

**Wantastiquet Subcommittee
of the Connecticut River Joint Commissions**
Tuesday, September 22, 2020
Video Conference Call
Meeting Minutes

Attendees

Walpole	Samantha Loch		Westminster	Paul Harlow	
Walpole			Westminster	Jim Calchera	
Westmoreland	Perry Sawyer	✓	Putney		
Westmoreland			Putney		
Chesterfield	Roland Volbehr		Dummerston	Daniel Marx	
Chesterfield			Dummerston	Jack Lilly	
Hinsdale	Mike Darcy		Brattleboro	Kathy Urffer	✓
Hinsdale			Brattleboro	Michael Fairchild	✓
Vernon	Andy White	✓			
Vernon					

Olivia Uyizeye (Staff); David Rosengarten (Fuss & O'Neill)

Minutes (No Quorum)

1. Welcome, Review Meeting Guidelines & Introductions

Chair Perry Sawyer calls the meeting without a quorum. Sawyer asks members and guests to introduce themselves.

2. Houghton Brook Restoration Project – Walpole NH, ARM application (David Rosengarten)

A restoration project along Houghton Brook (a large 2nd order trib to CT river in Walpole, NH). Rosengarten introduces the project about a stream crossing that needs repair. The structure is perched 4 ft with a large scour hole. The project seeks to make the structure a compatible stream crossing for aquatic organisms. ARM evaluates the project based on multiple factors for scoring to allow for comparison across proposals. Rosengarten is looking for a letter of support because it is in line with the CRJC Wantastiquet management plan.

Sawyer notes that it is some distance from the Connecticut River but it is a main tributary. Sawyer also indicates that 3 miles up from the proposed location is a lot of conserved land. Rosengarten expresses that there is support from Trout Unlimited and NH Fish and Game. It is a confirmed coldwater fisheries habitat. Trout Unlimited has expressed interest in doing in stream wood addition for restoration upstream of the location. Rosengarten explains that NH is looking for site specifically detailed as a priority in management plans. This attention in a plan can help to improve chances of funding. White relates this to the basin plans done in VT where

project are also prioritized as part of that process. Rosengarten invites members would be welcome to join the site visit with the review committee on Oct 8, 9:30AM to 11:00AM.

Urffer asks if there is a deadline for a letter of support, noting that the LRS does not presently have a quorum so cannot vote on the matter. Rosengarten indicates that something by mid-Oct could be helpful, although a letter is not completely necessary, even noting in the minutes that can be shared would be helpful. Urffer indicates that CRC has sent a comment letter from herself and Ron Rhodes.

3. Permit Reviews

a. Industrial Discharge Permit NorthStar Nuclear Decommissioning Company, LLC

Some members plan to join the Public Meeting that follows.

b. VT - New Stormwater Discharges General Permit, Intersection of VT Route 142 and VT Route 119

Members decide not to discuss.

4. Meeting Minutes from July

Postponed to next meeting

5. Rotating Chair – Nomination for Next Meeting

Sawyer offers to act as chair for the next meeting.

6. Other Updates & Business

a. Water Quality Testing – VRAP

Urffer gives an update on the water quality testing that was done five times this season. This data will be sent to NHDES and to the basin planner with VTANR, Marie Caduto. It can be used in both states. Urffer will keep the meters for a few more weeks because of a site being tested in Putney VT. They will be returned this Fall. This winter the LRS will need to decide if the LRS will participate again. Overall participation was not high from members. Urffer went out each time with a friend Denise who lives in Brattleboro. Joe Grutta, Perry Sawyer and Olivia Uyizeye all joined once. Urffer suggests that in the future it be split up into two teams with a Bellows falls area team and a Brattleboro area team. Doing them all takes a single team the whole day. White expresses interest in participating another season.

7. Adjourn

The meeting ends with agreement to poll members for the next meeting in early November.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Olivia Uyizeye