

**CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
CLEAN WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
April 11, 2019
Meeting Notes**

A meeting of the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission's Clean Water Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, April 11, 2019 in the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission Office.

Committee Members Present:

Stewart Clark – Worcester Planning Commission
Joyce Manchester – Moretown TAC
Amy Hornblas – Cabot/Board of Commissioners
John Brabant – Calais/Board of Commissioners
Larry Becker- Middlesex Conservation Commission
Gianna Petito - Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District
Dona Bate – Montpelier City Council
Michele Braun – Friends of Winooski River

Committee Members Absent:

Ron Krauth – Middlesex/Board of Commissioners
Russ Barrett – Northfield Conservation Commission
John Hoogenboom – Moretown Selectboard
Karen Bates – ANR
Corrie Miller – Friends of the Mad River
Brian Shupe – Friends of the Mad River

Others Present:

None.

CALL TO ORDER

Pam DeAndrea called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM.
Welcome and introductions

CHANGES OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Bring minutes approval to beginning of meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 21 MINUTES

Line 42, change comment regarding Cabot to "industries are allowed to spray on fields".
Stew moved that we approve minutes as changed. Dona seconded. Minutes approved.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 14 MINUTES

Amy moved that we approve minutes as is. Dona seconded. Minutes approved.

OPEN MEETING LAW, CWAC NOMINATIONS?

Pam and Dona explained the public meeting law and the group discussed what the requirements are if there is a quorum of people outside the meeting, communications, and public records requirements.
Stew had some questions and Dona, Pam, Michele, and John provided response.

1 Chair: Pam went over that we need a chair. John nominated Dona, but she declined. Dona nominated
2 Stew, declined.

3
4 Stew nominated Amy. Larry seconded. Amy was nominated as chair.

5
6 **CONTINUATION OF DISCUSSION – CWAC PURPOSE & DIRECTION**

7 Pam went over the activities in the CWAC rules and procedures. Joyce mentioned that we should add
8 bringing info to municipalities on clean water legislation and activities at the state. Important on this list
9 is the prioritization and the implementation of projects, which will be actionable.

10
11 Prioritization framework is really important to be choosing projects. Don't know if we would want to
12 move forward without that. Pam will bring to the next meeting the DRAFT RPC prioritization for
13 branching off.

14
15 John, do we want to explore the Farm Bill and if there is money there for landowners for farm runoff?
16 Should we assist municipalities in getting this info out to the landowners on the availability of these
17 funds?

18 Gianna – getting information from towns as to what their priority issues are would be really valuable.
19 Michele echoed that. Gianna said it would be a great way to let their neighbors know to reach out to
20 WNRCD or to let Gianna know about farms they are concerned about.

21 John mentioned foresters know about these programs and can let farmers know about this and Gianna
22 said that's great when foresters and farmers talk to each other about programs.

23
24 Michele and Pam shared the Water Wise Woodlands project.

25
26 Gianna – purpose of the CWAC – can we make it an activity to identify priority topics to be shared with
27 the public.

28
29 Stew – we have brought in a lot of information and we have conflicting pieces of information. When
30 you add roundup to soils, you are adding phosphorus. When soil erodes there would be more
31 phosphorus. People here have said that it is minute. Stew if we are concerned about phosphorus in
32 forests, why are we not concerned about glyphosate.

33
34 Michele and Pam reiterated that the input of phosphorus from forests is from logging operations. She
35 talked about TMDL and Basin Plan implementation.

36
37 Gianna pointed out that the use of glyphosate is weighed as “worth it” by environmentalists to use for
38 invasive control than the phosphorus input that would result from erosion from the presence of Japanese
39 knotweed not being able to hold the banks.

40
41 John – this discussion started with not just glyphosate but was concerned about pesticides in general.

42
43 Stew – still frustrated – if we are adding something that adds phosphorus. If manure is 200 times more,
44 then glyphosate is 0.5 percent.

45
46 Pam – we need to be science-based. So if we don't have the data on specific to glyphosate, then we
47 don't have actionable strategies based on science.

1
2 Michele – the practices will be the same if it is managing the farm fields.

3
4 Gianna – concerns are valid but if our purpose is project prioritization, you may still feel unheard. Can
5 incorporate concerns from glyphosate use into project prioritization.

6
7 Pam – CWAC is encouraged to offer input on local and regional concerns. Resolutions would have to
8 be approved by the Board.

9
10 John – what glyphosate does is allows tiny farms be on the same scale of larger farm operations.

11
12 Michele – can we move on past this issue?

13
14 John and Amy – we need to discuss it.

15 Larry – we can do both.

16
17 Larry – prioritization – can be a way to provide check and balances.

18
19 **CVRPC CODE OF CONDUCT & CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY**

20 **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

21 All committee members present signed the acknowledgement form that had not signed it yet. Still need
22 Russ to sign.

23
24 **SCHEDULE**

25 Should we go to every other Month? Skip July & August? Next meeting: May 9, 2019.

26
27 Agenda items – prioritization, drafting of resolutions. Will not meet in July.

28
29 Other announcements: WNRCD – UVM Septic Solutions conference May 9, 2019.

30 Erosion control workshop June 12 in Richmond.

31
32 Pam – CVRPC has pre-qualified 4 firms for stormwater planning and engineering work. This will help
33 streamline project implementation.