



Connecticut River Joint Commissions
Monday, July 15, 2019
CRJC Offices, 10 Water St. Lebanon, NH
Executive Committee Meeting / 2:00–4:00 P.M.

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Tara Bamford, Chris Company, Steven Lembke, Jason Rasmussen, Jim McClammer, Jennifer Griffin, Alex Belenz, Lionel Chute.

Staff: Ann MacEwan, Pat Crocker.

2:00 P.M. Convene

President McClammer convened the meeting at 2:05 p.m. The agenda was reordered to begin with the June 2019 Financials with Anne MacEwan. The June statement was reviewed. Steve Lembke moved and Jason Rasmussen seconded motion to accept the financial statements as presented. Following discussion, the motion was amended to accept financials with the addition of a notation clarifying that the spreadsheet figures are pending full commission approval of overrun. Commissioner Lembke amended his motion and Commissioner Chute seconded. Vote Unanimous.

Discussion of the budget overage was added to the agenda. Following discussion, Commissioner Bamford moved to recommend to the full commission that the budget be retroactively amended to add \$10,216 dollars to reimburse UVLSRPC for the additional services provided. Commissioner Belenz seconded the motion. **Vote: Unanimous**

Minutes of May EC Minutes – Approve May 20, 2019 meeting. Comm. Lembke moved to adopt the minutes, seconded by Comm. Chute. Under FERC relicensing, note the following correction: “report does not set operating procedures but provides additional flow scenarios and resulting quantity of habitat for target species.” Comm. Lembke amended his motion to include this correction. Comm. Lionel seconded the motion as amended. Vote: Unanimous

Status of Contracts – Staff prepare an amended draft budget for review following notice that the Vermont funding had been reduced by \$15,000 for fiscal year 2020. Comm. Lembke moved to accept the general budget saving \$10,000 as proposed with a staff clean up of the budget document. Comm. Company seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Comm. Lembke noted that he had discussions with the ANR staff who advised that the

reduction was due to budget constraints and the increased focus on the clean water initiative under way in Vermont, not any shortcoming by CRJC.

Work plan – follow up at meetings on new water quality provisions with the local river subcommittees were suggested. Commissioners requested staff redraft a work plan for the VT agreement that can be accomplished within the reduced funding provided.

Follow-up June 2019 Joint Commissions Meeting – The speakers were excellent and a letter will be written by the President to thank them for attending. The meeting lacked a quorum.

Update on Grant Applications – NHCN Grant was awarded to facilitate a strategic planning session for CRJC. Comm. Bamford consulted with the NH Center for Non Profits and Marlboro College's graduate management program to obtain facilitation assistance. She reported that the NH Center for Non Profits offer members a – sounding board – a 3 hour consultation for members. Marlboro College has a center for new leadership. Jennifer D'Agostino is head of it at this time. Full Day workshop and zoom calls would be included. Vermont Community Foundation was also recommended to Comm. Bamford as a funding resource and she will try to obtain an additional \$2500 with a grant for this assistance.

Connecticut River Economy Forum – Brief Update – Still pending notice on the award of USDA Grant Application. If the grant application is unsuccessful, the \$2,000 grant from the Claremont Service Bank will fund a scaled down Forum format.

Future Discussion – Executive Committee Suggestions were reviewed. Discussion followed. Meeting frequency and formats were discussed. A suggestion was offered to focus on one really good meeting a year with media and increased public participation. The roles of the individual state commissions in looking at enabling legislation were discussed. This may be a subject during the strategic focus meeting. Comm. Belenz suggested better focus on meetings and a strategy to coordinate with and engage more with local river subcommittees. What are concerns of the subcommittees? What is the gap between the LRS and Commissioners should be identified and explored.

FERC Relicensing – Status Report – Nothing new to report at this time.

September Joint Commissions Meeting Agenda – Budget Changes, Funding Cuts, New Budget,

New Meeting Schedules.

New/Other Business – September 4 meeting date was confirmed.

Adjourn: Jason Rasmussen moved to adjourn seconded by Chris Campany at 4:35 p.m.

Adopted: November 20, 2019