

# Connecticut River Valley Flood Control Commission ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017



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, 2017

Gary Moore, Chair  
Denise Ruzicka, Vice Chair  
Angela Mrozinski, Administrator

MEMBERS OF THE  
CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION  
AS OF JUNE 30, 2017

Connecticut

Denise Ruzicka, East Haddam, CT  
Jason Bowsza, Broad Brook, CT  
Richard Sherman, Broad Brook, CT

Massachusetts

Michael Misslin, Maynard, MA  
Carl Gustafson, Hadley, MA  
VACANCY

New Hampshire

Robert G. Kline, Plainfield, NH  
Linda Tanner, Georges Mills, NH  
VACANCY

Vermont

Evan Hammond, Lunenburg, VT  
Gary Moore, Bradford, VT  
Timothy O'Connor, Jr, Brattleboro, VT

OFFICE ADDRESS

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**CHAIR'S REPORT**  
**July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017**

The Commission has had a busy year attempting to deal with issues created by Tropical Storm Irene that still plague the West River Valley in Vermont.

Unfortunately, both New Hampshire and Massachusetts have failed to appoint new members to fill vacancies so the Commission is short two members. We have made many attempts to encourage the governors to make the appointments, but as of this writing none have occurred.

A vexing issue that has taken considerable time with as yet only a temporary resolution involves the West River in Vermont and the Townshend Dam. Tropical Storm Irene caused significant erosion up river and the result is sedimentation in and below the Townshend Dam, making the recreational area nearly unusable.

Dredging did take place this summer which was a welcomed temporary fix. However, we all know that the sedimentation will continue and soon dredging will again be requested by the town.

Vermont Commissioner Timothy O'Connor has been working diligently on the issue and coordinating with staff members of Senators Leahy and Sanders and Congressman Welch. He has also been in contact with town officials and local residents to keep them informed of the Commission's effort on their behalf.

The Commission continues to monitor the process of relicensing several hydroelectric dams on the Connecticut River and its tributaries by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Since its establishment in 1953 the Connecticut River Valley Flood Control Commission has evolved and yet it continues to try and fulfill its principal purposes as outlined in the Compact including, "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."

I wish to make it clear that the public is always welcome at our meetings.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Gary W Moore, Chairman  
Connecticut River Valley Flood Control Commission

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

**September 9, 2016**

Old Business

- a. Typo noted in June minutes. Evan Hammond moved to accept the June 17, 2016 minutes with correction, second by Denise Ruzicka. Motion passed.
- b. MA: No action yet. Denise will send letter urging prompt appointments to governor and appointment secretary, focus on long term appointment for Mike & Carl. NH: No word from governor's office about new appointment to replace Robert Grimley. Statute says commissioners serve until replaced. VT & CT: All set.
- c. Commissioners reviewed and commented on the draft re-written by-laws. Angela will finalize, post online, circulate to commissioners, send to Secretaries of State, Governors, and others as needed. Evan Hammond moved to accept the by-laws with discussed edits, second by Richard Sherman. Motion passed.
- d. Tim O'Connor updated commission on status of VT administrative payment. \$500 additional funds have been secured.
- e. Tim delivered a letter to Senators Sanders & Leahy and Rep. Welch. Discussed getting Mike & Carl involved on the committee tasked with finding a solution. This process got lost in election duties. Mike & Carl waiting to hear who to talk with. Tim will get back in touch to encourage funds/action at government level. Discussion about sending an annual letter to Army Corps about the issue & create a document trail of the issue & concerns. Bob DiSiervo hoping that this commission can be the central place to convene all parties. We acknowledge our role but note that Army Corps is responsible for maintenance/operation and coordinating with state and municipality. This is a good location for study of how to solve the problem of bottom release & sedimentation, with results applicable across the country. Congressmen need to urge Army Corps to work with expertise on this commission and in state departments. The process we discover to achieve this work could be a model. The commission will not respond to the email correspondence from Townshend, VT select board secretary. Tim will communicate more with local officials about our efforts in this process. Mike, Carl & Denise will draft a letter to Army Corps to review at December meeting.
- f. Review of final 2015-2016 budget. No questions or concerns.

New Business

- g. CRWC invoice paid via standing motion.
- h. Other New Business—Linda contacted NH Dept. of Revenue re: tax loss payments. State feels tax loss payments are underfunded by this commission. Angela will share recent response to Weathersfield, VT with Linda re: this issue.

**December 2, 2016**

Old Business

- a. Reviewed Carl Gustafson's draft letter to the Army Corps, including suggested request language provided by Tim O'Connor and suggested study language, to be provided by Mike Misslin. Discussion of sending letter to all four state delegations from CRVFCC as well as from Commissioners to local delegates. Carl Gustafson and Mike Misslin will draft a cover letter for Commissioners to personalize when sending to delegates and talking points for potential meetings with delegates.
- b. Evan Hammond moved to accept the September 9, 2016 minutes, second by Robert Kline. Jason Bowsza abstains. Motion passed.
- c. NH: Linda Tanner noted new governor. State has new application for appointees. Unsure if existing Commissioners need to reapply. Linda will track process. MA: Mike placed call to undersecretary of Environmental Affairs. No response. There is a state investigation underway. Mike will contact governor directly. Denise will send letter to governor urging prompt appointments. VT & CT: All set.
- d. Administrative support payments have been paid by all states except MA. Mike tracked down the invoice and payment. It is in process of being paid by manual check. Angela questioned whether NH's payment should be increased to \$2500 to match VT, as has been tradition. The Commission agreed it should be requested of NH as part of the new budget. Linda will follow up to the state with a formal request from the Commission. Angela will draft the request letter.

## New Business

- a. Jason Bowsza moved to pay CRWC invoice, second by Mike Misslin. Motion passed.
- b. Evan Hammond moved to approve the 2016 Tax Loss Report, second by Jason. Motion passed.
- c. Linda Tanner moved to approve the 2015-2016 Annual Report, second by Evan Hammond. Motion passed. Angela will include the recently revised by-laws when sending this to governors, secretaries of state. Bylaws also to be sent to VT ANR, NH Executive Council, CT DEEP, MA DCR and DEP.
- d. 2017 Meeting Schedule: March 24, June 16, September 29, December 8, 2017.

## **March 24, 2017**

### Old Business

- a. Evan Hammond moved to accept the December 2, 2016 minutes, second by Linda Tanner. Denise Ruzicka abstains. Motion passed.
- b. NH: Linda Tanner working to get in touch with new staff re: appointments. MA: Still working on getting appointments. Angela will revise Denise's letter to governor urging prompt appointments, signed by chair. VT & CT: All set.
- c. NH is not receptive to an increase in administrative support payments. Linda will continue working on it.
- d. Reviewed the final draft letter to the Army Corps. Discussion of sending letter to all four state delegations from CRVFCC as well as follow up support letters from Commissioners to local delegates. Also send to state agencies, Vermont & New Hampshire Governors. Tim will send to Townshend, VT officials. In follow up letter from individual commissioners, be sure to frame Townshend Dam as pilot project for larger basin-wide dam study. Mention flood benefits & water quality benefits.

### New Business

- a. Jason Bowsza moved to pay CRWC invoice, second by Evan Hammond. Motion passed.
- b. Other New Business  
Dam Safety Database –recommended that VT have one in place as MA & CT do.

## **June 16, 2017**

### Old Business

- a. Evan Hammond moved to accept the March 24, 2017 minutes, second by Michael Misslin. Robert Kline abstains. Motion passed.
- b. NH: Linda Tanner continues to seek new appointees. Will meet DES soon to discuss. MA: Angela revising Denise's letter to governor urging prompt appointments. Mike is listed on the governor's appointment website, though still no formal appointments. VT & CT: All set.
- c. NH's budget is still being debated and has been problematic. Linda will continue working on it.
- d. Received letter from three Vermont delegates and VT ANR in response to our letter re: Townshend Dam sedimentation issues. Mike has written to MA senators about funding for CT River studies and need to involve Engineering Research Center. No other responses. Tim can share these responses with Townshend—follow up at next meeting. Frank Fedele has moved up and Mike will be in touch with him.

### New Business

- a. CRC invoice paid via standing motion.
- b. Evan Hammond moved to approve the draft budget, second by Michael Misslin. Motion passed.
- c. Robert Kline is the nominating committee. Evan Hammond and Richard Sherman will be the audit committee.
- d. Other New Business
  - a. Denise Ruzicka has requested if the December meeting can be changed from 12/8 to 12/1; to be addressed at the next meeting when more commissioners are present.
  - b. Next meeting is set for September 29. Mike Misslin cannot attend. Need to ensure that Carl Gustafson can attend to have a quorum.

*The foregoing is a summary of the Minutes of meetings held during 2016-2017. Full minutes are available for inspection at [www.crvfcc.org](http://www.crvfcc.org) or by request.*

**Connecticut River Valley Flood Control Commission**  
**Income & Expense Budget vs. Actual**  
 July 2016 through June 2017

	ACTUAL		Budget Forecast
	Jul '16 - Jun 17	16/17 Budget	Jul 17 - Jun 18
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
Total State Payments	19,500.00	19,500.00	19,500.00
Total Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	137.77	102.00	102.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>19,637.77</b>	<b>19,602.00</b>	<b>19,602.00</b>
<b>Expense</b>			
Total Contract Services	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
Total Equip Rental and Maintenance	0.00	100.00	100.00
<b>Operations</b>			
Postage, Mailing Service	86.00	100.00	100.00
Printing and Copying	0.00	100.00	100.00
Supplies	0.00	100.00	100.00
Telephone, Telecommunications	51.35	100.00	100.00
<b>Total Operations</b>	<b>137.35</b>	<b>400.00</b>	<b>400.00</b>
<b>Other Types of Expenses</b>			
Insurance - Liability, D and O	195.00	500.00	500.00
Other Costs	0.00	200.00	200.00
<b>Total Other Types of Expenses</b>	<b>195.00</b>	<b>700.00</b>	<b>700.00</b>
<b>Travel and Meetings</b>			
Conference, Convention, Meeting	0	400.00	400.00
Travel	2,729.17	3,000.00	3,000.00
<b>Total Travel and Meetings</b>	<b>2,729.17</b>	<b>3,400.00</b>	<b>3,400.00</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>18,061.52</b>	<b>19,600.00</b>	<b>19,600.00</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>1,576.25</b>	<b>2.00</b>	<b>2.00</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>1,576.25</b>	<b>2.00</b>	<b>2.00</b>

Reconciled balance for the CD as of June 30, 2017: 68,994.97

Reconciled balance for the checking acct as of June 30, 2017: 17914.93

Adjustments for June, 2017 (uncleared transactions: travel): 0

Adjusted ending balance net uncleared transactions as of June 30, 2017: 17,914.93

Support money is received as follows:

- Vermont \$2500
- New Hampshire \$2,000
- Massachusetts \$7,500
- Connecticut \$7,500



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

**2016 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	\$18.76	\$ 250.00
Huntington	238,190.00	18.50	4,990.00
<u>Littleville</u>			
Chester	487,480.00	20.16	9,618.00
Huntington	29,360.00	18.50	615.00
<u>Birch Hill</u>			
Phillipston	110.00	16.89	1.00
Royalston	38,200.00	13.11*	382.00
Templeton	694,670.00	16.47	7,433.00
Winchendon	323,620.00	17.43	6,919.00
<u>Tully</u>			
Athol	7,900.00	19.83	77.00
Royalston	180,000.00	13.11*	<u>1,800.00</u>
<u>Barre Falls</u>			
All state land – no tax losses			
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$32,085.00</b>
 <u>NEW HAMPSHIRE</u>			
<u>Otter Brook</u>			
Keene	\$115,090.00	34.41*	\$3,166.00
Roxbury	26,740.00	24.47*	758.00
<u>Surry Mountain</u>			
Surry	238,190.00	18.18	<u>7,765.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>		*2015 rate	<b>\$11,689.00</b>

Tax Rate: per \$1,000 of assessed value as reported by towns. Tax loss is not based on current tax rate. Tax loss, valuation basis, and payment amounts were frozen by CRVFCC in 1982.

The figures included with this report were voted and approved by the Connecticut River Valley Flood Control Commission, December 2, 2016.



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**2016 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	\$20.19	\$78.00
Thetford	203,380.00	22.08	3,675.00
 <u>North Hartland</u>			
Hartland	110,140.00	18.63	2,324.00
Hartford	328,470.00	23.95	7,292.00
 <u>North Springfield</u>			
Springfield	32,880.00	28.10*	960.00
Weathersfield	554,510.00	6.28	10,092.00
Perkinsville	11,760.00	6.28	10.00
 <u>Townshend</u>			
Jamaica	42,420.00	16.98	1,756.00
Townshend	204,780.00	18.46	5,656.00
 <u>Ball Mountain</u>			
Jamaica	12,460.00	16.98	516.00
Londonderry	176,020.00	18.57	<u>2,341.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>		*2015 rate	<b>\$34,700.00</b>

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>
<b>TOTAL OF PAYMENTS TO BE MADE BY CT</b>			<b>\$31,390.00</b>

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