



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, March 24th , 2025 - 2 PM

Hybrid Meeting – Community Room, Kilton Library, West Lebanon, NH

ATTENDANCE

NH CRVRC COMMISSIONERS			VT CRWAC COMMISSIONERS		
NCC	OPEN		Sec. Nat. Resources	Marie Caduto	P
UVLSRPC	Ted Cooley	V	NVDA	Beth Torpey	X
SWRPC	Jeffrey Miller	V	WRC	Margo Ghia	V
CRC	Rebecca Todd	P	MARC	Jason Rasmussen	X
CRFCC	OPEN		TRORC	Pete Fellows	X
Hydro-Electric	Jen Griffin	X	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	V	At Large	OPEN	
At Large	Paul Detwiler	P	At Large	OPEN	
At Large	Greg Castell	P	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:

Lynn Bohi, guest Upper Valley LRS
 Renee Theall, Staff

AGENDA

2:00 PM Convene

1. Welcome

President Caduto starts the meeting at 2:08pm. Commissioners and guests in attendance introduce themselves.

2. Adopt/Review Minutes of January

There is not a quorum so minutes could not be voted on for approval.

3. Financial Report

Caduto gave an update, Rasmussen reviewed the financials and provided comments: labor is where it should be at this point in the year, insurance and financial review is slightly over budget due to the compilation report; travel and expenses are low but there are upcoming items that will utilize this line item. Caduto noted that they cannot vote on the financials at this point due to no quorum.



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4. Presentation by LRS on LRS Permit review work – Upper Valley LRS Lynn Bohi

Caduto introduced Bohi and then all-around introductions. Bohi then went in to giving an overview of the Upper Valley LRS and its very active members. They have been steady with application reviews and they understand their role and purview of comment & review. Discussion around receiving VT permits ensued. Caduto inquired on what they find difficult. Bohi mentioned that some of the plans they receive are not always clear. Detwiler asked if they have concern about the Dry bridge, Bohi said yes. They had questions on the access road, the terrain, etc. Caduto asked if there was anything from the board that would be helpful/how can the FC assist? Bohi mentioned the change of staff, but appreciated Garland jumping in with both feet. Todd inquired how long Bohi had been on the LRS and Bohi answered since it began. Ghia asked if the LRS sees the comments on the permits as their main focus or would they like to do other things? Conversation around other engagement ideas between the FC, LRS's, and/or the public. Outreach with location by the water could be of benefit and help to bridge the gap. Todd asked Bohi what kind of changes has she seen whether with permitting, activities, etc. Bohi mentioned the relicensing is a big one right now. Permits are longer, Caduto inquired if recreation versus industrial permits has shifted? Bohi commented that they haven't really fluctuated. Caduto asked if the membership background has lent itself to assisting reviewing the permits, Bohi agreed that it is a positive and helpful mix of backgrounds on the LRS right now. The FC thanked Bohi for her time and committed service to the region via her role on the LRS and other service areas.

5. Continuing Assessment Plan or "CAP"

a. 1-Funding and Deliverables

b. 2-Membership

None at this time. After the discussion around Recruitment, it was mentioned that these leads could be discussed at the next Membership meeting.

c. 3-Leadership and Staffing

None at this time.

d. 4-CRJC-LRS Relationship

De Vries asked for confirmation to which groups she was slated for. Nothing else at this time.

e. 5-Dialogue

Caduto asked if Kennett would like to share about the Fall AG forum – Kennett shared that her and Caduto were talking to Mike Snow from the CT River Watershed Farmer's Alliance. Some may remember that last year they were reaching out to those in agriculture and held an event that Senator Peter Welch attended, it was a very well attended & successful event. This year, they are looking at holding another joint event, with the focus on NH legislators in attendance and hosted in NH. They have been looking at late October, and for location have found Allyson's Orchard to host. For next steps, they are working on contacting NH legislators and will share more as this progresses. Caduto mentioned Shaheen's legislation on the Connecticut River Partnership Act, that is in the federal legislature now. Todd commented that this legislation has potential to be transformative for the Connecticut River. De Vries inquired if it would be both NH & VT legislators invited to the event. Kennette confirmed that yes, both would be invited. De Vries would be happy to help assist with invitations to legislators.



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f. 6-CAP & Communications Plan

Caduto asked if any have met, Theall mentioned that she will be sending out emails to schedule these.

Caduto went thru the CAP members and discussion ensued around these versus the Steering Committee's. Todd offered to assist in any other group as needed.

6. LRS Update & Nominations

Special guest from the UV LRS

7. Updates and Other Business

a. Recruitment

Caduto brought up the last meeting and what interests/sectors that there is not representation from is the Recreation sector. Members then brainstormed and discussed possible connections. Kayaking/Canoeing, Dallas mentioned the Ascutney Outdoors. Ghia mentioned the American White Water. Caduto asked if any up river and mentioned fishing guides, Castell mentioned he knows someone at the Hanover Parks & Rec and may inquire there. Theall mentioned rowing clubs on the CT River. Todd mentioned the CT River Paddler's Trail and the Ledyard Canoe Club.

b. Standing Committees

c. FERC update

Caduto asked McClammer if he had any updates/comments, not at this point. Todd gave an overview of the current status, Caduto asked if the comments from the CRC can be shared. Detwiler asked Todd if she could summarize which standards they were concerned about, Todd mentioned that primarily they are on the: erosion, recreational impacts, migratory fish, and timeliness of the improvements. McClammer inquired on the intervenor status of the CRJC. Theall will look and see what she can find. Todd mentioned that she will look into and share what they have for the deadlines on comments.

d. Dalton updates

Caduto asked if any comments, McClammer asked where the Dalton letter to the Governor is at, Cooley mentioned he has now signed and Theall will send off as soon as possible. McClammer asked if it would be acceptable to put this letter to other legislators surrounding the landfill legislation, Caduto said that the Executive Committee will look at procedural steps and create a procedure.

e. UVLSRPC annual contract – review

Move to next meeting

f. Removal of Upper Valley inactive LRS members

Move to next meeting

g. Speaker/topic for next meeting presentation

h. Other Business



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Todd mentioned that the Connecticut River Conservancy (CRC) has received an \$11.5million dollar funding to help assist farmer's and other areas pertinent to the CT River watershed (such as: forest management plans, habitat restoration, and others), that has been frozen at this time. The funding was fully executed prior to January 1 of this year.

Dallas mentioned that there is a grant that did go through recently for forest management, while things are unknown, wanted to raise awareness on those that have come through. De Vries asked if that grant is specific to the basin or the entire state, Dallas responded that it is for underserved landowners within the state.

Caduto asked Ghia about the Claremont facility proposed increase. Ghia gave an overview of the Claremont Transfer Station permit request for an increase of up to 500tons of additional construction waste. Residents and others are concerned about the impact of water quality with this potential increase, CRC has submitted a letter in opposition to this increase. Caduto showed the location on the map and the brook that is nearby that is a tributary to the Connecticut River. This information has been shared with the LRS. Caduto asked if this is something that the FC would like to look into further to comment on or leave up to the Local River Subcommittee. Miller asked that to comment there would need to be more information before proceeding. Detwiler mentioned that there seems to be a lot of current opposition at this time; Dallas inquired about a 'checklist' of specs that could save the FC time on determining weighing in or not on the matter. Discussion continued on the site and proposal. Caduto summarized that we are short on time to respond, not enough information at this time, and would let the LRS comment at this time.

3:50 PM Adjourn

Caduto thanked everyone for attending.

Todd moved to adjourn/ Miller second.

Meeting notes respectfully submitted by Renee Theall.