

1 **CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**
2 **CLEAN WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**
3 **FEBRUARY 21, 2019**
4 **Meeting Notes**

5
6 A meeting of the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission’s Clean Water Advisory Committee
7 was held on Thursday, February 21, 2019 in the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission
8 Office.

9
10 Committee Members Present:

- 11 Stewart Clark – Worcester Planning Commission
12 Michele Braun – Friends of Winooski River
13 Ron Krauth – Middlesex/Board of Commissioners
14 Joyce Manchester – Moretown TAC
15 Amy Hornblas – Cabot/Board of Commissioners
16 John Hoogenboom – Moretown Selectboard
17 Larry Becker- Middlesex Conservation Commission
18 Gianna Petito - Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District

19
20 Committee Members Absent:

- 21 Dona Bate – Montpelier City Council
22 Russ Barrett – Northfield Conservation Commission
23 Karen Bates – ANR
24 John Brabant – Calais/Board of Commissioners
25 Corrie Miller – Friends of the Mad River
26 Brian Shupe – Friends of the Mad River

27
28 Others Present:

- 29 Bonnie Waninger, CVRPC Executive Director
30

31 **CALL TO ORDER**

32 Pam DeAndrea called the meeting to order at 4:07 PM.
33 Welcome and introductions
34

35 **CHANGES OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

36 Move minutes approval to when Joyce Manchester gets here so we can have a quorum.
37 Move discussion of surface water reclassification to after Clean Water District.
38

39 **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

40 Amy – felt a bit manipulated after the last meeting since it seemed like glyphosate just got glossed over.
41 Under the framework of no till but it can’t be organic. As a team, we are being asked to blame the
42 farming community while Cabot is able to spray wastewater.
43 Stew – frustrated – Patti said that phosphorus is trapped in the soil. But roundup is adding extra
44 phosphorus to the soil that could be eroded into the streams.
45 Ron – No till farming - no one thought that weed control is needed in the past and that’s how roundup is
46 used so much.
47 Amy – wanted a voice for concerns and feels that her concerns are not being heard.
48 Pam – understand concerns, what would you like me to ask? Do you want me to ask Patti is there
49 phosphorus enrichment of soils and can that contribute to increase P to the streams and ultimately Lake
50 Champlain?
51

1 Pam and Michele – Workshop announcement - Water Wise Woodlands – Caring for Your Woods
2 Pancake Breakfast. Twinfiels School, Marshfield, Saturday March 30, 9 am – 1 pm.
3 Learn about woods, wildlife & water with hands on workshops.
4

5 **WINOOSKI TACTICAL BASIN PLAN RESPONSIVENESS SUMMARY**

6 Group discussed responsive summary.

7 Comment 5:

8 Is macroinvertebrate sampling required in agricultural areas? Michele looked it up and saw that it is
9 sporadically over time throughout the watershed. But are spots targeted where there is ag work.

10 Comment 7: Yes it is federally regulated but still things occur like some commercial entities being
11 allowed discharge things.

12 Comment 11: Lay person language – maybe another format in the future.

13 Comment 26: Answer did not address concern.

14 Comment 27: Gianna – LaRosa just announced that they will release an RFP to monitor pre-BMP
15 baseline monitoring and then post as well. Upstream/downstream with reference sites.

16 Comment 28: The answer missed the delivery of the question that is it a concern from a water quality
17 perspective.
18

19 **CLEAN WATER IMPLEMENTATION PROPOSED LEGISLATION**

20 Bonnie gave a background of ANR’s regulatory authority was thought to achieve 90% CW goals. This
21 year they said that they are only going to be able to achieve 80% through regulation. To get the 20%,
22 they proposed that municipalities would have to form a utility to be eligible for funding for future
23 projects.
24

25 VAPDA was concerned about the utility idea not being uniform across state. They proposed an
26 alternative similar to a block grant that brought in all partners. Use the CWAC as a convening model
27 and that some groups would have to be represented. Use the group to prioritize projects for
28 implementation. RPCs have the capacity to manage such a project.
29

30 Latest proposed legislation – enable a block grant through RPCs, but it is still very regulatory.
31 Responsible for O&M into the future. Would impose penalties upon the RPC if O&M was not
32 followed. Monitoring, inspection – how would we be funded for that? Annual report. Still takes non-
33 regulatory activities and puts them in a regulatory framework, so it still really does not work. Should it
34 be regulatory or non-regulatory? If the ANR needs it to be regulatory, this will probably not work to
35 have the RPCs manage it.
36

37 Larry – where is this coming from? Agency or public?

38 Bonnie and Michele – this is coming from an agency and science perspective.
39

40 Joyce – TAC prioritizes, who inspects?

41 Bonnie – Vtrans inspects and town can request inspection.
42

43 Michele – limits it to impaired waters.

44 Gianna – Block grants? CWAC did give feedback during TBP process.

45 Michele – DEC is having a hard time managing grants, but they cannot hire staff.

46 Stew – maybe we need “friends” of the tributaries. Groups like the VRC would love to monitor
47 activities along the tributaries.

1
2 RPCs will be testifying next Wednesday. RPCs did testify to the clean water board that \$75,000 be in
3 there for watershed groups to participate.
4

5 **APPROVAL OF JANUARY 10 MINUTES**
6

7 No change but comment.

8 John moved to approve the minutes. Michele seconded. Minutes approved.
9

10 **ERP GRANTS**

11 Pam went over ERP grants to be submitted by CVRPC next month: Stormwater final designs for
12 Woodbury Elementary School, Moretown Elementary School, and Duxbury Ward Hill Road.
13

14 FWR: Michele went over ERP grants she is trying to submit:

15 Hubbard Park

16 Camp Wihawi – dam removal - \$450,000 – put it on the Whisper list – if a municipality has a project on
17 the revolving loan fund. Interest difference pays for the natural resources.

18 If that doesn't come through, will ask ERP.

19 Richmond School, Camels Hump Elementary School – CCRPC SWMP – 3 projects – big gullies.
20

21 WNRCD: Gianna said they are not submitting grant applications this round.
22

23 **SURFACE WATER RECLASSIFICATION OUTREACH**

24 Did not have time to talk about this. Will talk about another time.
25

26 **SCHEDULE**

27 Next meeting: Thursday, March 14.