

**Upper Valley Subcommittee**  
of the Connecticut River Joint Commissions  
Monday, November 22, 2021 - 6:00 PM

Join In Person –

Lyme Center Academy Building, 183 Dorchester Rd, Lyme, NH

NH Members:	Present	Absent
Alice Creagh, Hanover, NH		X
Vacancy, Hanover, NH		
Eric Agterberg, Lebanon, NH	virtual	
Ruth Bleyler, Lebanon, NH		X
Bruce Garland, Lebanon, NH (alt)		X
Bill Malcolm, Lyme, NH	✓	
Vacancy, Lyme, NH		
Ted Cooley, Orford, NH	virtual	
Carl Schmidt, Orford, NH	✓	
Karyn Brown, Piermont, NH		X
Helga Mueller, Piermont, NH		X

VT Members:	Present	Absent
Vacancies, Bradford, VT		
Ben Dana, Fairlee, VT	✓	
Vacancy, Fairlee, VT		
Danielle Allen, Fairlee, VT (alt)		X
David Barrell, Hartford, VT		X
Lynn Bohi, Hartford, VT	virtual	
Vacancy, Thetford, VT		
Bill Bridge, Thetford, VT	✓	
Linda Matteson, Thetford, VT (alt)	✓	
Chet Clem, Norwich, VT		X
Vacancy, Norwich, VT		

Olivia Uyizeye, Staff from UVLSRPC (In Person)

*NO QUORUM PRESENT. In person attendance from at least half of communities with representatives is required to meet a quorum.*

**Minutes**

**1. Welcome & Introductions**

Chair Bill Malcolm started the meeting 6:10 PM without a quorum. Chair Malcolm conducted a roll call of LAC members, invited any guests to introduce themselves, and welcomed all present.

**2. September Meeting Minutes Review**

Malcolm postponed this agenda item due to lack of a quorum.

**3. Permit Review**

**a. Lebanon Sand and Gravel – Mr. Quigley**

Malcolm shares map and photos of area from permit. The intention of which is to expand mining efforts. The area includes vernal pools and wetland impacts requiring contribution to the ARM fund. Agterberg, Cooley and Bohi agree that it would be good to speak to the project engineer. Malcolm will work on arranging this.

**4. Other Permit Communications**

**a. Route 5 drainage ditch into River on Vermont side of the Orford and Fairlee bridge over the Connecticut River**

Matteson reports difficulty accessing information about the project through VT AOT. It is unclear who is paying for the work.

Dana reports reaching out to project management through the Town of Fairlee. He is expecting a reply from Kyle Wells.

Matteson explains that the project is allowed more lenience due to the impact on the railroad.

Schmidt notes this is a project to replace a culvert washed out in 2017 serving storm drainage.

Malcolm notes the purpose of the culvert is not intended to change from the previous version, thus his main concern relates to the construction phase.

Agterberg wonders if the project design prevents unwanted substances from flowing into the river.

Members agree that it is unfortunate this permit did not come before the LRS earlier in the process and would like to work with VT to develop a notification system such as that used in NH. Uyizeye will include the situation and member discussion in the report to commissioners for consideration.

## 5. Updates & Other Business

### a. Members, location & hybrid setup

Malcolm reiterates items needed for meeting locations: Wi-Fi, room to spread out, and open doors. Bohi suggests focusing on towns located within the middle of the region. Malcolm notes the Lyme Academy Building will continue to be available. Other locations suggested are the Orford town office (Cooley) and Thetford Latham Library (Matteson). Malcolm agrees to help setup the hybrid meeting when staff are not in attendance.

Schmidt will contact Piermont representatives about formal resignation.

Malcolm suggests adding the nomination and vote for a new vice chair to the January meeting agenda.

### b. Lost riparian vegetation, Lebanon, NH



(Photos provided by Eric Agterberg)

Agterberg reports a large section of stream bank cleared in Lebanon. The property is owned by the City. The City does not know who cut the bank vegetation. The Lebanon Conservation Commission had asked that the matter be brought to this group's attention.

Members discuss potential intentions of the cut. Agterberg and Bohi confirm that this area is not use to launch kayaks as there is a nearby launch. It is also unlikely to be for the purpose of invasive species management due to the removal of native maple trees and the continued presence of the invasive buckthorn.

Members ask about potential investigations and penalties.

Malcolm agrees to look up the related statute and contact NHDES staff to notify them of the issue and inquire about the actions taken for this type of violation.

**c. Water Quality & Outreach Updates**

Uyizeye shares that Sarah Riley has completed water sampling for the season. We have received reports from the laboratory. Members send a big thank you to her efforts.

The preliminary results of all sampling done during the 2021 season is being compiled and will be shared as part of the next Riverwide speaker series event. The event is anticipated to occurring in the upcoming months.

**6. Adjourn**

Chair Malcolm ends the meeting.

*Respectfully Submitted by Olivia.*