

As accepted by vote of the Committee on April 18, 2011

MINUTES FEBRUARY 22 MEETING OF THE UPPER VALLEY SUBCOMITTEE OF THE CONNECTICUT RIVER JOINT COUNCIL.

Present: Lynn Bohi, Linda Wilson, Hartford; Mary Daly, Fairlee; Jim Kennedy, Hanover; David Kotz, Lyme; Linda Matteson, Cy Severence, Thetford; Joan Monroe, Lebanon; Carl Schmidt, Marc White, Orford; Special Guest: Susan Greenall with the Ottauquechee Natural Resources Conservation District

1) Housekeeping

A) The Minutes of the December 8 2010 meeting of the UVSC were accepted as presented.

2) Recent Events

A) A discussion was held on the outlook for CRJC. It was agreed that all Government funding was up for question at this time, but the proposed transfer of the responsibility for CRJC in New Hampshire from the Office of Energy and Planning to the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services was a positive development.

B) The Chair reported that two Permit Applications received from VT Department of Environmental Conservation came in too late for us to take any meaningful action. Currently we have a formal responsibility to comment to DES on all permits received in NH but not in VT. The Chair was asked to determine whom the CRJC used as their source contact at the VT DEC and explore the desirability of our making reports on all permits.

C) Since the last meeting, the subcommittee filed a formal letter of concern to the NH DES based on work by Carl on an application by NH Fish and Game to expand the Orford Boat Landing. As a result more information was requested by DES and that permit was not granted as filed. Chair was asked to establish a method and obtain a copy if possible when permits in question are actually granted.

3) New Permits

A) Dartmouth College Student Swimming Dock;

Some Documentation was presented on a permit requested by Dartmouth College to create a new Swimming Dock approximately 200 feet south of the current area. It was decided that Jim Kennedy would look into the situation and guide the chair in writing our letter of commentary to the DES on this permit.

B) Wilder Log Landing

Some documentation was on hand relative to a request on the part of Wilder Ridge Estates of West Lebanon for permission to build a log landing on East Wilder Road in West Lebanon. Chair will prepare a letter expressing our concern that this 'Log Landing' might be used for other purposes after the logging was over. It was pointed out that the lumbering on the site would be controlled by RSA 485 Best

Management Practices for erosion Control on Timber Harvesting Operations in NHÓ.

4) Other Issues

A) CRJC does an excellent job of forwarding to the chair documents from various sources in Concord on a variety of environmental subjects. It was agreed that the best approach was for the chair to forward these on to all members.

B) Carl brought to the Committee's attention that the NH House is considering a Bill that proposed to abolish the Shoreland Protection act.

c) Lynn Bohi reported that the Wilder Dam will need to have its license renewed in 2013 and the Connecticut River Watershed Commission will be involved. Chair was asked to determine who at that commission is in contact with the CRJC in order that we may begin a dialogue about Wilder.

D) Joan Monroe reported that XYZ Dairy Organization is in the process of a major expansion along the Banks of the river in West Lebanon and requested that we keep this project under close scrutiny so that we will not have to act on a permit under 'emergency conditions'.

E) Carl Schmidt reported on a planned high tension power line project which is now under discussion in the Northern Towns and in the middle of the State. While it is not under our specific area of interest he felt members should be aware of the project.

5) Guest Presentation

Sue Greenall of the Ottauquechee Natural Resources Conservation District (affiliated with the USDA) is an available resource to residents in the Vermont half of the district to assist in a variety of Environmental related services such as Pasture Management, Invasive Plant removal, and pond building. She said that they would be very happy to work with us VT in any projects that they might be of some assistance. Sue has also supplied us with a contact person in New Hampshire who could offer the same services.

6) Next Meeting Date

It was decided that the next meeting would be held on Monday April 18.