

**Upper Valley Subcommittee
Minutes**

Monday, May 15, 2023 – 6:00 PM Meeting

Hybrid Meeting - Latham Library, Downstairs, 16 Library Rd, Thetford, VT

Attendance

NH Members:	Attendance
Alice Creagh, Hanover	X
Vacancy, Hanover	
Eric Agterberg, Lebanon	X
Ruth Bleyley, Lebanon	X
Bruce Garland, Lebanon (alt)	P
Bill Malcolm, Lyme	P
Vacancy, Lyme	
Ted Cooley, Orford	V
Carl Schmidt, Orford	X
Vacancy, Piermont	
Vacancy, Piermont	

VT Members:	Attendance
Ted Unkles, Bradford	P
Vacancy, Bradford	
Ben Dana, Fairlee	P
Vacancy, Fairlee	
David Barrell, Hartford	V
Lynn Bohi, Hartford	X
Bill Bridge, Thetford	P
Linda Matteson, Thetford	P
Vacancy, Norwich	
Vacancy, Norwich	

Note: P = present in person; V = present over remote virtual platform; X = not present

Partners Present: Andrea Cass (Staff, CRJC)

Minutes

1. Welcome and Introductions

- a. Chair Bill Malcolm starts the meeting at 6:05 PM. Chair Malcolm conducts a roll call of LAC members, invited guests to introduce themselves, and welcomed all present.
- b. Ted Unkles is a new representative of Bradford. He has been a part of the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation and served on the selectboard. He also is a volunteer for a few of the campsites along the Connecticut River.
- c. Cass noted the full commission will officially approve Ted Unkles at their executive meeting on May 22, 2023.

2. Meeting Minutes from March 20th, 2023

- a. Malcolm opens the March minutes for review. Cass noted Bohi emailed her to amend "CSO" to "Combined sewer overflow to separate rainwater that does not need treatment." Malcolm noted to clarify "The road follows the ravine" (A, item 3)
- b. The March minutes with corrections are passed unanimously by Garland/Bridge.

3. Permit Review

- a. NHDES Clean Water State Revolving Loan (CWSRF) Hanover, NH Water Reclamation
 - i. Garand was curious if the state would be doing these nitrogen load upgrades across New Hampshire.
 - ii. There was discussion about what the bulk storage tank is used for and what materials would be in the carbon supplemental area. There was discussion that hopefully these upgrades will lead to less effluent going into the river.

- iii. Matteson and Unkles noted how FEMA maps are a place to start but likely haven't been updated recently. Matteson also noted how these do not incorporate the geomorphic changes of the river.
- iv. Cass mentioned how the FEMA flood maps show the facility is partially located in the 0.1% flood zone.
- v. Malcolm mentioned how any changes to Wilder Dam would also impact the site area. However, the applicant will likely not consider this.

4. Updates & Other Business

- a. Legislators draft concern about removal of board of natural scientists
 - i. Malcolm mentioned how the Governor removed a bunch of environmental matters as part of his budget, including the removal of the board of natural scientists.
 - ii. Unkles mentioned how the lack of licenses in Vermont at one point led to more leaks in gas tanks.
 - iii. Barrell mentioned an example where there was a lack of operations, oversight, and coordinated action during Hurricane Irene.
 - iv. Malcolm said after reading the Valley News, the board of natural scientists should be included in the Governor's Budget now.
 - v. Barrell said as a group, they should put forward a similar letter as the Souhegan River Local Advisory Committee to the NH state legislators.
 - vi. Barrell motioned; Bruce seconded to send letter in support to NH state legislators. All in favor.
- b. 401 Water Quality Certificate
 - i. Cass mentioned how CRC is watching the recertification process of the dams along the river and you can stay informed on their website.
- c. There was discussion about connecting with conservation commissions first to increase membership.

5. Adjourn

- a. By motion of Cooley/Matteson, the meeting adjourned. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 pm.

The next meeting is Monday, July 17, 2023; 6PM.

Respectfully Submitted by Cass.