

## **Connecticut River Joint Commissions**

Full Commissions Meeting Monday, January 13th, 2025 - 2 PM Hybrid Meeting – Damren Room, Lebanon Library, Lebanon, NH

## **ATTENDANCE**

NH CRVRC COMMISSIONERS			VT CRWAC COMMISSIONERS		
NCC	OPEN		Sec. Nat. Resources	Marie Caduto	Р
UVLSRPC	Ted Cooley	٧	NVDA	Beth Torpey	٧
SWRPC	Jeffrey Miller	Р	WRC	Margo Ghia	Р
CRC	Rebecca Todd	Р	MARC	Jason Rasmussen	Р
CRFCC	OPEN		TRORC	Pete Fellows	٧
Hydro-Electric	Jen Griffin	Χ	RPC#5	OPEN	
Conservation	OPEN		At Large	Beth Kennett	V
Tourism	OPEN		At Large	Hannah Dallas	V
Agricultural	OPEN		At Large	Erin De Vries	V
Forest Products	OPEN		At Large	OPEN	
At Large	Jim McClammer	Р	At Large	OPEN	
At Large	Paul Detwiler	Р	At Large	OPEN	
At Large	Greg Castell	Р	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.

#### **Additional attendance**

In Person:

Bill Malcolm, Upper Valley LRS Chair; Sharon Francis, (Guest, town of Charlestown) Ian Garland, Staff Renee Theall, Staff

## **AGENDA**

## 2:00 PM Convene

#### 1. Welcome

President Cooley starts the meeting at 2:10pm. Commissioners and guests in attendance introduce themselves.

## 2. Adopt/Review Minutes of January

Cooley opens the January meeting minutes for review. Edits from McClammer, Rasmussen moved to accept with amendments, Ghia seconded.

By motion of Rasmussen/Ghia, the minutes are approved. The motion passes unanimously.



## 3. Financial Report

Rasmussen reviews the notes on the November financials. Spending looks on target. No concerns are raised. The posted financials were incomplete for Commissioners to review; thus it is decided to postpone financials approval to the next meeting.

## 4. Continuing Assessment Plan or "CAP"

## a. 1-Funding and Deliverables

Caduto gave update on the 604(b) grant and not receiving that. Discussion around the letter and reasons for not being selected were discussed, along with possible next steps and how to be better prepared next time.

Caduto brough up the website and if it would be possible, would it be of interest to have a 'Donate' button added to the site. Commissioners were in support of this if possible (Theall to check in on website capabilities)

Castell mentioned checking in on Byrne Foundation as a possible avenue for donations Miller mentioned checking in with NH funding and confirm with Tracie (NH) on level funding for the year, Theall/Caduto will check in with Tracie (NH) on the funding expectations.

De Vries mentioned Markelle Smith at the Connecticut River Watershed Partnership and the ongoing work there. Todd mentioned that she is on the Executive Committee and that anyone interested can look into the Steering Committee for CRWP.

#### b. 2-Membership

Caduto gave update, on the constituency and list of potential people to ask to be involved. Packets have been pulled together by OU for outreach/contacting. Caduto and staff to work on getting those packet information on website.

## c. 3-Leadership and Staffing

None at this time

## d. 4-CRJC-LRS Relationship

Castell has gone to the Riverbend meeting, Miller will be attending one next week. Castell shared it was a warm reception and great dialogue.

## e. 5-Dialogue

Caduto will be attending the upcoming Billings Farm event on Wednesday, along with Todd. This will help to inform next steps for a possible Bi-State AG meeting, budget has available for 1 in person and 1 zoom meeting for water quality.

## f. 6-CAP & Communications Plan

Mission statement draft has been supplied, Ghia gave overview of the process that they took to work through it.

## 5. Discussion with LRS Chair from Upper Valley, Bill Malcolm

Malcolm shared out that with the LRS being all volunteers, a smooth and streamlined onboarding process would be beneficial, a succinct onboarding package. Malcolm also raised if



VT can send applications to Staff and the Chairs? (Caduto and Staff to look into further). Malcolm mentioned how the LRS's strive to understand and take their advisory role of being the eyes and ears for the communities. Caduto inquired on the relationship between LRS and CRJC, through discussion Malcolm mentioned that specifically they are focused on reviewing items on the river. Conversation rounded back that with a higher proportion of the items being from the NH side, interested in getting more VT information on applications.

Gardner mentioned that when there isn't an application there often isn't a meeting,

The LRS Annual Reports came up and Theall and Caduto mentioned that we do have those and they are on the website.

## 6. LRS Update & Nominations

none at this time

## 7. Updates and Other Business

#### a. Recruitment

Caduto mentioned that a letter to area selectboards/conservation commissions may be helpful in recruiting. Caduto and Theall will work on this and a timeline of sending out

#### b. Standing Committees

Caduto reviewed the spreadsheet on standing committees required via the by-laws. Castell mentioned renaming the 'CAP committee' to 'Standing Committee', Caduto mentioned slight differences so possibly keeping them separate.

## c. By-law Amendments

Caduto brought up with her role in presidency, she has been reviewing the by-laws, Ghia and Paul D. for Staff, Gardner volunteered to help with that.

# d. Discussion – updating the Riverwide Overview

No updates.

## e. Discussion - donation button to website

Had previously under the Funding agenda item

## f. Other Business

McClammer had two things – FERC and Dalton Landfill letters; discussion around these two items ensued.

Tim Purrington gave updates on FERC (see documents sent), they have delayed deadline to April 2025.

## 4:00 PM Adjourn

Caduto thanks everyone for attending.

By motion of Ghia/Cooley the meeting is adjourned. The motion passes unanimously. Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Renee Theall.