

Connecticut River Valley Flood Control Commission ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018



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, 2018

Denise Ruzicka, Chair
Michael Misslin, Vice Chair
Angela Chaffee, Administrator

MEMBERS OF THE
CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION
AS OF JUNE 30, 2018

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
Paul Berch, Westmoreland, NH

Vermont

Evan Hammond, Lunenburg, VT
Gary Moore, Bradford, VT
VACANCY

OFFICE ADDRESS

PO Box 511, [*15 Bank Row*] Greenfield, MA 01302
Tel.: 413-772-2020 x204
E-mail: staff@crvfcc.org
Website: www.crvfcc.org

CHAIR'S REPORT
July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

The year marked a transition with the new biennial slate of officers being elected. Mike Misslin of Massachusetts was elected Vice-chair and I became Chair as of the December 1, 2017 meeting. As long time Commission members, Mike and I want to continue the comity and good will that this interstate Commission provides and to assure that the flood control facilities continue to be properly maintained and operated consistent with the interstate compact. During 2018, we also welcomed Paul Berch as a new Commissioner from New Hampshire.

It was with respect and sadness that we received news of the passing of Timothy O'Connor, Commissioner from Vermont. We gratefully recognize his service to the Connecticut River Valley Flood Control Commission and his always thoughtful comments.

The Connecticut River Valley Flood Control Commission's meetings and activities focused on administrative matters such as administrative support payments and tax-loss payments to states hosting the federally built and operated flood facilities. These facilities provide regional benefits with regard to flood control and associated local benefits with regards to recreation and open space and habitat protection.

We continue to dialog with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE) in resolving sedimentation and erosion affecting the Townshend Reservoir's swim area. In support of these efforts, on June 22, 2018 the Commission held its quarterly meeting at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Townshend Lake Office at 3845 VT Rte. 30, Townshend, Vermont. After the business meeting, the Commissioners took a tour of both the Ball Mountain and Townshend Lake Dams. We also saw the current condition of the Townshend Reservoir swimming area post dredging of 2016. It was an excellent opportunity for the Commissioners to view the facilities and understand the ongoing issues associated with Army Corps operational and maintenance constraints. We greatly appreciated the time and cordiality that Dale Berkness from the USACOE spent showing us the facilities.

Respectfully submitted by Denise Ruzicka
Connecticut River Valley Flood Control Commission Chairman
Representative of the State of Connecticut

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

September 29, 2017

Old Business

- a. Evan Hammond moved to accept the June 16, 2017 minutes, second by Robert Kline. Jason Bowsza and Carl Gustafson abstain. Motion passed.
- b. NH: Linda Tanner updated via email that she continues to seek new appointees. MA: No response from the letter to governor urging prompt appointments. VT & CT: All set.
- c. NH has paid their administrative support payment. No update from Linda on status of our request to increase the payment.
- d. Carl Gustafson moved to change the December meeting from the 8th to the 1st, second by Evan Hammond. Motion passed.
- e. The Townshend Dam reservoir was dredged but there will be more sediment in the spring. The recent hurricanes will likely divert Army Corps funds to other projects. Town acknowledges our effort despite lack of desired result. The Commission can still keep pressure on the state for erosion control upstream.
- f. Angela reviewed the final FY2016-2017 budget expenses.

New Business

- a. CRC invoice paid via standing motion.
- b. The nominating committee, Robert Kline, reported the nomination of Denise Ruzicka as chair and Linda Tanner as vice-chair. Jason Bowsza moved to accept the nominations, second by Evan Hammond. Motion passed. Jason Bowsza moved to close the nominations, second by Robert Kline. Motion passed.
- c. Other New Business
 - Springborn Dam in Enfield, CT has been removed on the Scantic River, a tributary of the Connecticut River. Adding a fish ladder to bypass natural rock for shad passage.
 - Connecticut River Conservancy has been removing many small dams on tributaries in NH & VT.

December 1, 2017

Old Business

- a. At the September meeting, the Commission nominated and approved Denise Ruzicka as Chair and Linda Tanner as Vice-Chair. Linda declined the nomination, as did her fellow NH Commissioner Robert Kline. The next state in the rotation is MA and Michael Misslin agreed to serve. Evan Hammond moved to modify the slate and nominate Michael Misslin, second by Richard Sherman. Motion passed. Carl Gustafson moved to accept the nomination of Michael Misslin as Vice-Chair, second by Richard Sherman. Motion passed.
- b. Evan Hammond reported on the audit committee's review of finances. All is in order.
- c. Evan Hammond moved to accept the September 29, 2017 minutes, second by Carl Gustafson. Motion passed.
- d. NH: Linda Tanner continues to seek new appointees and recently met with the Governor's staffer who oversees commission appointments. They will appoint when new appointees are found. MA: No response from the letter to Governor urging prompt appointments. Carl Gustafson is now listed as being appointed to our Commission but no formal appointment has been made. VT & CT: All set. Denise Ruzicka is being reappointed.
- e. All states except CT have paid their annual administrative support payments. Denise Ruzicka reported on the CT budget issues that held up the payment. The payment is now pending. Linda has spoke with NH Governor's staff about increasing NH's payment.
- f. The Townshend Dam reservoir was dredged. Elizabeth Warren responded to Michael Misslin's letter. Warren's letter was very generic about public infrastructure. Mike is willing to write again to the delegates and will ask the Corps for an update about Townshend Dam.

New Business

- a. CRC invoice paid via standing motion.
- b. Commission reviewed the draft 2017 Tax Loss report. Linda Tanner asked for the background and explanation of why payments have been frozen so she can better explain to NH. The Commission discussed the history and reasoning of the decision. Evan Hammond moved to accept the 2017 Tax Loss report, second by Michael Misslin. Motion passed.

- c. Commission reviewed the draft 2016-17 Annual Report. Carl Gustafson moved to approve, second by Linda Tanner. Motion passed.
- d. 2018 Meeting Schedule: March 9, June 22, September 14, December 7.
- e. Other New Business – none

March 9, 2018

Old Business

- a. Commission reviewed December 1, 2017 meeting minutes. No vote to approve due to lack of quorum.
- b. NH: Linda Tanner spoke with Governor’s assistant about vacancy. Looking for someone from the region who is interested. Linda will check on her reappointment. MA: No response from the letter to Governor urging prompt appointments. Not great deal of interest. Mike will suggest candidate from DCR. CT: All set. Denise Ruzicka is being reappointed. VT: no update.
- c. All states have paid their annual administrative support payments. Linda reports that NH is not interested in increasing administrative support payments. Linda will follow up and suggests sending a letter to the state from the Commission.
- d. We expect a response from the district engineer in Concord. Suggested to send polite letter requesting a response. Mike will touch base with Frank Fedele of USACOE. Angela & Denise will check to see if the original letter went to USACOE and if not, will send.

New Business

- a. CRC invoice paid via standing motion.
- b. Discussion of field trip/tour/lunch for June meeting. Suggestion to visit Townshend and Ball Mountain dams to see sedimentation issues, recent maintenance, and hydroelectric modifications. Mike will call USACOE to set up field trip.
- c. Other New Business – none

June 22, 2018

Old Business

- a. Commission reviewed December 1, 2017 meeting minutes and March meeting notes. Evan Hammond move to approve December minutes, second by Mike Misslin. Paul Berch and Jason Bowsza abstain. Motion passed.
- b. CT: All set. Denise Ruzicka has been reappointed. NH: Paul Berch joins us as new Commissioner. MA: Denise called the appointment secretary and letter was sent after March meeting. Carl still needs official appointment. Names have been suggested. VT: Gary Moore has called the governor about making an appointment.
- c. All states have paid their annual administrative support payments. 2018-19 invoices will be sent soon, in the first quarter of the fiscal year. No update on request to increase New Hampshire’s administrative payment from \$2,000 to \$2,500.
- d. The swim area at Townshend Dam was dredged in 2012 or 2013, again last summer, and will be needed again in the future. Letter was sent after the March meeting to USACOE in Concord, no response. Senators Sanders and Warren sent generic responses to our previous letter to Connecticut River delegates. Mike and Carl are reviewing the recent study. Infrastructure bill is not yet in legislative committee. Need to urge Congress to designate funds for dam maintenance. This Commission will revisit sending follow-up letters after the upcoming election.

New Business

- a. Jason moved to pay the CRC invoice, second by Evan. Motion passed.
- b. Commission reviewed the proposed FY2018-19 budget. Gary moved to accept, second by Jason. Motion passed.
- c. Other New Business – Denise suggests all Commissioners read the recent Connecticut River Flow Restoration Study (62pgs) or the Executive Summary (8pgs). We will discuss it in September. Mike and Carl would like to work with Army Corps on additional studies reviewing sediment buildup and bottom vs. mid-level releases.

The foregoing is a summary of the Minutes of meetings held during 2017-2018. Full minutes are available for inspection at www.crvfcc.org or by request.

Connecticut River Valley Flood Control Commission
Income & Expense Budget vs. Actual
 July 2017 through June 2018

	ACTUAL		Budget Forecast
	Jul '17 - Jun 18	17/18 Budget	Jul 18 - Jun 19
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
Total State Payments	19,500.00	19,500.00	19,500.00
Total Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	138.05	102.00	102.00
Total Income	19,638.05	19,602.00	19,602.00
Expense			
Total Contract Services	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
Total Equip Rental and Maintenance	0.00	100.00	100.00
Operations			
Postage, Mailing Service	90.00	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
Total Operations	141.35	400.00	400.00
Other Types of Expenses			
Insurance - Liability, D and O	195.00	500.00	500.00
Other Costs	0.00	200.00	200.00
Total Other Types of Expenses	195.00	700.00	700.00
Travel and Meetings			
Conference, Convention, Meeting	100.18	400.00	400.00
Travel	2,036.05	3,000.00	3,000.00
Total Travel and Meetings	2,136.23	3,400.00	3,400.00
Total Expense	17,472.58	19,600.00	19,600.00
Net Ordinary Income	2,165.47	2.00	2.00
Net Income	2,165.47	2.00	2.00

Reconciled balance for the CD as of June 30, 2018: 69,133.02

Reconciled balance for the checking acct as of June 30, 2018: 20,336.17
 Adjustments for June, 2018 (uncleared transactions: travel): 393.82
 Adjusted ending balance net uncleared transactions as of June 30, 2018: 19,942.35

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

2017 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	\$19.08	\$ 250.00
Huntington	238,190.00	18.05	4,990.00
<u>Littleville</u>			
Chester	487,480.00	20.32	9,618.00
Huntington	29,360.00	18.05	615.00
<u>Birch Hill</u>			
Phillipston	110.00	16.68	1.00
Royalston	38,200.00	13.47*	382.00
Templeton	694,670.00	16.12	7,433.00
Winchendon	323,620.00	17.43*	6,919.00
<u>Tully</u>			
Athol	7,900.00	20.40	77.00
Royalston	180,000.00	13.47*	<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	37.22	\$3,166.00
Roxbury	26,740.00	25.16	758.00
<u>Surry Mountain</u>			
Surry	238,190.00	22.23	<u>7,765.00</u>
TOTAL		*2016 rate	\$11,689.00

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 1, 2017.

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

2017 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	\$20.49	\$78.00
Thetford	203,380.00	22.48	3,675.00
 <u>North Hartland</u>			
Hartland	110,140.00	19.00	2,324.00
Hartford	328,470.00	25.10	7,292.00
 <u>North Springfield</u>			
Springfield	32,880.00	30.94	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	17.10	1,756.00
Townshend	204,780.00	21.09	5,656.00
 <u>Ball Mountain</u>			
Jamaica	12,460.00	17.10	516.00
Londonderry	176,020.00	3.20	<u>2,341.00</u>
TOTAL		*2016 rate	\$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>			
	<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>
TOTAL OF PAYMENTS TO BE MADE BY MA			\$23,195.00