

**Upper Valley Subcommittee
Minutes**

Monday, July 17, 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	P
Ruth Bleyler, Lebanon	X
Bruce Garland, Lebanon (alt)	V
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
Peter Berger, Fairlee	X
David Barrell, Hartford	V
Lynn Bohi, Hartford	P
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), Majestic Terhune (Staff, CRJC)

Minutes

1. Welcome and Introductions

Malcolm started the meeting at 6:06 pm. Members introduced themselves. Peter Berger is a new representative for Fairlee, VT.

2. Meeting Minutes from May 15th, 2023

a. Malcolm opens the May minutes for review. Cooley motioned to approve the May minutes with minor edits; Agterberg seconded. All in favor. Unkles noted to change Department of Environmental Services to Environmental Conservation.

3. Permit Review

a. NHDES Clean Water State Revolving Loan (CWSRF) Hanover, NH Water Reclamation

a) It was noted this project was reviewed last time. Matteson moved to not submit comments; Cooley seconded.

a. NHDES # 0111962 - Proposed Irving Oil redevelopment

- a) Garland spoke about how the site became unusable because the road expanded (which took away space in the right of way). Recently, Irving was able to negotiate a 99-year lease with a business nearby to put in a new service station facility with pumps and have a store. The store will include 4 EV charging stations. It's slightly above the flood zone but the site has doors that can close during flooding events.
- b) Unkles said the plan checked all the boxes, meaning the project had done its due diligence. The proposed project has an oil/water separator in the wastewater treatment system.
- c) Unkles moved to not submit comments; Agterberg seconded.

- b. **File Number:** [2023-01373](#) **Date Received:** 05/24/2023 **Owner Name:** ORIAN WELLING **Site Address:** 1 SOUTH ESKER ST HANOVER, GRAFTON **Project Description:** Construct a seasonal floating dock, removable stairway and anchoring pad on the River Shore
 - a) No comments
 - c. **File Number:** [2023-01473](#) **Date Received:** 6/5/2023 **Owner Name:** VICTORIA/XAVIER GONIN **Site Address:** 4 DOWNING RD, Hanover (for informational purposes only)
 - a) No comments
 - b) There was general discussion around what permit-by-notification means.
 - d. **Stream Alteration General Permit- Authorization. Project Description: Pedestrian bridge over Blood Brook adjacent to the Huntley Meadows Park. Permit ID: 3265**
 - a. There was general discussion around the recent flooding events.
 - b. Barrell was talking about Quechee and how they moved the bridge up after Hurricane Irene. However, the sides of the bridge remained to be areas of concern. Flash flooding would likely take the pedestrian bridge out.
 - c. Barrell motioned to comment; Bohi seconded. The comments include that it might not be in our area of jurisdiction, but we are offering these comments: given recent flooding events, debris and bridge moving downstream during flooding could be of safety concern.
4. **Updates & Other Business**
- a. **LRS priority special projects.**
 - i. Agterberg wanted more training on how to assess permits...questions to ask, what to look for. Malcolm said presentations from NHDES and Vermont Conservation group on the laws we are considering would be helpful as well.
 - b. **CRJC social event**
 - i. Saturday, October 7, 11AM to 3PM; Main Area, Storrs Pond Recreation Area, Hanover, NH
- Welcome to all local river members/commissioners past and present, and river and municipal partners. We look forward to gathering together at a single social event this 2023. It will be an opportunity for celebration and cross-pollination. There will be food, music, a beach (if not too cold), and likely some games and Connecticut River talks (in the works). Registration is highly encouraged to help our planning. Plus one and kids welcome.
- c. **General Flooding Notes**
 - d. Dave mentioned a lot of debris ended up in North Hartland Lake and asked about how that gets cleaned up. In past flooding events with Irene, four-wheelers were used to haul hazardous materials out of there.
 - e. There was general discussion around the relicensing process and how CRJC is involved.
5. **Adjourn**
- a. By motion of Agterberg, the meeting adjourned; Bohi seconded. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.

The next meeting is September 18th at 6pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Cass.