

PURSUANT TO NOTICE, THE QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION was held at the Connecticut River Conservancy office, 15 Bank Row, Greenfield, MA on December 13, 2019.

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

<b>Connecticut</b>	Commissioner Denise Ruzicka Commissioner Jason Bowsza Commissioner Richard Sherman (proxy)
<b>Massachusetts</b>	Commissioner Mike Misslin Commissioner Carl Gustafson
<b>New Hampshire</b>	Commissioner Robert Kline (proxy) Commissioner Linda Tanner (proxy) Commissioner Paul Berch
<b>Vermont</b>	Commissioner Evan Hammond Commissioner Gary Moore Commissioner Brian Ames

Also attending:

Angela Chaffee – Administrator for the Commission, Stephanie Wilsen – MA NRCS RCPP.

1. Michael Misslin, Chair, called the meeting to order, 9:38am.
2. Public Comment – none
3. Old Business
  - a. Commission reviewed September 20, 2019 meeting minutes. Evan Hammond moved to approve June minutes, second by Denise Ruzicka. Jason Bowsza, Carl Gustafson & Paul Berch abstain. Motion passed.
  - b. Audit Committee report – no errors or issues.
  - c. Commissioner vacancies & appointments:
    - i. MA: Mike will meet with Commissioner Montgomery at DCR. Rob Lowell's appointment has moved to the governor for signature, but hasn't yet been signed.
    - ii. CT: Jason Bowsza expired. Will contact the governor about reappointment.
    - iii. NH: Linda Tanner is up reappointment, serves until reappointed.
    - iv. VT: All set.
  - d. VT, NH & CT have paid their annual administrative payment in full. Mike is talking to MA and will follow up on payment. Discussion of increasing New Hampshire's administrative payment from \$2,000 to \$2,500 is on hold. Linda will be pursuing this with the governor's office.
  - e. Commission discussed our standard tax loss process, background of how we've handled with VT in the past, and how to respond to NH Dept. of Revenue Administration. Denise reviewed historical records. Nothing in law about how to do calculation. In 1950s they hired an accounting firm to determine how to do the calculation and no one could quite agree. Mike talked to the US Army Corps. They will find archive info on real estate values. Commission will continue to review historical information from 1980s. Will continue discussion at future meetings.
  - f. Carl introduced Stephanie Wilsen from MA NRCS to discuss the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) and how the funding may help with

Townshend Dam sedimentation issues. Each state calls for project proposals. Must be \$250k – 10million, 5 year projects. Involves technical assistance and financial assistance 1:1 match. Project overhead match as well. Projects can be partnerships with multiple states and/or federal agencies. State agencies cannot be a lead partner. Army Corps may be able to contribute technical assistance. VT ANR, DEC can connect with VT NRCS. If any part of the project involves MA, involve MA NRCS. RCPP is very flexible as long as there is a single goal, partners or location can change. RCPP allows for policy waivers that can allow for broader projects. Proposal will be stronger if more dams are involved (Townshend & Ball Mtn, possibly others), and other water quality (algae blooms) and/or wildlife habitat work. Information on ranking of need of specific rivers for restoration work would help (Ottaquechee River, possibly others). Next steps are to talk to VT ANR. Stephanie will talk to her contacts in VT and will share more information about the RCPP program with the Commission. Application period for 2020 has ended, can put in a proposal in December 2020 for 2021 funds.

4. New Business
  - a. CRC's invoice paid via standing motion. Jason Bowsza move to pay, Evan Hammond second, motion passed.
  - b. Review 2019 Tax Loss report. Denise Ruzicka moved to approve the report, second by Jason Bowsza. Motion passed.
  - c. Review 2018-19 Annual Report. Paul Berch moved to approve the report, Jason Bowsza moves to amend motion to include the new chair's report, second by Carl Gustafson. Motion passed.
  - d. 2020 meeting schedule: March 13, June 19, September 18, December 11.
  - e. Other New Business:
    - i. Denise transferred a box of historic records to the CT State Archive and we have received a deed of gift. The process was very seamless.
5. Public Comment – Angela mentioned the options of CRC gift memberships and matched donations to CRC via Patagonia.
6. Meeting adjourn, 11:02am