

## CRJC Headwaters Subcommittee

### Minutes

Thursday, December 7, 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*

Virtual: Olivia Uyizeye (Staff, UVLSRPC)

#### Minutes

##### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

Chair Mellett called the meeting to order at 711PM.

##### **2. Meeting Minutes from August**

*McKinnon moves to accept the August minutes. Covey seconds. The motion passes unanimously.*

##### **3. Permit Reviews and Communications**

###### **a. 144 Merrill Rd, Pittsburg, NH (# 2023-02965, Standard Dredge and Fill)**

*Bank stabilization on residential property on First Connecticut Lake.*

Mellett reports this to be a straightforward application. Several emails from applicant expressing concern for losing his land. Members discuss how the lakes were very high with the amount of rain, destabilizing slopes on some of the banks.

*McKinnon moves to approve of the application without comment. Covey seconds. The motion passes unanimously.*

###### **b. Colebrook Homeowners Cooperative in Colebrook, NH**

*Water, Sewer & Electrical Utilities Replacement project*

The project is discussed as a significant infrastructure project near the north branch of the Mohawk. Mellett indicated that the permit appeared in good order, however did not see erosion control measures. Storm drains are understood not to be part of the project.

*McKinnon moves to approve of the application without comment. Covey seconds. The motion passes unanimously.*

**c. 69 Beach Rd, Pittsburg, NH. New building on a slab with leach field.**

Members decide to postpone review until the full application is received by NHDES.

**d. Murphy Dam – discussed at Riverbend LRS meeting.**

Uyizeye explains that Rob Christie in Lancaster highlighted risk at Murphy Dam. Covey explains that there is trouble with the valves getting stuck open because of electrical issues. When this happens, it can be a safety issue for people recreating downstream. Covey asks whether concerns should be raised about the dam. McKinnon notes a notification system is a phone call from the dam operator. Members agree that the current notification system is not sufficient.

*Covey moves to send a comment letter about the Murphy Dam notification system. McKinnon seconds. The motion passes unanimously.*

**4. Officer Election**

Melletts resigns as chairman. Caron nominates McKinnon to be Chair, motion seconded by Covey. All members vote unanimous. Mellett agree to notify NHDES.

**5. Updates & Other Business**

**a. Water quality update**

McKinnon raises the need for a report on the group's monitoring results to date. Uyizeye confirms that this is being worked on between CRJC and Connecticut River Conservancy staff. It is expected for distribution by end of Winter.

**b. School outreach and education**

McKinnon suggests doing some additional work to be involved with schools along the River. Members agree and discuss how best to go about it – connect with existing events (e.g., river cleanup), program parameters, connect with teachers, watershed spin off from Envirothon setup. It is noted that any direct engagement with students needs to have sufficient adult coverage. Members agree that they need to decide on a target age group and to understand what, if anything, other LRS doing around education. It is agreed to contact others from the CR watershed partnership meeting about, as others were interested in this topic and collaborating. Covey agrees to contact the Northwoods center who has an education arm. If interest continues, members note the Tillotson Fund may be worthwhile.

**c. Town/Member updates**

Members agree to call Jennifer Caron with Stratford given her absence at meetings.

**a. Ongoing. Twin States Clean Energy Link (AKA Northern Pass II)**

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

Approved by FERC, which means funding will start to be disbursed to the project. Uyizeye agrees to find out what permits will be needed in Vermont. Members discuss inviting the applicant to present at a future Headwaters meeting.

**6. Adjourn**

*Melletts moves to adjourn. Caron seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.*

**Next Meeting**

Tentative – March 21, 2023

*Respectfully submitted by Olivia Uyizeye.*