



CRJC's mission is to preserve the visual and ecological integrity and sustainable working landscape of the Connecticut River Valley, and guide its growth and development through grassroots leadership.

Connecticut River Joint Commissions

Full Commissions Meeting
 Monday, June 10, 2024 - 2 PM
 Hybrid Meeting – Community Room, Kilton Library, Lebanon, NH

ATTENDANCE

NH CRVRC COMMISSIONERS			VT CRWAC COMMISSIONERS		
NCC	OPEN		Sec. Nat. Resources	Marie Caduto	P
UVLSRPC	Ted Cooley	P	NVDA	Beth Torpey	P
SWRPC	Jeffrey Miller	P	WRC	Margo Ghia	P
CRC	Kate Buckman	X	MARC	Jason Rasmussen	P
CRFCC	OPEN		TRORC	Pete Fellows	P
Hydro-Electric	Jen Griffin	V	RPC#5	OPEN	
Conservation	OPEN		At Large	Beth Kennett	V
Tourism	OPEN		At Large	OPEN	
Agricultural	OPEN		At Large	OPEN	
Forest Products	OPEN		At Large	OPEN	
At Large	Jim McClammer	P	At Large	OPEN	
At Large	OPEN		At Large	OPEN	
At Large	OPEN		At Large	OPEN	
At Large	OPEN		At Large	OPEN	
At Large	OPEN		At Large	OPEN	

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

Virtual:

Erin De Vries, Vermont River Conservancy, Co-Executive Director and Conservation Director
 (Pending Commissioner appointment for CRWAC At Large conservation stakeholder)
 Greg Castell, Plainfield NH (Pending Commissioner appointment for CRVRC At Large commissioner)
 Tim Purrington, Great River Hydro
 Olivia Uyizeye, Staff Consultant.

AGENDA

2:00 PM Convene

1. Welcome

President Cooley starts the meeting at 2:01 pm. Commissioners and guests in attendance introduce themselves.

2. Election of Officers – CRVRC and CRWAC break out meetings

a. CRVRC break out meeting

Cooley opened the CRVRC meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to elect CRVRC officers for the 2025 fiscal year. Cooley presents the following slate of officers: Ted Cooley – Chair; Jeff Miller – Vice Chair; Greg Castell – Secretary/Treasurer.

By motion of Griffin/Miller the slate (Cooley, Miller, Castell) is approved. The motion passes unanimously.



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b. CRWAC break out meeting

Caduto opened the CRWAC meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to elect CRWAC officers for the 2025 fiscal year. Caduto presents the following slate of officers: Marie Caduto – Chair; Margo Ghia – Vice Chair; Jason Rasmussen – Secretary/Treasurer.

By motion of Kennett/Torpey the slate (Caduto, Ghia, Rasmussen) is approved. The motion passes unanimously.

3. Election of Officers – Connecticut River Joint Commissions

Cooley proposes a slate for the Connecticut River Joint Commissions with Caduto as President, Cooley as Vice-President, Rasmussen as Treasurer, and Miller as Secretary. By motion by Griffin/Ghia, the slate of officers for CRJC as presented by Cooley is approved. The motion passes unanimously.

4. Adopt/Review Minutes of March

Cooley opens the March meeting minutes for review. No edits or concerns are raised.

By motion of Miller/Kennett, the minutes are approved. The motion passes unanimously.

5. Financial Report, April 2024

Rasmussen reviews the financials. No concerns are raised and spending is on track for the year.

By motion of Ghia/Kennett, the financials are approved. The motion passes unanimously.

6. Fiscal Year 2025

a. Review/Approve UVLSRPC Contract

Rasmussen reviews the RFP process with one proposal received. De Vries asks about whether the CRJC contract with the consultant might be considered to be on a 2-year cycle rather than an annual cycle. Rasmussen notes that the RFP process is on a 5-year cycle, while the consultant contract has typically been done on an annual basis. The annual contract allows for adjustments needed for state contracts. UVLSRPC and Uyizeye are giving compliments for their work.

By motion of Kennett/Caduto, the fiscal year 2025 contract with UVLSRPC is approved. The motion passes unanimously.

b. Review/Adopt Budget and Tasks

Caduto notes that questions were addressed during the EC meeting.

By motion of Ghia/De Vries, the fiscal year 2025 budget is approved. The motion passes unanimously.

c. Review Meeting Calendar

By motion of Miller/Ghia, the fiscal year 2025 meeting calendar is approved with one change (the Executive Board November 11th meeting be changed to November 4th). The motion passes unanimously.



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- Commission issues final EIS August 2025

401 WQC Applications

- GRH filed WQC applications with Vermont DEC on 4/18, and NH DES on 4/19. Copies of the applications were filed with FERC on 4/23.
<https://relicensing.greatriverhydro.com/overview/documents/?eeFront=1&ee=1&eeFolder=Documents%2F150-401-Water-Quality-Certifications&eeListID=1>
- VTDEC issued applications administratively complete on 4/19/24. [Great River Hydropower 401 Water Quality Certification Application | Department of Environmental Conservation \(vermont.gov\)](#)
- NHDES issued applications administratively complete on 6/7/24.
- FERC issued its Notice of Reasonable Time for WQC on 4/30 (VT) and 5/15 (NH):
 - VTDEC issued 4/30 – One year = 4/18/25
 - NHDES issued 5/15/24 – One year = 4/19/25

b. Dalton Landfill

NHDES reference site with updates on the Dalton Landfill -

<https://www.des.nh.gov/land/landfills/granite-state-landfill-llc-state-permitting>

McClammer provides the following information. Casella has submitted a water quality application to the state. McClammer has been working with the Town of Dalton Conservation Commission. Currently, the Army Corps of Engineers has gotten involved through a wetland application. A public meeting will be held in Dalton on June 26 – round table on EJ concerns. EJ concerns for less affluent community. Leachate is the biggest concern for many people regarding impact of this project. Eliminate 11.5 acres of wetland, impact on Ammonoosuc and Connecticut Rivers.

Miller mentions some legislative efforts to address this issue. There are hearings at the state legislature level to put more stringent rules in place. McClammer notes that it is unlikely any significant legislative action will change the outcome. Regional considerations need to be taken into account. Rasmussen recognizes the need for more landfill space in NH; however, errs on the side of supporting the Riverbend local river subcommittee leading CRJC in a response to the project. Rasmussen asks about the impending timelines? McClammer notes that these keep changing due in part to requests for more information.

EC has discussed asking Rick Walling come to share input. The CRJC commissioners need to become more informed. Perhaps ask Walling to speak at the next board meeting. Caduto asks that if something imminent comes up with the permit for McClammer to please make the board aware, otherwise to have a speaker at the next meeting in September.

c. Long Island Sound Future Funds – Agriculture & Stormwater

McClammer and Uyizeye provide an update on the two LISFF grant-funded programs. The stormwater program has hired a consultant and is in the process of finalizing the project's QAPP. The agriculture project is collecting responses to their producer survey through the summer.



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d. Connecticut River Watershed Partnership Act

No updates on the proposed legislation. The Friends of Conte will be hosting their watershed-wide quarterly meeting on June 12th. Their proposed structure identified CRJC members as a priority for participation in the organization's leadership structure.

e. Other Business

Caduto discusses the funding program, America the Beautiful challenge, which has a planning portion of included as a fundable option. Caduto opens the conversation to put together an application for the next grant round on behalf of CRJC. It is discussed that a 10% match is required. Caduto shares an initial concept for the grant related to important areas for conservation that protect migratory routes of mammals and birds. Caduto references both the CRC Corridor management plan and The Nature Conservancy Migrations in Motion.

Ghia informs Commissioners of new Vermont rules regarding open meeting laws. These will need to be reviewed to ensure CRJC is in compliance.

4:00 PM Close

Cooley thanks everyone for attending.

By motion of Ghia/Caduto the meeting is adjourned. The motion passes unanimously.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Olivia Uyizeye.