also largely credited for the work to update River Corridor and Floodplain Protection data mapping in VT. Vermont River Corridor Mapping has been on–
going for more than a decade. Many of the CRJC local subcommittees have been helpful. They have mapped 10,000 miles of river. FEMA maps are 30 years old and VT without shoreline having collected details on over 2,000 miles that have been added to base maps. The plan will call for one set of maps to be available online eventually. Compensatory programs to keep development out of river corridors.

Commissioners thanked the Vermont Staff for their efforts and for coming to the meeting.

Business Meeting began at 2:45 PM.
Commissioner Levlocke moved to accept the consent agenda including the November 2014 financial report. Donna Drouin seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

RFP Response and Next Steps
Commissioner Bamford reviewed the executive committee minutes and the reasons for the subsequent executive committee rejection of the response to the RFP. Rick Walling read a letter he wrote to Nate Miller and the commitment to monitor the budget monthly.

Commissioner Bamford recognized that the staff time that the joint Commissions had expected was exceeding the budget. Last year the UVLSRPC’s uncompensated work for CRJC had exceeded $7,000.00. The new workplan is more clearly structured by tasks. Comm. Bamford then explained the proposed budget and the impact on the CRJC financials. Following discussion and hearing no requests for additional information, Comm. Walling moved to amend the budget to add the next six months of expenses as proposed. Comm. Sloat seconded the motion. The minutes of the Executive Committee November meeting were discussed. Commissioner Drouin requested that the responses to the Executive Committee follow up questions be circulated. The motion carried with one abstention by Comm. Drouin.

The Executive Committee would like to have a full Commission retreat in February as the next meeting in the hope that the retreat would inform the process of issuing a new RFP. Comm. Bamford suggested that a facilitator be employed. She had contacted several qualified facilitators for a range of costs for discussion purposes. Based on those conversations Comm. Bamford suggested adding $2000.00 to the budget for this purpose. Comm. Brown moved to allocate $2,000 to the budget for a facilitated retreat; Comm. Dick Sanders seconded a motion to allocate the funds.
Staff will issue a Doodle poll for executive committee to meet right after the Holiday and a later Doodle poll for a retreat of the Joint Commissions in February to help guide future activity.

Commissioner Bamford discussed getting back to a regular meeting schedule of the third Monday of each month. The February Retreat date will be determined by availability of a facilitator and a Doodle poll. The April and June meetings will follow the schedule (third Monday) thereafter.

A final item of business was action to fill the vacancy in the CRJC Secretary position with the departure of Tom Kennedy. Samantha Holcomb was nominated by Rebecca Brown and seconded by Mary Sloat to fill the remaining term of Secretary. Vote: Unanimous

Comm. Doig moved and Comm. Rasmussen seconded a motion to adjourn at 3:10 PM.