Winooski Basin Water Quality Council (BWQC)
Draft Meeting Minutes – 15 October 2026

Winooski Basin Water Quality Council Members: (9 seats total) ✓

NRCDs		**RPCs**	
	Emily Porter-Goff, Lamoille NRCD	✓	Garret Mott, CCRPC (Chair)
	Sarah Skelding, Lamoille NRCD	✓	Lisa Cicchetti, CCRPC alternate
✓	Daniel Koenemann, Winooski NRCD	✓	Royal DeLegge, CVRPC
✓	Lucas Goldfluss, Alternate		Rich Turner, CVRPC alternate
Land Conservation Organizations		**Municipalities**	
✓	Remy Crettol, VT River Conservancy	✓	Annie Costandi, Essex
	Vacant, Alternate		Rachel Tobler, Alternate
Watershed Protection Organizations			Vacant
✓	Sam Puddicombe, Friends of the Winooski River		David Stapleton, Moretown, Alternate
	Michele Braun, Alternate		
	Taylor Litwin, Alternate		
	Ira Shadis, Friends of the Mad River		
✓	Julie Frost, Alternate		
	Kinny Perot, Alternate		

CVRPC Staff: Brian Voigt

Guests: Alice Weis (Lamoille NRCD), Keith Fritschie (Department of Environmental Conservation)

Call to order & Roll call: G. Mott called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

Updates to agenda: None

Public comment: None

Review & approve minutes from the 17 September 2026 meeting (action)
D. Koenemann made a motion to approve the minutes of the 17 September 2026 meeting. R. DeLegge seconded, all were in favor, and the motion passed.

DRAFT

Election of Vice Chair

S. Puddicombe made a motion to elect D. Koenemann as Vice Chair. R. DeLegge seconded. D. Koenemann abstained, all others were in favor, and the motion passed.

Project Proposal Initial Review (see slides)

Friends of the Winooski River: Riparian Buffer Planting – Huntington - Town Forest:
S. Puddicombe introduces the project proposal which seeks funds to restore 0.5 acres of riparian habitat by establishing a buffer width of 100+ feet and a planting density of 300 stems per acre along the Huntington River. There is potential for match from the Lake Champlain Basin Program but may not be necessary given the small amount of funding requested. This project was identified as part of a CWSP-funded riparian buffer project development effort. The estimated phosphorus reduction for this project is 0.45 kg / yr. The project budget is $5,473.

Friends of the Winooski River: Riparian Buffer Planting – Northfield – Wellfield:
S. Puddicombe introduces the project proposal which seeks funds to restore 3 acres of riparian habitat by establishing a buffer width of 50 feet along a small tributary of the dog river and expanding a previously planted area along the mainstem of the Dog River to 100 feet. Planting density will be 400 stems per acre. This project was identified as part of a CWSP-funded riparian buffer project development effort. The estimated phosphorus reduction for this project is 2.94 kg / yr. The project budget is $23,831. L. Goldfluss asked about the presence of knotweed at the planting location. S. Puddicombe noted that Knotweed is present along the main stem but he is not concerned with it impacting the success of this planting project.

Friends of the Winooski River: Riparian Buffer Planting – Stowe – Moscow Recreation Field:
S. Puddicombe introduces the project proposal which seeks funds to restore 0.5 acres of riparian habitat by establishing a buffer width of 60-100 feet with a planting density of 400 stems per acre along the Little River. This project was identified as part of a CWSP-funded riparian buffer project development effort. S. Puddicombe mentioned the idea of replanting this previously planted area through project adoption. The estimated phosphorus reduction for this project is 0.75 kg / yr. The project budget is $6,679. K. Fritschie requested a picture of the previously planted area. B. Voigt asked how the previous planting was funded. S. Puddicombe responded that it was through the Watersheds United Vermont Woody Buffer Block Grant. K. Fritschie will work with Friends of the Winooski and the CWSP to decide if this should be a new project or an adopted one. B. Voigt noted the CWSP may be at is adoption cap, but if the project is approved, they will find a way to allocate funds for this planting.

DRAFT

Announcements

- DEC Clean Water Initiative Program (CWIP) is in the process of updating the CWIP Funding Policy:. Send your comments to madeline.cotter@vermont.gov with subject line "Funding Policy Comments: Batch 3." by **October 30, 2026.** Batch 3 - Process, Format and Other Improvements include updates to the: Project Types Table , Eligibility Screening Form, and Operations and Maintenance Plan and Agreement
- **Watersheds United Vermont (WUV) Enhancement Riparian Buffer Grant program:** For Spring and Fall 2027 plantings. ~$300,000 is provided by the VT DEC Clean Water Initiative Program. All materials can be found here. For questions contact Christian Pelletier, (christian@watershedsunitedvt.org), and Lyn Munno, (lyn@watershedsunitedvt.org). **Application Due Date: October 23, 2026. Anticipated Notification of Award: Early November 2026.**
- CWSP Funding - The deadline for consideration at the 19 November 2026 Winooski River Basin Water Quality Council meeting is 12 November 2026. Schedule a meeting with Brian & Lincoln for project reviews & proposal development assistance.

K. Fritschie informed the group about the public comment period for the Clean Water Boards FY28 budget October 12 - November 12, 2026. For more information visit the Clean Water Board webpage.

D. Koenemann announced the Winooski NRCD's annual dinner on November 12th in Richmond. Register at Surveys - Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District.

Adjourn

D. Koenemann made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:24 PM. S. Puddicombe seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Next meeting scheduled for 19 November 2026.

Minutes submitted by CVRPC staff member Lincoln Frasca.

DRAFT