

**Wantastiquet Subcommittee  
of the Connecticut River Joint Commissions**  
Tuesday, January 19, 2021  
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		
Hinsdale	Mike Darcy	✓	Brattleboro	Kathy Urffer	✓
Hinsdale			Brattleboro	Michael Fairchild	
Vernon	Andy White	✓			
Vernon					

Suzanne Baxtresser (Resident, Brattleboro VT); Nicolas Miller (Field Geology Services); Margo Ghia (WRC); Olivia Uyizeye (Staff)

**Minutes**

1. Welcome & Introductions

Chair Sawyer called the meeting, conducted via conference call, to order at 6:05 PM under the emergency provisions of RSA 91-A, New Hampshire's Right-to-Know law, as allowed by Emergency Order 11 under Executive Order 2020-04 in light of the COVID-19 outbreak. Sawyer conducted a roll call of LAC members, invited any guests to introduce themselves, and welcomed all present.

2. Meeting minutes from November

Darcy makes a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Urffer seconds the motion. The vote passes unanimous by roll call vote.

3. Permit Reviews

- a. With Nicolas Miller, Wetlands permits 2021-00033 and 2021-00012 bank stabilization in Walpole NH

Miller describes the two projects on the Cold River just above the confluence with the Cold River. The methods to be used are a log jam into the bank, anchored into both the stream bank and stream bed. They also act as great habitat for aquatic species and the maintenance of a riparian area. Miller describes that NRCS plans to establish riparian vegetation. Both current properties on the north and south are in use for agriculture and these proposed projects will help to avoid the loss of land due to stream bank erosion.

White describes a similar project applied along the Ashuelot River that he found was a very effective and ecological approach. Miller indicates that the projects in Walpole are a bit smaller but a very similar method.

White asks about the life expectancy of this technique. Miller indicates the structure lasts for at minimum 30 years due the slow rot from being submerged and the use of hemlock. They are also securely cabled to ensure they do not become dislodged and a hazard.

Urffer asks about the riparian buffer, is it a requirement and if so how large. Miller indicates that it is required by NRCS and he believes, but not completely sure, that it will be 35 feet.

Sawyer shares comments from Samantha Loch submitted prior to the meeting, as she was unable to attend.

The meeting is unexpectedly interrupted by 4 unknown individuals who speak constantly and are generally disruptive of the meeting making it impossible to continue.

#### 4. Adjourn

Urffer makes a motion to adjourn. Sawyer seconds the motion. The vote passes unanimous by roll call vote. The remaining agenda has been postponed to the next meeting. Uyizeye will be implementing new protocols to secure meetings ahead of time and during the meeting itself.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Olivia Uyizeye*