

1 **CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**
2 **CLEAN WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**
3 **JUNE 14, 2018**
4 **Meeting Notes**

5
6 A meeting of the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission’s Clean Water Advisory Committee
7 was held on Thursday, June 14, 2018 in the Conference Room of the Central Vermont Regional Planning
8 Commission.

9
10 Committee Members Present:

11
12 Karen Bates – ANR
13 Dona Bate – Montpelier City Council
14 Russ Barrett – Northfield Conservation Commission
15 Michael Gray – Woodbury/ Board of Commissioners
16 John Hoogenboom – Moretown Selectboard
17 John Brabant – Calais/Board of Commissioners
18 Larry Becker- Middlesex Conservation Commission
19 Stewart Clark – Worcester Planning Commission
20 Brian Shupe – Friends of Mad River
21 Amy Hornblas – Cabot/Board of Commissioners

22
23 Committee Members Absent:

24 Michele Braun – Friends of Winooski River
25 Corrina Parnapy – Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District
26 Ron Krauth – Middlesex/ Board of Commissioners

27
28 Others Present:

29 None

30
31 **CALL TO ORDER**

32 Pam DeAndrea called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM.

33
34 **CHANGES OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

35
36 Add in review of tables to Basin plan review comments discussion.

37
38 **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

39
40 No members of the public were present.

41
42 **APPROVAL OF MAY 10 MINUTESs**

43 Changes were made to the following lines as indicated in the draft circulated to the CWAC. The
44 amendments listed below were made based on discussion. Stew moved to approve minutes with
45 suggested changes. Larry seconded.

46
47 Page 2, lines 3& 4: add “The scope of the “Tactical” Plan is the entire Winooski Basin, within and
48 beyond the area served by the CVRPC.”

49 Page 2, line 18: added the text to clarify which objective was being referenced in Stewart’s comment:
50 “as described in TBP top objective #11”

1 Page 2, line 24: reworded lines 24 and 25 to be clearer on gullies: “Landslide and gullies: don’t fit into
2 implementation categories nicely. Request from this group before it would be funded – what is the state
3 of a particular gully? Does ANR fund it or is it too big?”

4 Page 2, lines 29 and 30: reworded to be clearer on reference to lakeshore habitats: “Stewart – Can we
5 look at why we are looking at the Lake Champlain lakeshore when the Winooski Basin (the mouth of
6 the Winooski River) forms such a small part of Lake Champlain coastline?”

7 8 **BASIN PLAN COMMENTS**

9 Purpose for this meeting for comments: go through objectives. Pam will compile comments from
10 everyone on CWAC and send them to Karen.

11 We also want to look through implementation table and make sure we are not missing anything.

12 In Karen’s email regarding guidance to review tables, Table 13 should have been listed as Table 11.
13

14 John B. – is the agency dealing with glyphosate? Karen will reach out to ag folks to find out how we can
15 do more with incorporating this.
16

17 Larry: The stream equilibrium tracking method does not make it clear how phosphorus loading is linked.
18 The stated reasons for instability are not explained as they connect to dynamic equilibrium. Please make
19 clearer and more understandable for audience. The statement: “It has been documented that under these
20 ideal geomorphic conditions, we see significant capture and storage of fine sediment and phosphorous”
21 is not referenced. Without a reference how do we know this is a defensible statement?
22

23 Stew: Table of contents and other areas refer to “Basin 8”. Please define Basin 8 early on or just use
24 Winooski Basin within the Plan. Along the same lines, the “303d list” should be defined.
25

26 Objectives: Karen reviewed them with the members of the group: protect river corridor protection and
27 floodplain restoration were discussed. Stew asked if channel straightening and dredging will be included
28 as something that is not the best way to manage rivers. Karen said that would be addressed later in the
29 document.
30

31 Larry – Is no till recommended? Karen responded that the plan does not necessarily recommend it but
32 that it would be recommended through the NRCS.
33

34 Brian- shouldn’t we have language in here that RAPs should be followed? Maybe a general comment
35 that the ANR can provide technical assistant for the adherence to water quality regulations.
36

37 John B. – Are other agencies that are doing other initiatives for farms being mentioned in the plan? A
38 major concern in East Montpelier and Calais is more pesticides being applied on farms as they acquire
39 more fields to farm that used to be just hay fields. Streams in area should be monitored for pesticides –
40 baseline monitoring. KB response – they can ask pesticide monitoring in the DEC.
41

42 Larry - stated that Baseline Monitoring can be an objective on page x and xi in the Executive Summary
43

44 The group discussed E. Coli in waters. Karen mentioned that watershed organizations volunteers have
45 helped considerably - maybe LCCD or other district could do some monitoring if asked.
46

1 Karen also mentioned Great Brook in Middlesex needing some assessment of stormwater. Pam said that
2 Middlesex could be lumped that into a SWMP with Waterbury and that the conservation commission is
3 interested as is Waterbury. Pam will email Stew information on it to possibly include Worcester in the
4 plan.

5
6 Other priorities:

7 Lakes – littoral zone. Strategies could include working with lake associations by connecting them with
8 Lake Wise program. Get addresses from town clerks? Michael was not sure how to get in touch with
9 them. That can be a strategy of how to contact lakeshore landowners.

10
11 Road erosion inventories – MRGP addresses what gets prioritized. Not sure how to fund the more
12 expensive projects yet. Prioritization will be done though the inventory process in a sense since those
13 roads that do not meet standards get identified.

14
15 John B. – is silviculture addressed? Karen responded yes. Brian mentioned that sugarbush operations
16 are falling through the cracks on following the AMPS since they can fall under the agriculture category.
17 Karen will look into that more.

18
19 Brian - There should be an objective on private roads. John H. indicated that Storm Smart program
20 within the Mad River Watershed is a great program to help with private road assessment and fixing.

21
22 For towns outside of the Mad River Valley, Karen suggested to reach out to FWR for a private road
23 workshop. Class 4 roads – make them a trail may be a solution sometimes. ANR can provide grants for
24 groups like VYCC to do the work. Can put strategies in the plan for towns to deal with Class 4 roads.
25 Stew- should address both planning commission and selectboard for outreach, conservation and road
26 crews on strategies for Class 4 roads.

27
28 Wetland protection: Phosphorus reduction and flood resiliency also means protection of upper wetlands.

29
30 Tables: Karen will send out again with town names and what you would like them to review
31 specifically.

32 33 **LANDSLIDE/GULLY FUNDING PRIORITIZATION**

34
35 Karen went over handout on criteria for landslide/gully restoration projects. Landslides will be put in
36 the plan but gullies are more of a priority to fix. Landslides will not be funded that are along streams.
37 Stew – would tallis slopes be included? No since they are not causing water quality problems.

38 Larry – does it fit into TMDL? Is so, then shouldn't it be included? We can address the lake without
39 addressing the gullies.

40 Karen Bates- When there are projects that propose sediment basins that need to be cleaned out regularly
41 and it is unlikely that they will be cleaned out, Karen would prefer to not fund those: the reason is - why
42 have a sediment basin at the bottom if there is no one to clean it out?

43 Stew- landslides after Irene. Karen – what would it take to restore them? She also mentioned that we
44 can't fix everything and we are not supposed to.

45 46 **TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING**

47 Basin Plan Tables

1 Possible projects for Fall ERP grant applications

2

3 **SCHEDULE**

4

5 Thursdays: Next meeting July 12, 2018.