

## CRJC Headwaters Subcommittee

### Minutes

Thursday, August 24, 2023 - 7:00PM

In Person Meeting – Town Hall, Colebrook, NH

### Attendees

Pittsburg			Northumberland	Edwin Mellett	P
Pittsburg			Northumberland	Dale Covey	P
Colebrook	Kevin McKinnon	P	Bloomfield		
Colebrook			Bloomfield		
Stratford			Lemington		
Stratford	Jennifer Caron	X	Lemington		
Clarksville			Maidstone		
Clarksville			Maidstone		
Stewartstown			Canaan	Tom Caron	P
Stewartstown			Canaan		
Columbia			Brunswick		
Columbia			Brunswick		

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

In Person: Brian Sullivan (Superintendent, Colebrook Water Department)

Virtual: Olivia Uyizeye (Staff, UVLSRPC)

### Minutes

#### 1. Welcome and Introductions

Mellett called the meeting to order at 7:11PM.

#### 2. Meeting Minutes from April

Covey moves to accept the April minutes. Caron seconds. The motion passes unanimously.

#### 3. Permit Reviews and Communications

##### a. Colebrook Water Supply Well Replacement

*Four potential well locations for a single new installation are all located within the state-designated river corridor of the Connecticut River. NHDES is treating each location as a separate environmental review to fully evaluate the impacts of each location scenario.*

Sullivan reports that the Town has narrowed down the options to two. One along the Columbia line (1B on map) and the other close to Town but further from the River (4F). The distance from the River is about the same. 1B is the one being favored. It had less impact, less likely treatment due to distance from potential polluting contributions. Cost of connection pipes for 1B are longer. 4F is along the Mohawk River, partially in the floodplain.

##### b. Pittsburg Camp sewage disposal

(Shoreland standard application, #2023-02207, Comments 9/1)

Mellett reports that no plans have been received. Concern about comment deadline expressed. Mellett will follow up again with the reviewer to report the missing documentation.

**c. Northumberland NHDOT Herbicide Use**

*(Special permit, #23-328, Comments 9/31)*

Mellett indicates that the permit includes four bridges around Northumberland, and no other in the Headwaters purview. The permit intends to remove poison ivy and invasive species using Roundup and Rodeo. Application is indicted to shield the river as described on the label with a qualified applicator. Many sites are receiving this treatment across the state including some within drinking water supplies areas.

No concerns are raised by members as long as the label are followed, as noted.

**d. Update. Wild & Scenic designation for the Nulhegan River.**

S432 – In committee. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

Caron notes that there were supposed to be presentations at Town meeting to see if the designation is desired. Covey reports that funding approval is awaiting approval from the federal level to provide for an assessment.

**e. Update. Twin States Clean Energy Link (AKA Northern Pass II)**

<https://www.twinstatescleanenergylink.com/>

Mellett and McKinnon have both heard that Hydro Canada may not have enough energy to supply the line fully, unconfirmed report. Concerns raised at present are mostly by the abutters. McKinnon reminds the group that the line would need to get permission from ISO-New England before moving forward. Mellett notes that the process will take a while and that Headwaters doesn't need to do anything at this point. Meetings are currently posted on the project website for Londonderry and Littleton.

**4. Updates & Other Business**

**a. Town/Member updates**

Mellett indicates that he received an email about Headwaters, which he responded to but did not hear anything more since. Caron and Covey indicate emails received by Towns from Uyizeye for recruitment.

**b. LRS priority actions**

McKinnon requests a reports on the water quality results for the last couple years. Uyizeye also mentions the previously discussed improvements needed at boat launches. Caron notes that some were under flooding impact this summer.

**c. CRC Kimball Brook Dam removal**

E-mail from Ron Rhodes confirmed the removal is postponed to 2024 due to flooding/high waters.

**d. Nature Conservancy (TNC), Gray Mist Farm in Guildhall**

TNC bought a portion of Gray Mist Farm – TNC story map on area can be found here

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/589f041a325d46e884d985388d5d2962>

Mellett Emailed TNC about a concern that the area is already conserved for an agricultural easement. TNC responded that the site is adjacent to that easement not overlaying. Mellett also inquired about another section of farm that would be very desirable for development. That area is currently being

farmed and does not flood. A beautiful piece of 200 to 300 acres. TNC did not respond. Members discuss that it is likely the area would have been outside the budget for acquisition. The shoreline is intended to be placed with silver maples as a riparian buffer to help mitigate erosion.

#### **5. Adjourn**

Mellett makes a motion to adjourn. Covey seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

#### **Next Meeting**

Tentative – November 16, 2023

*Respectfully submitted by Olivia Uyizeye.*