

# Connecticut River Joint Commissions

Executive Committee Meeting  
Monday, August 19, 2024 - 2 PM  
Join Virtually via Zoom

## ATTENDANCE

The attendance noted below is organized according to officer positions for each participating state Commission that together make up the Joint Commissions. The Joint Commissions officers are President (Marie Caduto), Vice President (Ted Cooley), Secretary (Jeffrey Miller), and Treasurer (Jason Rasmussen).

Officer	NH CRVRC		VT CRWAC	
Chair	Ted Cooley	V	Marie Caduto	V
Vice-Chair	Jeffrey Miller	V	Margo Ghia	X
Secretary / Treasurer	Greg Castell	V	Jason Rasmussen	V

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

Additional Virtual Attendance: Olivia Uyizeye, Staff Consultant.

## MINUTES

### **2:00 PM Convene**

President Caduto convenes the meeting at 2 PM.

#### **1. Minutes Review (May 20, 2024 Minutes)**

The minutes from May 20, 2024 are reviewed with no edits or concerns raised.

#### **2. Financials (June 2024)**

Rasmussen reports on the June financials, explaining an overage of \$404.66 due to CRJC staff being asked to do too much. Uyizeye notes that the FY2025 budget reflects a slight reduction in the number of tasks for CRJC staff to address this concern.

Caduto - FY2025 VT Contract should be finished shortly and UVLSRPC has reviewed. Looking to have this signed before the Nov 1 start date with a \$40,000 budget. Made the request for FY2026 which will have a budget of \$40K so we are not asking for money every year.

#### **3. Continuing Assessment Plan**

Look to have all CAP team meet or set up meeting before the next FC meeting.

##### **a. 5- Dialogue**

Uyizeye summarizes NHDES 604(b) water quality planning grant. Caduto notes the environmental justice component which could be relatable for the Connecticut River for subsistence fishing access. Would need to identify if an RPC with capacity, if not subcontract it out.

Rasmussen agrees that it sounds great, an LOI is a reasonable target. Rasmussen suggests that a NH-RPC take on the grant. Miller agrees it is a good idea. EC has consensus to move forward with the LOI. Rasmussen offers to assist in fleshing out the details.

#### **4. LRS Nominations**

Uyizeye reports on the nominations received for new members from Norwich and Rockingham Vermont.

#### **5. September Full Commissions agenda – Speaker (Rick Walling)**

Standard agenda plus details on the 604(b) grant and Walling conversation on the Dalton landfill. No need to include the America the Beautiful grant or the Connecticut River Watershed Protection Act.

#### **6. Updates & other business**

##### **a. Hydro-relicensing**

Caduto participated in a VT meeting related to the water quality certificate. Biggest things that came up were whether or not the new flow requirement will do what they say, are they enough to help control flows and erosion. Questions on whether it might cause more erosion in some areas. A lot on the recreational aspects and access (e.g., Kilowatt Park in Hartford).

Miller on the impact of the huge rainstorms, the Connecticut River has not been hospitable to anyone doing anything on the River. Castell notes that he owns a property on the River, part of the Road fell into the River nearby. Moving the road because of the erosion. River Road in Plainfield – been really dangerous, trees going down. Turbidity has been crazy.

Comments back – GRH basically shot down all the comments that have been summarized.

##### **b. America the Beautiful grant**

Caduto discusses a grant application here regarding land conservation for the next grant round. Caduto has discussed this with TNC. This is not due until 2025, so plenty of time to flesh this out.

##### **c. Other Business**

Miller - Buckman provided a presentation for kids in the Town of Alstead – 24 to 30 kids ages 4-10yrs old. Sponsored by the Town Library. Really neat program and kids had a great time. Miller will share a photo from the event.

**2:50 PM      Adjourn**

*Meeting notes respectfully submitted by Olivia Uyizeye.*