

# Connecticut River Valley Flood Control Commission ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019



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, 2019

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

MEMBERS OF THE  
CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION  
AS OF JUNE 30, 2019

**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  
Brian Ames, Putney, VT

OFFICE ADDRESS

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

**CHAIR'S REPORT**  
**July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019**

During the 2019 operating year, 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.

On June 7, 2019 the Commission held its quarterly meeting at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Surry Mountain Lake Flood Control facility in Surry, New Hampshire. Afterwards we went on a tour of the dam and flood control facilities. This was the first visit to this facility in recent years.

Also, in March of 2019 the Department of Revenue Administration for the state of New Hampshire sent the Commission an invoice for payments in compensation of taxes lost which was inconsistent with the payment amounts which have been frozen since the early 1980's. As a result the Commission has recommended discussion of tax loss payments. This topic was previously discussed during 2007 through 2009 without resolution. The Commission elected to start the discussion with a review of past annual reports for information on how the calculation methodology was initially determined. Further review and discussion is anticipated.

Respectfully submitted,  
Denise Ruzicka, P.E.  
Connecticut River Valley Flood Control Commission Chair  
Representative of the State of Connecticut

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

**September 14, 2018**

Old Business

- a. Paul Berch move to approve 6/22/18 minutes, second by Evan Hammond. Carl Gustafson & Linda Tanner abstain. Motion passed.
- b. Commissioner vacancies & appointments. CT: All set. NH: All set. VT: Gary Moore tried to get Tim O'Connor's daughter but she's not interested. May have one other person interested. MA: Names have been suggested but no response, no interest in making appointments. Mike Misslin will continue to work on it.
- c. NH & VT have paid their annual administrative support payments. MA & CT are in process. Re: increase New Hampshire's administrative payment from \$2,000 to \$2,500; this is a budget year so this is the time to put in a request. Linda will look into what department to submit request.
- d. Swim area has been dredged recently. Need to urge Congress to designate funds for dam maintenance. This Commission will revisit sending follow-up letters after the upcoming election.
- e. Review of final FY 17-18 budget/expenses. All looks ok.

New Business

- a. Gary Moore moved to pay the CRC invoice, second by Mike Misslin. Motion passed.
- b. Commission reviewed the standing motions – all look ok. Commission reviewed the Document Management Policy. Denise Ruzicka will check with our archivists at CT state library to get their advice re: whether we should be saving everything digitally or using archival quality PDF (to be compatible with future software). Currently paper files take up one drawer + one box, not a burden. Last transfer to archives was in 2013. Suggestion that every five years to scan only the permanent files, keep scans here of permanent files, and send paper files to archives. Commissioners and administrator will review the list of documents in the policy for what we don't need and discuss at next meeting.
- c. CT River Flow Restoration Study –Report states obvious results but good collaboration on report. Need to continue looking at mid-level release rather than bottom release. The report included study of Townshend & Ball Mountain dam region, focused on tributary rivers. This may be useful in our follow-up on the sedimentation issue there. A better model is needed to study the CT River main stem.
- d. Other New Business – Proxy material received from MSA group (surety bond provider), merger with another company. Gary Moore moved that Denise Ruzicka, as chair, handle this, second by Robert Kline.

**December 7, 2018**

Old Business

- a. Gary Moore moved to approve 9/14/18 minutes, second by Carl Gustafson. Motion passed.
- b. Commissioner vacancies & appointments. CT: All set. NH: All set. VT: All set. MA: Will check with Mike Misslin if we need to continue pushing for appointments.
- c. NH, VT & CT have paid their annual administrative support payments. MA payment was approved on 12/6/18. Re: increase New Hampshire's administrative payment from \$2,000 to \$2,500; Linda is continuing to meet with the Governor and Office of Strategic Affairs to pursue this.
- d. Discussion of engaging local/state elected officials to meet with US representatives to lobby the Corps re: Townshend Dam sedimentation issues. CRVFCC will send an updated letter to federal delegates, send copy of that letter with a cover letter to local/state elected officials, and suggest a site visit by representatives, Corps. Carl Gustafson will update letter, add info about increased frequency and intensity of storms, flood events. Denise Ruzicka will review. Commissioners will sign at our March 2019 meeting. VT Commissioners will create list of local representatives to send this to.
- e. Review of document management policy. Denise Ruzicka will get in touch with new CT State archivist re: document retention, transfer of records (frequency or when we get certain volume). Add to our policy: tax loss inquiry letters to towns, report, letter to states; annual budget (put audits, 990, bank statements as sub-items)

New Business

- a. CRC invoice paid via standing motion. Angela to send list of standing motions to Commissioners.
- b. Review Tax Loss Report. CRVFCC collects tax rates to maintain communication and fulfill our compact. Evan Hammond moved to approve Tax Loss Report, second by Gary Moore. Motion passed.

- c. Review Annual Report. Send to governors, secretaries of state, state libraries, VT ANR. Gary Moore moved to approve Annual Report, second by Evan Hammond. Motion passed.
- d. 2019 meeting schedule: March 15, June 14, September 20, December 13.

**March 15, 2019**

Old Business

- a. Gary Moore moved to approve 12/7/18 minutes, second by Michael Misslin. Motion passed.
- b. Commissioner vacancies & appointments. CT: All set. Jason Bowsza expiring June 30. NH: Linda Tanner expired last year. Robert Kline expires May 1. Seeking replacements and/or reappointments. It is on the agenda for the Governor's Council. VT: All set. MA: Mike met with Acting Chief Engineer at DCR and Director of Planning & Engineering. Acting Chief Engineer, Rob Lowell, has volunteered to serve. Mike spoke with Assistant Secretary of Environmental Affairs Dan Seiger, no commitments yet but by next meeting should be something from Governor's office.
- c. All four states have paid their annual administrative support payments. Re: increase New Hampshire's administrative payment from \$2,000 to \$2,500 – no update.
- d. Carl Gustafson reviewed draft letter to CT River US delegates and state Governors and copy VT NRCS. NRCS has funding available for sedimentation stabilization. Chair will sign and list Commissioners. Motion by Gary Moore to adopt and send letter with edits as discussed, second by Carl Gustafson. Discussion: Mike suggests we send via certified mail. All are ok with this expense. Motion passed.
- e. Denise Ruzicka will follow up with CT Archivist re: transfer of our records to them.

New Business

- a. CRC invoice paid via standing motion.
- b. Other New Business – Discussion of field trip for June 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**June 14, 2019**

Old Business

- a. Gary Moore moved to approve 3/15/19 minutes, second by Evan Hammond. Motion passed.
- b. Commissioner vacancies & appointments. CT: Jason Bowsza expiring June 30. Hopes for reappointment. NH: Linda Tanner expired last year. Will talk to them again about reappointment. Robert Kline received reappointment paperwork already. VT: All set. MA: Denise & Mike talked to the Appointment Secretary, who agrees with Mike's recommendation. Have written up appointment for Rob Lowell and submitted for governor's approval. Still working on official appointments for Mike & Carl.
- c. All four states have paid their annual administrative support payments. Discussion of increasing New Hampshire's administrative payment from \$2,000 to \$2,500 is on hold. Commission reviewed the letter received from NH Dept. of Revenue Administration. Compact states this commission "may" but is not required to reimburse towns. All four states would need to approve revising the Compact, which is unlikely. Discussion in 2008 & 2009 that summarize this issue and Commission reasoning and decisions. Commission will respond via letter. Linda will connect with this department to learn more about how they manage payments.
- d. Denise Ruzicka reported on her discussion with the CT State Archivist re: document transfer to archives. Lizette Pelletier recommends whatever is most convenient for us. Angela will review our files and provide inventoried box to Denise for transfer to archive.
- e. Commission reviewed responses to certified letter that was sent to four state Congressional delegates. Senator Warren's office provided grant options, but CRVFCC cannot be the grantee. VT Agency of Natural Resources can request technical assistance from NRCS.

New Business

- a. Jason Bowsza move to pay CRC's invoice, Evan Hammond second, motion passed.
- b. Commissioners reviewed draft FY2019-2020 budget. Jason Bowsza moved to approve the budget as presented, second by Evan Hammond. Motion passed.
- c. Set Nominating & Audit Committees. Audit = Evan Hammond, Mike Misslin. Nominating (MA chair, VT vice) = Jason Bowsza & Robert Kline

*The foregoing is a summary of the Minutes of meetings held during 2018-2019. 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 2018 through June 2019

	<b>ACTUAL</b>		<b>Budget Forecast</b>
	<b>Jul '18- Jun 19</b>	<b>18/19 Budget</b>	<b>Jul 19 - Jun 20</b>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
<b>Total State Payments</b>	19,500.00	19,500.00	19,500.00
<b>Total Interest-Savings, Short-term CD</b>	138.34	102.00	102.00
<b>Total Income</b>	19,638.34	19,602.00	19,602.00
<b>Expense</b>			
<b>Total Contract Services</b>	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
<b>Total Equip Rental and Maintenance</b>	0.00	100.00	100.00
<b>Operations</b>			
Postage, Mailing Service	177.00	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>	228.35	400.00	400.00
<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>	195.00	700.00	700.00
<b>Travel and Meetings</b>			
Conference, Convention, Meeting	69.47	400.00	400.00
Travel	2,786.77	3,000.00	3,000.00
<b>Total Travel and Meetings</b>	2,856.24	3,400.00	3,400.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	18,279.59	19,600.00	19,600.00
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	1,358.75	2.00	2.00
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>1,358.75</b>	<b>2.00</b>	<b>2.00</b>

Reconciled balance for the CD as of June 30, 2019: 69,271.36

Reconciled balance for the checking acct as of June 30, 2019: 21,162.76

Adjustments for June, 2019 (uncleared transactions: travel): 0

Adjusted ending balance net uncleared transactions as of June 30, 2019: 21,162.76

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

**2018 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	\$19.64	\$ 250.00
Huntington	238,190.00	19.08*	4,990.00
<u>Littleville</u>			
Chester	487,480.00	19.40	9,618.00
Huntington	29,360.00	19.08*	615.00
<u>Birch Hill</u>			
Phillipston	110.00	16.48	1.00
Royalston	38,200.00	14.44	382.00
Templeton	694,670.00	16.72	7,433.00
Winchendon	323,620.00	16.71	6,919.00
<u>Tully</u>			
Athol	7,900.00	19.57	77.00
Royalston	180,000.00	14.44	<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	37.12	\$3,166.00
Roxbury	26,740.00	25.00	758.00
<u>Surry Mountain</u>			
Surry	238,190.00	22.23	<u>7,765.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>		*rate found online	<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 7, 2018.



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

**2018 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	24.07	3,675.00
 <u>North Hartland</u>			
Hartland	110,140.00	19.76	2,324.00
Hartford	328,470.00	26.09	7,292.00
 <u>North Springfield</u>			
Springfield	32,880.00	36.58	960.00
Weathersfield	554,510.00	22.35	10,092.00
Perkinsville	11,760.00	22.35	10.00
 <u>Townshend</u>			
Jamaica	42,420.00	20.10	1,756.00
Townshend	204,780.00	20.00*	5,656.00
 <u>Ball Mountain</u>			
Jamaica	12,460.00	20.10	516.00
Londonderry	176,020.00	18.69	<u>2,341.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>		*rate found online	<b><u>\$34,700.00</u></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><u>\$31,390.00</u></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><u>\$23,195.00</u></b>