

1 **CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**
2 **CLEAN WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**
3 **SEPTEMBER 20, 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, September 20, 2018 in the Conference Room of the Central Vermont Regional
8 Planning Commission.

9
10 Committee Members Present:

- 11 Ron Krauth – Middlesex/ Board of Commissioners
12 Stewart Clark – Worcester Planning Commission
13 Amy Hornblas – Cabot/Board of Commissioners
14 Larry Becker- Middlesex Conservation Commission
15 Dona Bate – Montpelier City Council
16 John Hoogenboom – Moretown Selectboard
17 Joyce Manchester – Moretown TAC
18 Gianna Petito - Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District
19 Kristin Balschunat - Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District
20 Corrie Miller – Friends of the Mad River

21
22 Committee Members Absent:

- 23 Russ Barrett – Northfield Conservation Commission
24 Brian Shupe – Friends of Mad River
25 Karen Bates – ANR
26 Michele Braun – Friends of Winooski River
27 John Brabant – Calais/Board of Commissioners

28
29 Others Present:

- 30 Nat Shambaugh
31 Danielle Owczarski, ANR

32
33 **CALL TO ORDER**

34 Pam DeAndrea called the meeting to order at 4:07 PM.
35 Welcome and introductions: Introduced Danielle Owczarski and Nat Shambaugh as well as new CWAC
36 members Gianna Petito and Joyce Manchester.

37
38 **CHANGES OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

39
40 None.

41
42 **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

43 None.

44
45 **PRESENTATION BY NAT SHAMBAUGH –PESTICIDES AND OTHER ORGANIC**
46 **CONTAMINANTS IN THE SURFACE WATERS OF VT**

47
48 Guest Nat Shambaugh gave a presentation on pesticides and other organic contaminants.
49 Lake segment concentrations of metolachlor and atrazine. St. Albans Bay and Mississquoi Bay
50 Stew – noticed that P loading probably follows the same trend.
51 Herbicide slugs can come down after rain storms.
52 DEC also looked at golf courses. PCNB and Chlorothalonil

1 Fungicide use was seen on golf courses. Can get runoff from rain if it doesn't snow and rains instead.
2 Railroads use herbicides. Ditches can go right into streams from the railroad.
3 Dona – could the runoff be treated somehow – Nat – would have to tear up railroad bed or have
4 expensive linear treatment and it would still get into groundwater.
5 Larry – can't this be engineered in some way though to treat what's coming off the railroad bed prior to
6 making it to the stream in that area in Montpelier Junction?
7
8 Atrazine and Metolachlor – 1 site was high – Jewett Brook in St. Albans
9
10 After retiring from DEC, Nat then did some work for Lake Champlain Basin Program. Looked at all
11 data out there: 187 compounds, 163 detected. LC50 and EC50. 123 of the 163 of those had toxicity data.
12 RQ value detection/LC50 or EC50 ≥ 1
13 Nine had RQ values ≥ 10 .
14 Test organisms: daphnia, duckweed.
15 Glyphosate did not exceed an RQ of 1. Has not been tested enough to have good data.
16 TFM – potential endocrine disruptor. Used for lamprey control. They have seen some changes in Bass in
17 Mississquoi Bay - ? may be due to that or something else.
18 Neonicotinoid insecticides – not good for bees, will kill anything that tries to eat it and is even put in
19 seeds. Used to treat trees. Not toxic to people but toxic to all insects. Highly water soluble (only about
20 5% stays in the plants. Irreversible and cumulative.
21 Persistence is about 1 year in the groundwater, in sunlight breaks down in a day or two.
22
23 Dona – have birds been impacted? In the sense that not enough food for them to eat.
24 Canada and Europe have put temporary bans on them.
25
26 Central VT concerns:
27 Storm drains, urban use
28 WWTF effluent
29 Ditches and streams adjacent to corn fields and railroads
30 LaRosa could be used to analyze for organics – Corrie- they have cut down the funding
31 Kristen – can we sample for organics at the same time? Yes but very expensive, all organics can be run
32 on one sample.
33

DISCUSSION ON DRAFT WHITE RIVER TACTICAL BASIN PLAN:

34
35
36 Danielle Owczarski from DEC came to present on the Draft White River Tactical Basin Plan. Danielle
37 presented her story map of the planning process, health of the White River Basin, water reclassification,
38 protection priorities and projects within the White River Basin.
39

40 Discussion points were:

41 The White River Trail – on White River Partnership (WRP) website. There will be campsites
42 established.
43

44 White is the longest undammed river in VT and the basin is mostly forested.
45

46 Four main stressors: encroachments, stream channel erosion, land erosion, and pathogens.
47

1 Protection priorities:

2 Flint Brook in Roxbury, not yet in plan but will probably be by the time of the public plan release. There
3 is a dam at the intake at the fish hatchery and above there, they have found good fish communities.

4 Other streams in our region for B1 reclassification for fishing are Hart Hollow Brook and South
5 Washington Creek.

6

7 The group had a lengthy discussion on reclassification scheme for B2 to B1. Confusion was expressed
8 over the classification system because a B1 for fishing may not really be indicative of clean water if
9 there are rainbow trout for instance, which is an introduced species. Danielle and Pam explained that
10 the classifications are based on use.

11

12 Ron mentioned that you could have species not affected by a pollutant, but that doesn't mean the water
13 is clean. Danielle mentioned that the best use that indicates clean water are the macroinvertebrates that
14 are not tolerable to nutrients and other pollutants. So if something is B1 for aquatic organisms, then we
15 know it's pretty clean.

16

17 Danielle – the DEC wants to classify waters now to their use so that they can monitor how things
18 change. They would like feedback from communities on what also may be of higher quality and then
19 DEC can go out and monitor those areas if they have not been done already.

20

21 Ron - The map in the story map/plan should be made clearer so that you can tell apart the areas without
22 any recommendations for reclassification because of poor quality or because of no data. Danielle thought
23 that was a good idea.

24

25 White River is suggested as an outstanding resource water.

26 A1 – classified for 5 waters in 2017.

27 Flint Brook's flow is altered.

28 There are 9 stressed waterbodies.

29 Five are listed as impaired, 3 are impaired for pathogens.

30

31 Danielle went over the project map in the story map and how you can click on a particular project and get
32 information on it. It contains the same information as the database.

33

34 **APPROVAL OF AUGUST 16 MINUTES**

35 Postponed until next meeting.

36

37 **TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING**

38 Did not have time to discuss.

39

40 **SCHEDULE**

41

42 Next meeting: Thursday, October 11