

The Connecticut River Valley Flood Control Commission, established September 8, 1953 when the signatory states of Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Vermont ratified the Compact which states, in Article I:

The principal purposes of this Compact are:

- a) To promote inter-state comity among and between the signatory states;
- b) To assure adequate storage capacity for impounding waters of the Connecticut River and its tributaries for the protection of life and property from floods;
- c) To provide a joint or common agency through which the signatory states, while promoting protecting and preserving to each the local interest and sovereignty of the respective signatory states, may more effectively cooperate in accomplishing the object of flood control and water resources utilization in the basin of the Connecticut River and its tributaries.

OFFICERS OF THE
CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION
AS OF JUNE 30, 2009

Evan Hammond, Chairman
Denise Ruzicka, Vice Chairman
Pauline M. Smiaroski, Executive Secretary and Assistant Treasurer

MEMBERS OF THE
CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION
AS OF JUNE 30, 2009

Connecticut

Charles D. Berger, Jr., 172 Blue St., Winchester 06094
Denise Ruzicka, 50 Creamery Rd., East Haddam, 06423
Barbara J. Ruhe, 915 Silas Deane Hwy., Wethersfield 06109

Massachusetts

Vacancy
Michael Misslin, Office of Waterways, Dept. of Conservation & Recreation, 251 Causeway St., Ste. 600,
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Martha King, Director of Waterways, Office of Waterways, 349 Lincoln St., Bldg. #45, Hingham, Ma
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New Hampshire

Robert G. Kline, 93 Old County Road, Plainfield 03781
Fred S. Parker, 28B Union Sq., Union St., Keene 03431
Robert Grimley, PO Box 550, Grantham, 03753

Vermont

Evan Hammond, 126 Colby Rd., Lunenburg 05906
Gary Moore, Box 454, Bradford, 05033
William Pettengill, 103 Maple Hill Drive, Guilford 05301

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009

Most of the Commission's business over the past year has centered on the issue of tax loss payments to towns with flood control facilities. The Commission is on record that we take seriously the issue that these payments have not been adjusted for over twenty years. The economic crisis the nation has suffered since our last Annual Report makes it not feasible at this point to actually request additional financial contributions from the Compact states. We have, however, continued to study and discuss the entire situation. Progress has been made, but we still need to continue to visit the issue in the future.

In July Commissioners received an invitation from the Town of Weathersfield, Vt. to attend an informational meeting on how to get us to appropriate more money for them. The invitation had been extended to all towns in the three states with flood control facilities. Chairman, Evan Hammond and Commissioners Parker and Grimley were able to attend this sometimes-contentious meeting. A suggestion worth pursuing was that perhaps we could recruit a college to help us with our research. The outcome of the meeting was that the Weathersfield Town Manager would collect land use data from all the affected towns and forward that information to us, the sentiment being that we would never get this information from the Corps. Although we received a copy of the e-mail sent to all towns, the Commission has not heard from Weathersfield about any information they may have collected.

Also, over the summer the chair wrote a letter to the new District Engineer of the Corps, Colonel Feir, asking for information regarding the flood control projects and how they relate to the concerns raised by Weathersfield. By the time of our September meeting we had not received a response.

At the September meeting, Commissioner Misslin reported that he had succeeded in breaking the barrier we were experiencing with the Corps and had made contact with Executive Officer, Steve Andon, and convinced him our requests were only for information. Subsequently Mr. Andon answered several of our questions through correspondence and we set a date to meet with him to discuss further informational needs. Mike's efforts are greatly appreciated.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (cont'd)
July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009

In November Commissioners Grimley, Hammond, Misslin, and Parker traveled to Concord, MA and met with Executive Officer Andon and the heads of the various departments of the Corps. The meeting was very productive in terms of establishing a working relationship with the Corps and having them understand our objectives. They offered some good suggestions including access to a website and alluded to a 1984 handbook they had produced which would have much of the information we needed.

At previous meetings, much of both the December and June meetings were consumed by discussions of the tax loss payments issue. In December Commissioners heard about the successful meeting with the Corps and discussed avenues of action we could pursue.

In June Commissioner Ruzika brought a copy of the Project Map Book that the Corps had mentioned when we met with them in November. Polly took it with the expectation of copying the pertinent sections. When it became apparent that the costs to do this would be excessive, Commissioner Hammond volunteered to scan the relevant pages and put them on a CD in PDF format. Copies of this CD were given to each member at the September, 2009 meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Evan Hammond, Chairman

SUMMARY OF THE MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION MEETINGS HELD DURING THE PERIOD OF THIS REPORT

September 19, 2008 - Motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously, with Robert Kline abstaining, to accept the Minutes of the June 20, 2008 meeting as presented. Also we still need to find a new member from MA to complement the Board – request has been made to Governor Patrick, but there hasn't been any response. The Budget was voted on and accepted. Support money has been received from NH & VT, but nothing has been forthcoming from CT or MA as yet. Mike Misslin stated that the new Executive Officer of the Corps is a civilian named Stephen Andon and the Commissioners decided to write to Mr. Andon and ask for a visit. Evan, Bob and Fred met with the Wethersfield, VT selectmen on July 9 in regard to their request for more money. The Commissioners told the group that we don't have authority to demand that MA and CT pay VT and NH more money. We are a Commission of four states and it is our job to promote comity between the states. We need to continue to meet with the Corps. Gary said payment in lieu of taxes is under attack every where. Chuck talked about the Freedom of Information Act – if we receive a letter, you have to act on it within 4 days, so reply immediately and say that you have received their letter and will respond accordingly. If someone calls and requests to examine our files, *ask for a formal request and make a copy of it*. Nothing can go out of the office and they must pay our employee salary and mileage.

December 5, 2008 - In November Chairman Evan Hammond and Commissioners Fred Parker, Bob Grimley and Mike Misslin traveled to Concord, MA for a scheduled meeting with members of the Corps of Engineers. At the beginning, the Corps didn't understand what we were looking for, but after they learned what we wanted/needed they became more helpful. They suggested we would have to resolve the interstate issue and they were willing to help us with this endeavor. Evan felt it was a very positive meeting and felt we established a good relationship. The Real Estate people said there wasn't any excess land at any of the dams that could be turned back to the towns and they also said we would have to define the project. At the Flood Control meeting, Barbara said first we have to define what the project will be and she thought we should pursue trying to get an interested student to collect data, do the research, etc. Mike Misslin said we're still short one commissioner from Massachusetts. Evan passed around a newspaper article from the *Caledonian Record* of July 7, 2008 with a picture of Gary Moore. He was named a Distinguished Alumnus of Lyndon State College and we're proud to have him on our Commission. **Motion was made**, seconded and voted to accept and approve the Tax Loss Figures for 2008. **Motion was made**, seconded and voted to accept and approve the Annual Report for 2007-2008. **Motion was made**, seconded and voted to send copies of the Annual Report to the governors of CT, MA, NH and VT.

June 26, 2009 – The Minutes of the December 5, 2008 meeting were accepted as presented. Once again, it was stated that we need new members from Massachusetts to fill the vacancies and Mike Misslin said he had talked with the Governor and the Governor stated that he was working on the matter. Tax Loss payments from CT and MA to VT were delayed because they had gone to a different office, but Mike had straightened things out. When discussing the new tax

formula, everyone agreed it would not be a good idea at this point since none of the states have any money for this. Gary said he understood that we have no money to undertake a major study, but he doesn't think the issue is going to go away. In the governor's office the issue isn't whether the evaluation is correct; it's that there hasn't been any increase in over 25 years. At this point Martha King, Director of Waterways for the DCR in MA arrived and everyone was introduced to her. There weren't any changes to the Draft Budget, so it was approved as presented. Since Evan had been Chairman for two years, he appointed Gary Moore, Fred Parker and Mike Misslin to oversee the process of selection of new officers.

The foregoing is a summary of the Minutes of meetings held during 2008-2009. They are available for inspection.

CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION
P. O. BOX 511
GREENFIELD, MA 01302

2008 TAX LOSSES AND REPAYMENTS

<u>MASSACHUSETTS</u>	<u>VALUATION BASIS</u>	<u>TAX RATE</u>	<u>TAX LOSS</u>
<u>Knightville</u>			
Chesterfield	\$ 16,670.00	\$13.46	\$ 250.00
Huntington	238,190.00	13.04	4,990.00
<u>Littleville</u>			
Chester	487,480.00	16.43	9,618.00
Huntington	29,360.00	13.04	615.00
<u>Birch Hill</u>			
Phillipston	110.00	8.41	1.00
Royalston	38,200.00	8.67	382.00
Templeton	694,670.00	9.20	7,433.00
Winchendon	323,620.00	11.49	6,919.00
<u>Tully</u>			
Athol	7,900.00	10.43	77.00
Royalston	180,000.00	8.67	<u>1,800.00</u>
<u>Barre Falls</u>			
All state land – no tax losses			
TOTAL			\$32,085.00
<u>NEW HAMPSHIRE</u>			
<u>Otter Brook</u>			
Keene	\$115,090.00	\$27.40	\$3,166.00
Roxbury	26,740.00	19.44	758.00
<u>Surry Mountain</u>			
Surry	238,190.00	18.85	<u>7,765.00</u>
TOTAL			\$11,689.00

The figures included with this report voted and approved by the Connecticut River Valley Flood Control Commission at its quarterly meeting, December 5, 2008.

CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION
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GREENFIELD, MA 01302

2008 TAX LOSSES AND REPAYMENTS

<u>VERMONT</u>	<u>VALUATION BASIS</u>	<u>TAX RATE</u>	<u>TAX LOSS</u>
<u>Union Village</u>			
Norwich	\$3,590.00	\$19.36	\$78.00
Thetford	203,380.00	20.72	3,675.00
<u>North Hartland</u>			
Hartland	110,140.00	16.77	2,324.00
Hartford	328,470.00	20.65	7,292.00
<u>North Springfield</u>			
Springfield	32,880.00	23.40	960.00
Weathersfield	554,510.00	20.32	10,092.00
Perkinsville	11,760.00	7.90	10.00
<u>Townshend</u>			
Jamaica	42,420.00	15.68	1,756.00
Townshend	204,780.00	15.87	5,656.00
<u>Ball Mountain</u>			
Jamaica	12,460.00	15.68	516.00
Londonderry	176,020.00	16.21	<u>2,341.00</u>
TOTAL			\$34,700.00

REIMBURSEMENT FOR TAX LOSSES

<u>CONNECTICUT PAYMENTS IN REIMBURSEMENT</u>			
	<u>TAX LOSS</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>PAYMENT</u>
TO: Massachusetts	\$32,085.00	40	\$12,834.00
New Hampshire	11,689.00	40	4,676.00
Vermont	34,700.00	40	<u>13,880.00</u>
TOTAL OF PAYMENTS TO BE MADE BY CT			\$31,390.00

<u>MASSACHUSETTS PAYMENTS IN REIMBURSEMENT</u>			
TO: New Hampshire	\$11,689.00	50	\$5,845.00
Vermont	34,700.00	50	<u>\$17,350.00</u>
TOTAL OF PAYMENTS TO BE MADE BY MA			\$23,195.00

**CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY
FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION
BUDGET
7/1/07-6/30/08**

<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>FORECAST</u> <u>7/01/08-6/30/09</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u> <u>7/01/07-6/30/08</u>	<u>BUDGETED</u> <u>7/01/07-6/30/08</u>
Support Money	**\$20,810.00	\$20,810.00	\$20,810.00
Interest Received	<u>1,800.00</u>	<u>2,592.14</u>	<u>1,300.00</u>
TOTAL RECEIPTS ***	\$22,610.00	\$23,402.14	\$22,110.00
<u>OFFICE EXPENSE</u>			
Maintaining an Office	\$ 500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Other Expense – (FICA and MEDICARE)	1,057.42	1,034.28	1,034.28
Salary – paid employee	14,127.36	13,518.96	13,518.96
Supplies	90.00	64.51	150.00
Telephone (Verizon)	490.00	482.59	485.00
Postage and Box Rent	200.00	188.58	150.00
Insurance: Bonds – Ex. Sec. and Chair	390.00	390.00	390.00
Worker’s Compensation	240.00	240.00	225.00
Travel and Meetings	2,500.00	2,212.27	2,100.00
Annual report	60.00	55.12	100.00
Petty Cash	25.00	25.00	25.00
Miscellaneous	25.00	79.27	100.00
On-Line/Website	<u>300.00</u>	<u>266.73</u>	<u>200.00</u>
TOTAL OFFICE EXPENSES	\$20,004.78	\$19,057.31	\$18,978.24
.....(surplus/deficit)	+\$2,605.22	+\$4,344.83	+\$3,131.76

**The Commission holds a CD in the amount of \$41,457.30
As of July 11, 2008.**

Support money is received as follows:

Vermont	\$2,500.00
New Hampshire	\$2,000.00
Massachusetts	\$7,500.00
Connecticut	\$8,810.00 **

In addition to its annual payment of \$7,500.00, the State of Massachusetts, as an “in kind” payment, supports the Commission by providing a meeting site and record storage space.

Connecticut commits \$1,310.00 more than the required \$7,500.00 for a total of \$8,810.00 for its support of the Commission.