

1 **CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**
2 **CLEAN WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**
3 **March 12, 2020**

4
5 A meeting of the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission's Clean Water Advisory
6 Committee was held on March 12, 2020 in the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission
7 Office.

8
9 Committee Members Present:

10 Amy Hornblas – CWAC Chair, Cabot/Board of Commissioners
11 Larry Becker- Middlesex Conservation Commission
12 Dona Bate – Montpelier City Council
13 Rich Turner – Williamstown Planning Commission/Board of Commissioners
14 John Hoogenboom – Moretown Selectboard (on phone)
15 Joyce Manchester – Moretown TAC (on phone)

16
17 Committee Members Absent:

18 Ron Krauth – Middlesex/Board of Commissioners
19 Stewart Clark – Worcester Planning Commission
20 John Brabant – Calais/Board of Commissioners
21 Russ Barrett – Northfield Conservation Commission
22 Michele Braun – Friends of Winooski River
23 Karen Bates – ANR
24 Corrie Miller – Friends of the Mad River
25 Brian Shupe – Friends of the Mad River
26 Gianna Petito - Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District

27
28 Others Present:

29 CVRPC Staff: Pam DeAndrea (by phone) & Grace Vinson

30
31 **CALL TO ORDER**

32 Amy Hornblas called the meeting to order at 4:04 PM.

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34 **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

35 None.

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37 **CHANGES OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

38 None.

39 **APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 13 MINUTES**

40 Postponed due to lack of quorum.

41
42 **CWAC LETTER STAFF REVISION – Amy Hornblas, Chair and Pam DeAndrea**

43 Members said they liked the new format. Pam said she basically took the group's ideas and
44 framed the letter by topic; within the topics provided recommendations, and got rid of

1 “concerns” to put the letter in a more positive light. Members went over each topic listed to see if
2 they were any questions.

3
4 **Discussion of Municipal Roads General Permit (topic #1 under Policies and Regulation
5 category):** Members discussed that some towns think requirements and maintenance are too
6 expensive when compared to the payoff, and it’s difficult to assess whether it’s working. John
7 suggested that one recommendation could be to give towns more leeway with which road
8 segments should be improved and when they need to be done. Members said another
9 recommendation could be that the state should reassess permit requirements based on
10 effectiveness of the road BMPs.

11
12 **Discussion of the clean water funding topic:** Joyce suggested that funding “*based on the
13 phosphorus loading by sector and*” be removed–Discussion of whether to include this topic in
14 the letter. Amy made motion to cut the clean water funding topic. John seconded. Motion
15 carried. MOTION IS NOT VALID DUE TO A QUORUM NOT PRESENT.

16
17 **Discussion of forestry cutting regulations (topic #2 under Policies and Regulations):** John
18 suggested editing to remove “*indiscriminate*” because all forest cutting has water quality
19 impacts. There was discussion of reducing the threshold for intent to cut notifications from 40
20 acres, Joyce suggested that the threshold be the current use threshold. John suggested editing to
21 say “*require AMPs on all tree cutting.*” Rich pointed out that enforcement on less than 40 acres
22 could be difficult, but the Department of Forest Parks and Recreation could promote their
23 landowner education and outreach efforts. Amy and John suggested edited to say “*forestry heavy
24 cutting regulations are not strong enough.*”

25
26 **Discussion of small farms (topic #3 under Policies and Regulations):** Rich suggested editing
27 “*shift to from*” to “*shift from*”.

28
29 **Discussion of ground water (topic #2 under water quality monitoring):** discussion of Jon
30 Kim’s study on phosphorus and ground water in Lake Carmi.
31 Rich suggested changing the format to be more structured, saying “1A” for example.

32
33 Dona made motion to allow Pam to edit letter as amended and send to Commissioners for
34 consideration. Larry seconded. Joyce abstained. Motion carried. MOTION IS NOT VALID AS
35 THERE WAS NOT A QUORUM.

36 37 **CLEAN WATER SERVICE PROVIDER FINAL RFP COMMENTS/QUESTIONS**

38 Pam asked members if they had feedback/comments on the RFP. She noted that there is a
39 meeting scheduled to meet with the Winooski Basin partners on March 25, 2020 at 10am at the
40 Waterbury Town Offices, and there will be options to join remotely. CVPRC, Chittenden County
41 Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC), and Winooski Natural Resources Conservation
42 District (NRCD) could be potential providers. The purpose of the meeting is to see who would
43 want to be the provider for the Basin and who may want to serve on the Basin Water Quality
44 Council. CCRPC Water Quality planner and Gianna Petito from the Winooski NRCD will be at
45 the meeting- they are part of a guidance group that meets with DEC to hash out aspects of how
46 the program will work. The March 25 meeting is a first step to meet the partners and talk about

1 who would be on the Water Quality Council, then CVRPC will present the proposal before the
2 Executive Committee.

3
4 Larry pointed out that 15 points of the selection criteria is for “*ability to ensure development,*
5 *implementation, operation and maintenance*”, and wondered what the consequence for not
6 meeting targets set for each basin would be. There was discussion of the current operations and
7 maintenance process which is between the towns and the state, and how this RFP changes that.

8

9 **OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

10 Rich announced he had been doing work with Gianna Petito on the emerald ash borer and joined
11 the Winooski NRCD Board, so can bring information back to CWAC.

12

13 **SCHEDULE**

14 Pam asked if the group was opposed to taking July and August off. Members were supportive.

15 Next meeting is scheduled for April 9.

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17 Meeting adjourned at 5:46 pm.