AGENDA

Clean Water Advisory Committee
Thursday June 11th 4:00 – 6:00 PM
Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission
29 Main St., Suite 4, Montpelier, VT
REMOTE ZOOM MEETING via computer, smartphone, or dial-in:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81966819207?pwd=Q1MvNU00Y3I2MnBQRVo5OEhzZUU0QT09
Meeting ID: 819 6681 9207
Password: 492213
Phone: +1 929 436 2866

4:00 PM: Welcome and Introductions
Public Comments
4:05 PM: Changes to agenda

4:10 PM: Approval 5/14/20 minutes (enclosed)

4:15 PM: CWAC Rules of Procedure Revision Discussion – Pam DeAndrea

4:25 PM: DRAFT Basin 14 Tactical Basin Plan comments – Pam DeAndrea

5:50 PM: Other Announcements?

5:55 PM: Wrap-up. Next Meeting Date 9/10/20. Happy Summer!

Persons with disabilities who require assistance or special arrangements to participate in programs or activities are encouraged to contact Nancy Chartrand at 802-229-0389 or chartrand@cvregion.com at least 3 business days prior to the meeting for which services are requested.
A meeting of the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission’s Clean Water Advisory Committee was held remotely on May 14, 2020 via Zoom Meeting due to the COVID-19 pandemic and adhering to social distancing guidelines by the State of Vermont.

Committee Members Present:
Dona Bate – Montpelier City Council
Larry Becker – Middlesex Conservation Commission
John Hoogenboom – Moretown Selectboard (on phone)
Joyce Manchester – Moretown TAC (on phone)
Russ Barrett – Northfield Conservation Commission
Ron Krauth – Middlesex/Board of Commissioners
Karen Bates – ANR
John Brabant – Calais/Board of Commissioners

Committee Members Absent:
Amy Hornblas – CWAC Chair, Cabot/Board of Commissioners
Rich Turner – Williamstown Planning Commission/Board of Commissioners
Stewart Clark – Worcester Planning Commission
Michele Braun – Friends of Winooski River
Corrie Miller – Friends of the Mad River
Brian Shupe – Friends of the Mad River
Gianna Petito - Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District

Others Present:
CVRPC Staff: Pam DeAndrea
Vermont Geological Survey: Jon Kim

CALL TO ORDER
Pam DeAndrea called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENTS
None.

CHANGES OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA
Pam - Move Jon Kim’s presentation first and approval of minutes afterwards. There were no objections.

VERMONT GROUNDWATER MONITORING PROGRAM PRESENTATION – Jon Kim, Vermont Geological Survey
Jon went over aquifer basics and interactions with stream and drawdown of wells.
Bennington PFOA issue: He went over what PFOA is. Nature of the problem is that the PFOA was released into the atmosphere and then fell as rainfall into the surficial aquifer and into the bedrock aquifer.

Jon went over sources of nitrates from agricultural use and from industry. Went over nitrogen cycle and phosphorus cycle. Showed the data from Lake Carmi map and surface water data.

He went over the aquifer characterization process which includes field studies including soil borings and investigation of well logs. Look at wells outside of the watershed area to determine isopach thickness. Chemical monitoring on wells. Groundwater age dating, chlorofluorocarbons. Surface water sample collection too. Jon shared concentrations over time in surface water and groundwater as well as maps showing well concentrations.

In East Montpelier, they were able to determine a nitrate source through this method.

Did a study in Sutton with Nitrate monitoring. Something happened in 2010 to increase nitrate concentrations. Then plotted herbicide levels by well and herbicide sites.

They did a study in Bristol also where they showed herbicide levels in relation to nitrate level to indicate the travel of the groundwater and agricultural contaminants.

Ron asked whether they would be looking at drawdown. Jon said that pump tests would be too expensive.

Joyce was curious about natural phosphorus in the soils vs. what’s from ag use. Jon said that they just sample total P in groundwater and surface water. Natural levels can vary from 5 – 15 ppb in different rock types, and then compare that to what they are seeing. Lake samples are as high as 30 ppb. Studies in Europe have shown that groundwater inputs of P can increase P in surface waters. We should perhaps consider that here in VT.

Larry asked about neonic in groundwater and if they can make it to surface water. Jon was not sure about that but he has heard of travel of pharmaceuticals and coffee.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 9 MINUTES
No changes. Dona motioned to approve April 9th minutes as is, Larry seconded. Motioned carried.

CWAC LETTER STAFF REVISION – Pam DeAndrea
Pam shared with the CWAC the Executive Committee’s comment on the recommendation regarding the Municipal Roads General Permit and asked them how they would like to revise their recommendation to make it clearer for the Executive Committee.

Joyce – We could take away the second sentence since it is vague. Dona, the second sentence is providing more detail.

Larry, maybe the easiest is to take it away.

Joyce – it seems that the recommendation is not in line with concern.

Larry – should we add cost-benefit to the first sentence?

Dona – It was about choice on which segments not just sectors.
Ron – Towns should be able to spend their money where they need to.

Pam – some road foreman may know which road segments are connected to streams, but some may not.

Joyce – Rewrite the first sentence to say, *The DEC should allow municipalities more leeway with as well as how funds are allocated among different sectors.*

Dona – it seems like we are getting into another issue.

Pam – could remove the “compared to other sectors” from the first sentence.

John – we have had this conversation at Ridge to River that we are spending a lot of money on fixing roads that may not need it.

Joyce – let’s go with dropping the “compared to other sectors”.

Pam – suggestion - add the word “may” before results in the first sentence and delete the second sentence in the recommendation.

Dona - add the word “deciding” after “leeway with”.

Ron made a motion to accept the letter as amended, John Hooganboom seconded. Motion carried.

**CWAC RULES OF PROCEDURE REVISION**

Pam mentioned that according to the open meeting law that all members contribute to the quorum and that the quorum is not adjusted by having non-voting members.

Dona disagreed and mentioned that they have many city committees that have non-voting members that are advisory or something of that nature and that you can have members that are not part of the quorum – she motioned that we place the non-voting members under the heading as advisory members. John Brabant – seconded. Motion carried.

Pam said she would bring this to the Executive Committee and asked if Dona could please provide her with documentation within the Open Meeting Law that speaks to the ability to have non-voting or advisory committee members that do not contribute to the quorum.

**OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Basin 14 Tactical Basin Plan – June 2nd Skype Meeting; will send basin plan to CWAC as soon as we get it and ask that they review to provide comments for the next meeting.

**SCHEDULE**

Next meeting: Devoted to Basin 14 Tactical Basin Plan comments.

Pam will check with Amy to see if she got in touch with Stew and then check in with Stew if she hadn’t.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.
MEMO

Date: June 11, 2020
To: Clean Water Advisory Committee
From: Pam DeAndrea, Senior Planner
Re: Clean Water Advisory Committee Rules of Procedure

Revised Clean Water Advisory Committee Rules of Procedure

❖ ACTION REQUESTED: Review the suggested changes to the CWAC Rules of Procedure (ROP) and vote on changes by CVRPC staff and voted on by the Executive Committee to submit to the CVRPC Board of Commissioners for approval.

At the June 1 CVRPC Executive Committee meeting, the CWAC ROP revisions voted on at the last CWAC meeting were discussed. The ROP revision doesn’t meet what the Secretary of State and Vermont League of Cities and Towns has previously advised with regard to the number of seats (voting or non-voting) counting towards quorum. The CVRPC Executive Director made changes to the CWAC ROP on lines 4-25 so that the rules would meet state law. The Executive Director also made changes to the ROP so that they are in line with other CVRPC Committee ROP. The Executive Committee voted that if the CWAC accepts the suggested revisions without significant changes, the ROP may go to the Board for further approval. If there are more significant changes, it would need to go back to the Executive Committee before going to the Board.

Staff: Pam DeAndrea

Notes:
CLEAN WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CWAC)

RULES OF PROCEDURE

PURPOSE: To oversee the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission’s (CVRPC) water quality planning program in accordance with CVRPC plans, policies, and procedures, to act as a liaison between local communities and the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (ANR), and to provide local and regional input regarding water quality issues important to the region.

GENERAL ACTIVITIES:

1. Oversee programming related to the CVRPC’s assistance to ANR with basin planning and surface water management, including but not limited to:
   a. Development of tactical basin plans.
   b. Technical assistance and data collection activities, including information from watershed organizations, to inform municipal officials and the State in making water quality investment decisions.
   c. Coordinating municipal planning and adoption or implementation of municipal development regulations to meet State water quality policies and investment priorities.
   d. Implementing a project evaluation process to prioritize water quality improvement projects within the region to assure cost effective use of State and federal funds.
   e. Guidance for project prioritization for submittal of grant applications for water quality improvement or planning projects.

2. Undertake water quality related technical assistance and policy activities and coordinate activities with the Transportation Advisory Committee including but not limited to activities related to implementation of Municipal Roads Stormwater General Permits.

3. Participate in special studies conducted by the CVRPC.

4. Provide input and policy recommendations to the Board of Commissioners regarding pertinent water quality issues, including review of State plans, policies, and legislation.

ADVISORY ROLE: The CWAC shall be advisory to the Board of Commissioners. The advice of this committee should, where possible, be science-based, not opinion, whim, or personal attitude. At the very minimum the advice shall not be contrary to research-based water quality and water process facts. The CWAC will offer advice and input to ANR and other organizations and individuals as appropriate, provided it is compatible with plans, policies, positions or resolutions adopted by the Board of Commissioners. CWAC advice and input may be reviewed, confirmed or reversed by the CVRPC Board of Commissioners.
Commissioners at the Board’s discretion. New or amended plans, policies, positions or resolutions shall be ratified/approved by the Board of Commissioners.

**MEMBERSHIP:** The Clean Water Advisory Committee shall consist of nine (9) members appointed by the Board of Commissioners as follows:

- 3 CVRPC Commissioners and 1 Alternate
- 5 Representatives of the region’s municipalities
- 1 Interested stakeholder

Members serve two year terms.

**MEMBERSHIP:** The Chair of the CWAC shall be a CWAC member elected by the CWAC or appointed by the Chair of the CVRPC. There shall be up to 13 members with 9 voting members with representation as follows:

- 3 CVRPC Commissioners and 1 Alternate
- 5 Representatives of the region’s municipalities
- 1 Interested stakeholder

The CVRPC Board of Commissioners will make initial appointments to one and two year terms to create staggered terms. Membership term shall be two years thereafter. Appointments not associated with a named group above will be appointed by the CVRPC Board of Commissioners.

The CWAC may seek advice from one or more natural resource-based organizations serving the region and/or the Agency of Natural Resources, including but not limited to:

- 1 Representative of the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, (ex-officio, non-voting)
- 1 Representative of the Winooski Natural Resource Conservation District, (ex-officio, non-voting)
- 1 Representative of the Friends of the Winooski River, and (ex-officio, non-voting)
- 1 Representative of the Friends of the Mad River (ex-officio, non-voting)

For the organizations listed above, the organization may appoint its representative and may send an alternate as needed by the organization. Alternates may attend vote meetings when an appointed representative is unable to make the meeting.

The CVRPC Board of Commissioners will make initial appointments to one and two year terms to create staggered terms. Membership term shall be two years thereafter. Appointments not associated with a named group above will be appointed by the CVRPC Board of Commissioners.

**OFFICERS/ELECTIONS:** The Clean Water Advisory Committee will elect a Chair and Vice-Chair annually at its first meeting of the fiscal year. The Chair will be responsible for running meetings, setting agendas in conjunction with staff, reviewing and signing correspondence on behalf of the Committee, and
representing the Committee at various meetings as needed. The Vice-Chair will provide support to the Chair as needed. If the Chair or Vice-Chair should resign before term expiration, an interim election shall be held within two meetings or when regular elections are held, whichever is earlier.

ATTENDANCE AND QUORUMS: A quorum shall consist of a majority of voting members (51%). Members are encouraged to attend all regular meetings and special meetings as they arise. Members with three consecutive unexplained absences will be contacted by the Chair to determine if they still wish to serve on the CWAC. The CWAC shall meet at least eight (8) times per year, or as determined by the Chair to be necessary to carry out the stated purpose.

COMMUNICATION, COORDINATION, AND EXPECTATIONS:
- Meetings shall be noticed and held in accordance with Vermont Open Meeting Law.
- Draft policies and resolutions shall be forwarded to CWAC members and interested/affected parties for comment before action by the CWAC, or final action/approval by the Board of Commissioners.
- Committee membership brings the expectation of active involvement outside of meeting time. CWAC members are expected to review shared materials in advance of meetings and to become knowledgeable concerning background facts and information regarding issues to be discussed.
- Minutes of all regular and special meetings will be prepared by staff, distributed to CWAC members and interested parties, and made available to the public in accordance with open meeting and public records laws described in 1 V.S.A.
- CWAC members are encouraged to serve as liaisons to their local legislative boards by facilitating communication and coordination on a regular basis.
- CWAC members are encouraged to offer input on all matters before the CWAC, and are encouraged to bring up items of local or regional concern for CWAC consideration.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: Upon joining the Commission or its committees, individuals must review and sign the Commission’s most recently adopted Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest Policy to indicate that they have read, understood, and agree to comply with it. In the event any CWAC member has a personal or financial interest with any individual, partnership, firm or corporation seeking to contract with the CVRPC, or to provide materials or labor thereto, or has a personal or financial interest in any project being considered by the CWAC, the member shall state on the record the nature of his or her interest. If the member feels this conflict interferes with his/her ability to be objective, the member shall not participate in any vote on any related motion. If the member is uncertain whether he/she should participate in the decision, the CWAC shall determine by vote whether the member should participate.

The Committee may also make a determination of conflict of interest and disallow voting by a member if the majority of voting Committee members in attendance at the meeting determine a conflict of interest exists.

ADOPTION OF ORGANIZATIONAL PROCEDURES: The CWAC may, at any time, vote to amend these procedures, upon 51% vote of the CWAC membership. Proposed amendments will be forwarded to CWAC members, chairs of local legislative boards, and interested parties before consideration at a
regular CWAC meeting. Amendments will then be forwarded to the Board of Commissioners for ratification.

The CWAC is a special committee of the Regional Planning Commission, and is therefore subject to the Commission's bylaws. These Rules of Procedure, combined with Robert's Rules of Order, provide procedural and administrative guidance for the CWAC.

Recommended by the Clean Water Advisory Committee: 06/08/18

Adopted by the Board of Commissioners: 07/10/18

Julie Potter, Laura Hill-Eubanks, Chair

CVRPC Board of Commissioners
MEMO

Date: June 11, 2020
To: Clean Water Advisory Committee
From: Pam DeAndrea, Senior Planner
Re: DRAFT Stevens/Wells/Waits/Ompompanoosuc & Connecticut River Direct Tributaries, Basin 14 Tactical Basin Plan (TBP)

Review and comment on DRAFT Stevens/Wells/Waits/Ompompanoosuc & Connecticut River Direct Tributaries, Basin 14 Tactical Basin Plan (TBP)

 ACTION REQUESTED: Review the DRAFT Basin 14 Tactical Basin Plan and provide staff with comments to incorporate into the conformance letter to the ANR, which will be presented to the Executive Committee on Monday, June 15 for approval to be sent to the ANR.

The Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) has released the DRAFT Stevens/Wells/Waits/Ompompanoosuc & Connecticut River Direct Tributaries, Basin 14 Tactical Basin Plan (TBP) for public comment. The public comment period is open until 6/19/20. Danielle Owczarski, ANR Basin Planner presented June 2 at a public meeting and will be presenting the planning process at the June 15th Executive Committee meeting.

CVRPC has the opportunity to provide recommendations to the ANR regarding tactical basin plans pursuant to 10 V.S.A §1253(d). Statute directs the Agency to “develop, in consultation with the regional planning commission, an analysis and formal recommendation on conformance with the goals and objectives of applicable regional plans.” Plus, regional planning commissions are to assist the Secretary in implementing a project evaluation process to prioritize water quality improvement projects within the region to assure cost effective use of State and federal funds.

Staff reviewed the DRAFT 2020 Basin 14 Tactical Basin Plan and prepared a DRAFT letter to ANR on the conformance of the Basin Plan and the Regional Plan. The Regional Plan Committee (RPC) met two weeks ago where staff received comments on conformance of the Basin Plan with the Central Vermont Regional Plan. The Board of Commissioners is being asked to provide any comments to staff as well on the Basin Plan. Comments from the Board, RPC, and the CWAC will be incorporated into the letter and presented to the Executive Committee at their June 15th meeting for approval to send to the ANR.
Here are the comments in general raised by the Regional Plan Committee.

- make the connection more clear between goals and the Basin Plan—maybe specifically point to/identify goals in the letter, and in the crosswalk, bold or outline the goals
- spell out acronyms the first time you use them.
- include line numbers.
- Question- project prioritization process? Ask Pam whether we should be doing that and get back to Julie.
- cross-reference the two wetland comments in the crosswalk since they relate to each other.

Available on ANR’s Basin 14 webpage is a link to the DRAFT TBP and Story Map. You can also read more in this press release and summary handout.

This Memo includes the following attachment:

- DRAFT CVRPC comment and conformance letter
- Regional Plan Committee DRAFT Minutes

Staff: Pam DeAndrea

Notes:
June 2020

Peter Walke, Commissioner
Vermont Agency of Natural Resources
Department of Environmental Conservation
One National Life Drive
Montpelier, VT 05602

Re: Draft Stevens-Wells-Waits-CT River Tactical Basin Plan Conformance with the Central Vermont Regional Plan

Dear Mr. Walke,

The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) has reviewed the Draft Steven, Wells, Waits, Ompompanoosuc & Connecticut River Direct Tributaries, Basin-14 Tactical Basin Plan, dated May 2020. The purpose of this memorandum is to analyze the relative conformance of the Draft Tactical Basin Plan with the relevant Goals, Strategies and Recommended Actions of the Regional Plan.

Introduction
The CVRPC has the opportunity to provide recommendations to the Agency of Natural Resources regarding tactical basin plans pursuant to Vermont Statutes Title 10, Chapter 47, §1253(d). Statute directs regional planning commissions to:

- (2)(G) ... the Secretary [of Natural Resources] shall: develop, in consultation with the regional planning commission, an analysis and formal recommendation on conformance with the goals and objectives of applicable regional plans.
- (3)(D) ... [the regional planning commissions are to] assist the Secretary in implementing a project evaluation process to prioritize water quality improvement projects within the region to assure cost effective use of State and federal funds.

CVRPC staff completed a review of the Draft Steven, Wells, Waits, Ompompanoosuc & Connecticut River Direct Tactical Basin Plan in May, 2020. Staff then presented the review to CVRPC’s Regional Plan Committee on May 26, 2020 for review and comment, to the Clean Water Advisory Committee on June 11, 2020 for review and comment, and to the Executive Committee for review and approval on June 15, 2020. Based upon this process the CVRPC presents these comments to the VT Agency of Natural Resources.

Plan Conformance
The Draft Steven, Wells, Waits, Ompompanoosuc & Connecticut River Direct Tactical Basin Plan and the 2016 Central Vermont Regional Plan, amended 2018, contain overarching conforming Goals and Objectives. The accompanying table on page 4 lists the Basin Plan’s top objectives and strategies and identifies those Regional Plan goals, policies, and actions which are mutually supportive. (See attachment titled “Conformance Analysis of Goals & Objectives: Basin 14 Draft Tactical Basin Plan to the...
CV Regional Plan”). CVRPC found that the Draft Basin 14 Tactical Basin Plan conforms to the following main policies of the Land Use, Outdoor Recreation, Economics, Facilities, Services, and Utilities, and Transportation Goals in the Regional Plan:

- Generally opposing downgrading of water classifications and supporting maintenance/upgrading of classifications. The TBP objectives to assess candidates for reclassification, and recommend reclassification of Riddle Pond Outlet and Lower Waits River to B(1) for fishing conforms to these policies.
- Supporting municipalities to 1) enhance their flood hazard regulations and 2) implement land use policies and regulations that consider disaster resilience. The TBP objectives to revisit the Waits River River Corridor Plans and increase ERAF ratings conforms to these policies.
- Preserving wetlands to protect their function and productivity. The TBP objectives to update wetland mapping and provide outreach and training on the Vermont Rapid Assessment Method conforms to this policy.
- Promoting sound management, conservation, and use of natural resources, and employing Acceptable Management Practices (AMPs) on all agricultural operations. The TBP objective to develop BMP projects for farmers to submit to AAFM conforms to these policies.
- Protecting public health and safety and supporting the betterment of surface water quality in the region. The TBP objective to protect public health and safety and ensure public use and enjoyment of waters and their ecological health conforms to this policy.
- Preventing the spread of invasive species and implementing coordinated invasive species and forest pest education measures. The TBP objectives to recruit residents to join the Vermont Invasives Patrollers, and reduce the spread of invasive species and protect existing biodiversity conforms to this policy.
- Adopting policies and practices to reduce stormwater runoff volume and minimizing negative environmental impacts associated with the transportation system. The TBP objectives to identify and address sources of sediment in Washington, prioritize stormwater projects, replace/retrofit high priority stream crossings, implement BMPs for high priority road segments, and remediate impacts of impervious surface-related stressors conforms to these policies.
- Minimizing forest and habitat fragmentation, and ensuring that resource extraction operations follow AMP’s. The TBP objectives to provide outreach, technical assistance and workshops to forestland owners and loggers on AMPs, implement forest restoration projects on state lands in Washington/Orange, and promote sustainable timber harvesting practices conforms to this policy.

Other Comments
CVRPC offers the following general comments:

- On page 36, Figure 12, it appears that Cookville Swamp (#24 in the Figure) is located in the Town of Washington. The Town where the swamp is located is indicated as Corinth on page 35.

Recommendation: Clarify the location of Cookville Swamp. From aerial photos a large wetland complex along Cookville Brook is in Corinth. If this is what is known as Cookville Swamp, then please revise Figure 12.

The CVRPC Clean Water Advisory Committee (CWAC) conducted a thorough review of the Basin Plan and had the following comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Draft Steven, Wells, Waits, Ompompanoosuc & Connecticut River Direct Tactical Basin Plan. We look forward to working with ANR on the Plan implementation and other related projects in the future.
Sincerely,

Bonnie Waninger
Executive Director
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Pg. #</th>
<th>Focus Areas: Scotch Burn, Middle Brook &amp; Blood Brook, Waits River, Ompompanoosuc River, Connecticut River Mainstem</th>
<th>General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies:</th>
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</table>
| Executive Summary, Table 1: Target Watershed Areas for Restoration and Protection | 9     | Priority strategies:  
--- Support outreach and project identification for agricultural best management practices (BMPs), riparian area plantings, river corridor and wetlands easements, and riparian area restoration.  
--- Implement water quality monitoring on farms to measure effectiveness of restoration efforts | Goal 1: To promote sound management, conservation and use of the Region's natural resources.  
Goal 1, Policy 3: Support the betterment of surface water quality in the Region.  
Goal 1, Policy 3, Strategy 3a: Storage and utilization of fertilizers, pesticides, petro-chemicals, herbicides, sludge, or other potentially harmful industrial, agricultural, commercial or residential materials, must be accomplished in a manner compatible with existing regulations.  
Goal 7: To manage the quality and quantity of storm water runoff in order to avoid property damage and negative impacts on surface and groundwater.  
Goal 7, Policy 3: Acceptable Management Practices (AMP's, as defined by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources) should be employed on all agricultural, silvicultural and earth extraction operations. |
| Executive Summary, Table 1: Target Watershed Areas for Restoration and Protection | 9     | Focus Areas: Ompompanoosuc River, Waits River, Stevens River, Wells River, Bloody Brook, Prospective A(1) & B(1) Rivers & Streams | General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies: |
| Priority strategies:  
--- Develop and implement projects from River Corridor Plans  
--- Replace or retrofit high priority stream crossings that have been identified in bridge and culvert inventories  
--- Provide outreach to communities on floodplain and river corridor protections | Goal 1: To promote sound management, conservation and use of the Region's natural resources  
Goal 1, Policy 5: Avoid or limit development and investment in identified flood hazard areas. Where established economic and institutional centers exist, development in these centers shall adhere to strict floodplain management standards to minimize flood damage and public safety risk.  
Goal 1, Policy 5, Strategy 5b: Encourage and provide technical assistance to municipalities in enhancing the regulatory standards in their municipal flood hazard regulations, including the incorporation of River Corridor regulations  
Goal 1, Policy 3, Strategy 3f: Assist with and support efforts to remove dams that are not serving a useful purpose and other artificial barriers from rivers and streams. Help identify dams that are not serving a useful purposes and that should be listed for removal in conformance with state and federal rules and regulations. |
| Executive Summary, Table 1: Target Watershed Areas for Restoration and Protection | 9     | Focus Areas: Ompompanoosuc River, Waits River, Stevens River, Wells River, Bloody Brook, Prospective A(1) & B(1) Rivers & Streams | General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies: |
| Priority strategies: Provide technical support for river and stream reclassification protection efforts | Goal 1, Policy 3, Strategy 3b: CVRPC opposes the downgrading of surface water classifications unless such action is required to accommodate treated effluent from new or expanded municipal sewage treatment facilities. The Commission also opposes the upgrading of surface water classifications where such upgrading might be misleading or dangerous to users  
Outdoor Recreation Goals, Policies, and Strategies:  
Policy 7: CVRPC supports the maintenance or upgrading of existing surface water classifications to reflect their actual recreational uses, except where lower classifications may be needed for municipal sewage treatment projects |
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<th><strong>Executive Summary, Table 1: Target Watershed Areas for Restoration and Protection</strong></th>
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| **Focus Areas:** Waits River, South Peacham Brook  
*Complete Road Erosion Inventories (REIs) and implement BMPs on high priority road segments* |
| **General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies** |
| Goal 7: To manage the quality and quantity of storm water runoff in order to avoid property damage and negative impacts on surface and groundwater.  
Goal 7, Policy 2: Structural Best Management Practices (BMP’s) should be used, as appropriate, to control storm water on new development sites before, during and after construction, including plans for long term maintenance and operations. (The strategy includes a bulleted list of objectives and applications on page 2-44.) |

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| **Recommended for additional study/monitoring to determine eligibility for B(1) for aquatic biota**  
#21: East Orange Branch Waits River (Washington)  
#16: Waits River mainstem  
#27: Cookeville Brook |
| **General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies** |
| Goal 1, Policy 3, Strategy 3b: CVRPC opposes the downgrading of surface water classifications unless such action is required to accommodate treated effluent from new or expanded municipal sewage treatment facilities. The Commission also opposes the upgrading of surface water classifications where such upgrading might be misleading or dangerous to users.  
Outdoor Recreation:  
Policy 7: CVRPC supports the maintenance or upgrading of existing surface water classifications to reflect their actual recreational uses, except where lower classifications may be needed for municipal sewage treatment projects.  

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| **Recommended to reclassify to B(1) for fishing**  
#20: Riddle Pond Outlet |
| **General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies** |
| Goal 1, Policy 3, Strategy 3b: CVRPC opposes the downgrading of surface water classifications unless such action is required to accommodate treated effluent from new or expanded municipal sewage treatment facilities. The Commission also opposes the upgrading of surface water classifications where such upgrading might be misleading or dangerous to users.  
Outdoor Recreation:  
Policy 7: CVRPC supports the maintenance or upgrading of existing surface water classifications to reflect their actual recreational uses, except where lower classifications may be needed for municipal sewage treatment projects.  
Orange Town Plan, pg 26: "Riddle Pond displays high quality aesthetic value and is excellent wildlife habitat...As the health of these bodies of water is important to the Town, any undue, potentially detrimental activities should be discouraged." |

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| **Wetland for further study for Class(1) designation**  
#24: Cookeville Swamp (Recommendation: Clarify the location of Cookeville Swamp. From aerial photos a large wetland complex along Cookeville Brook is in Corinth. If this is what is known as Cookeville Swamp, then please revise Figure 12) |
| **General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies** |
| Goal 1, Policy 3, Strategy 3b: CVRPC opposes the downgrading of surface water classifications unless such action is required to accommodate treated effluent from new or expanded municipal sewage treatment facilities. The Commission also opposes the upgrading of surface water classifications where such upgrading might be misleading or dangerous to users.  
Outdoor Recreation Goals, Policies, and Strategies:  
Policy 7: CVRPC supports the maintenance or upgrading of existing surface water classifications to reflect their actual recreational uses, except where lower classifications may be needed for municipal sewage treatment projects. |
Chapter 4, Natural Resources: Rivers

Local Zoning and Bylaws:
Smart planning and design for development through Local Hazard Mitigation Plans (LHMP) and ERAF attainment in towns and villages saves money and lowers the risk of significant loss during flood events, while protecting water quality as an added benefit.

Facilities, Services and Utilities Goals, Policies, and Strategies

Emergency Management Goal 1: To build disaster resistant communities in Central Vermont through sound emergency planning and management.
Emergency Management Goal 2: To ensure that all communities in Central Vermont have the appropriate information, resources, and tools to respond to disaster events and recover from their impacts.
EM Policies:
1. Promote the importance of local emergency management plans to municipalities in Central Vermont.
3. Encourage municipalities to undertake and periodically review an all-hazards assessment in their community to identify potential hazards and the at-risk people and property.
4. Encourage municipalities to adopt minimum standards for public roads, bridges, and culverts (using the Vermont Local Roads Program and FEMA’s standards).
5. Encourage municipalities to implement land use policies and development regulations that consider the potential impacts of disasters on people and property.
8. Encourage municipalities to amend flood hazard regulations so they comply with current NFIP requirements.
9. Provide local officials with information on programs and funding available through FEMA and/or VEM for emergency management and hazard mitigation projects.

General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies:

Goal 1: To promote sound management, conservation and use of the Region's natural resources.

Goal 1, Policy 3: Support the betterment of surface water quality in the Region.

Goal 7: To manage the quality and quantity of storm water runoff in order to avoid property damage and negative impacts on surface and groundwater.

Chapter 5, Table 13: Summary Implementation Actions for Basin 14 TBP

Actions to address runoff from agricultural lands (basinwide)

1. Increase technical assistance to farms to develop BMP projects for farmers to submit to VAAFM for funding.
2. Support funding to provide assistance for managing shared equipment.
3. Build capacity of the CRWFA
4. Farm management teams to provide an organized contact for farmers around technical assistance for water quality protection.
5. Continue funding for cover crop and no-till
6. Look into the possibility of the development and creation of an inter-seeding machine for cover cropping.

General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies:

Goal 1: To promote sound management, conservation and use of the Region's natural resources.

Goal 1, Policy 3: Support the betterment of surface water quality in the Region.

Goal 7: Acceptable Management Practices (AMP’s, as defined by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources) should be employed on all agricultural, silvicultural and earth extraction operations.
### Chapter 5, Table 13: Summary Implementation Actions for Basin 14 TBP

#### Actions to address runoff from developed lands stormwater-

**Washington #14.** Work with watershed partners and municipalities to prioritize stormwater projects in Basin 14 where Stormwater Mapping Reports have been completed.

#### General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies:

**Goal 7:** To manage the quality and quantity of storm water runoff in order to avoid property damage and negative impacts on surface and groundwater.

**Goal 7, Policy 2:** Structural Best Management Practices (BMP’s) should be used, as appropriate, to control storm water on new development sites before, during and after construction, including plans for long term maintenance and operations. (The strategy includes a bulleted list of objectives and applications on page 2-44.)

**Goal 7, Policy 4:** Efforts should be made to minimize the extent of impervious surfaces and surface runoff associated with parking facilities. (The strategy includes a bulleted list of recommended methods on page 2-44.)

**Goal 7, Policy 5:** Municipalities should consider adopting policies and practices to reduce the volume and impacts of storm water runoff,... (The strategy includes a bulleted list of policies and practices on page 2-44.)

#### Actions to address runoff from developed lands- Roads (Basinwide, Waits River)

**#16.** Provide and support training for road crews on culvert replacements and installation and maintenance of road BMPs.

**#17.** Complete Road Erosion Inventories (REIs) to meet Municipal Road General Permit (MRGP) requirements.

**#18.** Implement best management practices for high priority road segments identified in REIs to meet MRGP requirements.

#### General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies:

**Goal 7:** To manage the quality and quantity of storm water runoff in order to avoid property damage and negative impacts on surface and groundwater.

**Goal 7, Policy 2:** Structural Best Management Practices (BMP’s) should be used, as appropriate, to control storm water on new development sites before, during and after construction, including plans for long term maintenance and operations. (The strategy includes a bulleted list of objectives and applications on page 2-44.)

**Goal 7, Policy 4:** Efforts should be made to minimize the extent of impervious surfaces and surface runoff associated with parking facilities. (The strategy includes a bulleted list of recommended methods on page 2-44.)

**Goal 7, Policy 5:** Municipalities should consider adopting policies and practices to reduce the volume and impacts of storm water runoff,... (The strategy includes a bulleted list of policies and practices on page 2-44.)

#### Natural Resource Protection: Wetlands (basinwide)

**#24.** Update wetland mapping.

**#25.** Provide outreach and training to interested communities on conducting Vermont Rapid Assessment Method inventories.

#### General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies:

**Goal 1:** To promote sound management, conservation and use of the Region's natural resources.

**Goal 1, Policy: 3:** Support the betterment of surface water quality in the Region.

**Goal 1, Policy 3, Strategy 5d:** Wetlands that provide a flood storage function as determined by the VT Wetlands Program should be left undisturbed or development should be required to provide compensatory storage or restoration on-site or in the immediate vicinity, if disturbed.

**Goal 4:** To protect environmentally sensitive or unique areas.

**Goal 4, Policy 8:** It is the policy of CVRPC to encourage the preservation of wetlands so as to protect their function and productivity. Efforts (including consideration of site design options) should be made to mitigate against the possible adverse impacts of development on the Region's wetlands.
### Chapter 5, Table 13: Summary Implementation Actions for Basin 14 TBP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action Description</th>
<th>Basin Area</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resource Protection: Rivers (basinwide)</td>
<td>#26</td>
<td>Increase ERAF rating by increasing municipal protections of water resources through local ordinances and the adoption of recommended standards and plans: river corridor protection, national floodplain insurance program, local emergency management plan, and local hazard mitigation plan. Continue to keep these plans up-to-date and implement their recommendations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resource Protection: Rivers (Orange, Washington)</td>
<td>#34</td>
<td>Assess candidates for reclassification on municipal and VFPR lands that have been identified in the 2020 Basin 14 TBP. These headwaters include North Branch of the Wells River, Red Brook, Beaver Brook, the South Branch of the Wells River, and the Waits River headwaters. Additional monitoring is recommended to determine if these waters meet criteria for reclassification for aquatic biota. The Waits River headwaters currently meeting the criteria for 8(1) for fishing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resource Protection: Rivers (basinwide)</td>
<td>#39</td>
<td>Replace or retrofit high priority stream crossings that have been identified through previously completed or new the bridge and culvert assessment process. Conduct additional assessments as necessary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resource Protection: Lakes (Orange)</td>
<td>#51</td>
<td>Recruit residents to join the Vermont Invasive Patrollers. There are currently no VIPs in this basin.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Facilities, Services and Utilities Goals, Policies, and Strategies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Policy</th>
<th>Strategy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Management</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>To build disaster resistant communities in Central Vermont through sound emergency planning and management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Management</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>To ensure that all communities in Central Vermont have the appropriate information, resources, and tools to respond to disaster events and recover from their impacts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EM Policies:</td>
<td></td>
<td>1. Promote the importance of local emergency management plans to municipalities in Central Vermont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3. Encourage municipalities to undertake and periodically review an all-hazards assessment in their community to identify potential hazards and the at-risk people and property.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4. Encourage municipalities to adopt minimum standards for public roads, bridges, and culverts (using the Vermont Local Roads Program and FEMA’s standards).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5. Encourage municipalities to implement land use policies and development regulations that consider the potential impacts of disasters on people and property.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8. Encourage municipalities to amend flood hazard regulations so they comply with current NFIP requirements.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9. Provide local officials with information on programs and funding available through FEMA and/or VEM for emergency management and hazard mitigation projects.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Policy</th>
<th>Strategy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Goal 1, Policy 3, Strategy 3b</td>
<td>CVRPC opposes the downgrading of surface water classifications unless such action is required to accommodate treated effluent from new or expanded municipal sewage treatment facilities. The Commission also opposes the upgrading of surface water classifications where such upgrading might be misleading or dangerous to users.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goal 7</td>
<td>To manage the quality and quantity of storm water runoff in order to avoid property damage and negative impacts on surface and groundwater.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goal 7</td>
<td>Municipalities should consider adopting policies and practices to reduce the volume and impacts of storm water runoff, ... (The strategy includes a bulleted list of policies and practices on page 2-44. including “properly sizing and maintaining culverts”)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Outdoor Recreation Goals, Policies, and Strategies

| Goal 7, Policy 7, Strategy 9a | CVRPC supports the maintenance or upgrading of existing surface water classifications to reflect their actual recreational uses, except where lower classifications may be needed for municipal sewage treatment projects |

| Goal 4, Policy 9, Strategy 9b | Encourage landscaping with native species over the use of non-native species, particularly in non-urban environments. Work with UVM Extension Master Gardeners on educating homeowners on the use of native trees and plants. |
|---|---|---|
| 79 | #53. Provide outreach, technical assistance and workshops to private forestland owners, foresters, and loggers on AMPs, use of skidder bridges, and voluntary harvesting guidelines. | #54. Implement forest infrastructure restoration projects on state lands such as culvert replacements or retrofits, road decommissioning where water quality benefits are identified through assessments and long-range management plans. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter 5, Table 13: Summary Implementation Actions for Basin 14 TBP</th>
<th>Kettle Pond (Marshfield, Groton)</th>
<th>General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>80</td>
<td>Monitor presence/absence of invasive species</td>
<td>Goal 7: To manage the quality and quantity of storm water runoff in order to avoid property damage and negative impacts on surface and groundwater.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter 5, Table 14: Basin 14 Priorities for Monitoring and Assessment</th>
<th>Target Area: Basinwide</th>
<th>General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>89</td>
<td>Objective: Gather additional nutrient water quality data to better direct ANR and partners’ watershed protection and restoration work in the watershed</td>
<td>Goal 4, Policy 9. Prevent the spread of terrestrial invasive species and forest pests.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appendix A: 2015 Basin 14 TBP Implementation Table Status Update</th>
<th>General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>89</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Goal 1, Policy 3: Support the betterment of surface water quality in the Region.  
Goal 1, Policy 6: Improve flood resilience planning, education and outreach activities to create a citizenry aware of flood risks, potential costs, and actions that can serve to reduce risk and future property loss.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appendix A: 2015 Basin 14 TBP Implementation Table Status Update</th>
<th>Target Area: Basinwide</th>
<th>General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Objective: Promote sustainable timber harvesting practices to control soil erosion and reduce sedimentation to waterways.</td>
<td>Goal 7: To manage the quality and quantity of storm water runoff in order to avoid property damage and negative impacts on surface and groundwater.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Goal 7, Policy 3. Acceptable Management Practices (AMP’s, as defined by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources) should be employed on all agricultural, silvicultural and earth extraction operations.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Economic Goals, Policies, and Strategies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Goal 2, Policy 7C. Ensure that resource extraction operations follow best management practices to minimize impacts to the local and surrounding environment and other land uses, and to allow for site restoration.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Goal 2, Policy 7D. Implement the goals and policies presented in the Land Use element of this Plan related to continued use, sustainability and protection of productive forests and prime agricultural soils.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Appendix A: 2015 Basin 14 TBP Implementation Table Status Update**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target Area: Basinwide</th>
<th>Objective: Remediate impacts of impervious surface-related stressors to waters. Update or Recommendation for 2020 TBP: Work with watershed partners and municipalities to prioritize stormwater projects in Basin 14 where Stormwater Mapping has been completed.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goal 7: To manage the quality and quantity of storm water runoff in order to avoid property damage and negative impacts on surface and groundwater.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goal 7, Policy 1. New development should, through design and maintenance, attempt to minimize changes in the volume and chemical composition of runoff. (The strategy includes a bulleted list of recommended methods on page 2-44)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goal 7, Policy 2. Structural Best Management Practices (BMP’s) should be used, as appropriate, to control storm water on new development sites before, during and after construction, including plans for long term maintenance and operations. (The strategy includes a bulleted list of objectives and applications on page 2-44.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goal 7, Policy 4. Efforts should be made to minimize the extent of impervious surfaces and surface runoff associated with parking facilities. (The strategy includes a bulleted list of recommended methods on page 2-44.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goal 7, Policy 5. Municipalities should consider adopting policies and practices to reduce the volume and impacts of storm water runoff,... (The strategy includes a bulleted list of policies and practices on page 2-44.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation Goals and Policies:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goal 2: To preserve and maintain the existing transportation system.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goal 2, Policy 1. Support the necessary steps for evaluating, prioritizing, and implementing preventive maintenance programs for all elements of the transportation system.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Appendix A: 2015 Basin 14 TBP Implementation Table Status Update

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Target Area</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Update or Recommendation for 2020 TBP</th>
<th>General Land Use Goals, Policies, and Strategies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90</td>
<td>Basinwide</td>
<td>Promote littoral habitat protection on lakes by control of shoreland soil erosion, nutrient loss and sedimentation.</td>
<td>Focus shoreland training in Basin 14 and plan to coordinate with NRCD. Focus outreach on camps, businesses, and private landowners. Lake Morey did a septic local 2018 with large turnout</td>
<td>Goal 1: To promote sound management, conservation and use of the Region’s natural resources. Goal 1, Policy 3: Support the betterment of surface water quality in the Region. Goal 1, Policy 3, Strategy 3d: Native vegetated buffer strips in riparian zones and shoreland areas should be protected or maintained according to Best Management Practices outlined in the Vermont Handbook for Shoreland Development and VT ANR Guidance Regarding Riparian Buffers to protect functional habitat and improve water quality. Goal 1, Policy 3, Strategy 3g: Assist landowners in identifying funding opportunities to support buffer plantings on their properties that would support stream bank and shoreland restoration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91</td>
<td>Basinwide</td>
<td>Reduce the spread of invasive species and protect existing biodiversity in basin lakes.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Goal 4, Policy 9: Prevent the spread of terrestrial invasive species and forest pests. Goal 4, Policy 9, Strategy 9a: Work with partners to implement coordinated invasive species and forest pest education, detection, prevention and control measures. Goal 4, Policy 9, Strategy 9b: Encourage landscaping with native species over the use of non-native species, particularly in non-urban environments. Work with UVM Extension Master Gardeners on...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91</td>
<td>Town of Washington</td>
<td>Identify and address significant sources of sediment, nutrients, and bacteria entering waters in the watershed.</td>
<td>BMPs funded by Better Roads in Orange. Corinth REI completed in 2017. Topsham REI planned for 2019 (funding secured). REI for Washington and Orange scheduled for summer 2019. Bradford REI &amp; culvert inventory planned for 2020 (funding secured).</td>
<td>Goal 7: To manage the quality and quantity of storm water runoff in order to avoid property damage and negative impacts on surface and groundwater. Goal 7, Policy 1: New development should, through design and maintenance, attempt to minimize changes in the volume and chemical composition of runoff. (The strategy includes a bulleted list of recommended methods on page 2-44) Goal 7, Policy 2: Structural Best Management Practices (BMP’s) should be used, as appropriate, to control storm water on new development sites before, during and after construction, including plans for long term maintenance and operations. (The strategy includes a bulleted list of objectives and applications on page 2-44.) Goal 7, Policy 4: Efforts should be made to minimize the extent of impervious surfaces and surface runoff associated with parking facilities. (The strategy includes a bulleted list of recommended methods on page 2-44.) Goal 7, Policy 5: Municipalities should consider adopting policies and practices to reduce the volume and impacts of storm water runoff,... (The strategy includes a bulleted list of policies and practices on page 2-44.) Transportation Goals and Policies: Goal 2: To preserve and maintain the existing transportation system. Goal 2, Policy 1: Support the necessary steps for evaluating, prioritizing, and implementing transportation projects and facilities that have a positive impact on the transportation network.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME AND ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA
D Torre opened the meeting at 4:05pm. There were no adjustments to the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
L Hill Eubanks made a motion to approve the February 18, 2020 meeting minutes with the amendments noted, seconded by M Dent. All in favor. Motioned carried.

Basin 14 Basin Plan - Grace Vinson, CVRPC Staff
Vinson provided a summary of the proposed comments and recommendations (as contained within the meeting materials) regarding the Steven, Wells, Waits, Ompompanoosuc & Connecticut River Direct Tributaries, Basin-14 Tactical Basin Plan’s conformance with the Regional Plan.

Discussion followed with comments and questions by the committee. The committee suggested the crosswalk accompany the letter to ANR as it provides good context for items referenced in the letter.

Grammatical and formatting suggestions were made including a suggestion that when the document name is used for the first time (i.e. Tactical Basin Plan) the acronym should follow (i.e. TBP). Plus a request that line # be used for easier referencing in the review process.

The committee also inquired about bullet 2 in the letter and whether the RPC should also be commenting on the prioritization of projects (as this wasn’t covered in the memo) Staff should double check if this is applicable, before the conformance review and comments are finalized and submitted to the Executive Committee.
Marcella Dent, indicated that she works with VT DEC and while she isn’t involved with the tactical basin Plan Dent wanted to ensure there wouldn’t be any perceived possible conflict of interest. Other committee members thanks Dent for raising the issue and the committee determined there was no conflict of interest.

Other committee comments included: Combining the 2 wetland comments and/or cross reference the comments within the crosswalk documents, and making the connection between the Regional Plan Goals and the Basin Plan strategies clearer by referring to specific Regional Plan goals in the letter, and bolding each Regional Plan goal in the crosswalk document as opposed to just underlining.

Vinson provided an overview of the review process:
June 11: CWAC will review, primary for input on comments on meeting water quality goals (rather than on conformance.)
June 15: Executive Committee will review all comments and approve final comments and input prior to submittal to ANR.
June 18: Staff shall send final version to ANR.

Regional Plan: Development of New Plan – Clare Rock, CVRPC Staff

The committee reviewed comments and feedback from Board meeting on March 10, 2020. This included reviewing input on the draft Vision and Aspirations; and a review of the municipal needs, challenges and successes. The committee discussed incorporation into the Regional Plan.

A general comment made by the committee was a recognition of how broad the view is on the term “infrastructure.” Municipalities are likely just looking at things like water and sewer and roads, and likely not necessarily thinking about broadband and other telecommunication needs. With current conditions and everyone relying on internet service this has become highlighted how there just isn’t adequate broadband. In the context of the draft aspirations, we may not know how people are interpreting the term “infrastructure.”

The committee went through the draft Aspirations and Board comments (included in the packet and had the following discussions:

Re: the economy aspiration: Should do a better merge of the existing aspiration and the staff revision. The second half of the original aspiration shouldn’t be lost and the term “skilled” should be removed, as this implies unskilled workers are not wanted or needed yet they are integral to many businesses in the region. One committee questioned whether the aspiration should also include a reference to the management aspect of businesses. No additional suggestion were made on this comment.

Re: Housing aspiration: Discussion of the terms “attractive” and “high quality” and their relative subjective nature. There was general support of the proposed revision with a suggestion to include energy efficiency, suggestion to look at Downstreets’ language and the inclusion of terms like “healthy” and home. Discussion followed about passing judgement on people’s individual standards of attractive and safe, and affordable. The committee agreed to change the aspiration to “Ensure a range of safe, healthy, and affordable homes which are available for all residents.” With the caveat this may be modified or wordsmith-ed in the next review.
Re: Energy aspiration: discussions about the use of the term “clean” as in “clean energy” and what this actually means to not only the development of energy but in the development and re-use of the materials such as solar panels. The staff revision doesn’t seem to capture all types of energy usage, such as transportation energy usage and the aspiration needs to accommodate all sectors and not just an alternatives electrical energy. One suggestion was the inclusion of bundling the adjectives... “Reliable, efficient and diverse...” Staff will take another run at that one.

Re: Cost-effect infrastructure: yes we should we weave in the term “connectivity” to relate to broadband, to clarify that internet is part of the infrastructure. In response to staff revision, committee wanted to keep the term growth pattern, but this may not be adequate. Staff take another crack at that one.

Re: Healthy and connected population: the term connected should emphasize community networks “and building social capital” and not how socially connected an individual should be. This clarification could likely come with the associated narrative, and no necessarily change the aspiration.

Staff reported CVRPC is applying for EDA funds to write a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) in partnership with a few other RPC’s. If this project is funded this CEDS would be, could be the economic development chapter of our new regional plan. Committee would like additional information about the components of this because if the CEDS will result in just a list of projects then it may not be sufficient. Staff shall provide additional information about this effort and its intersection with the regional plan at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

L Hill-Eubanks made a motion to adjourn, seconded by J Potter, all in favor. Motion carried.

Next meeting Date: approx. 2 months, date TBD.