

Connecticut River Valley Flood Control Commission ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023



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, 2023

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

MEMBERS OF THE
CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION
AS OF JUNE 30, 2023

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
Robert Lowell, Paxton, MA

New Hampshire

Paul Berch, Westmoreland, NH
Cathryn Harvey, Spofford, NH
Antonio Ortiz, Amherst, NH

Vermont

Evan Hammond, Lunenburg, VT
Gary Moore, Bradford, VT
John Arrison, Ascutney, VT

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, 2022 – June 30, 2023

The Commission transitioned meetings to in-person meeting following post COVID protocols.

The fiscal year began with the September 14, 2022 Commission meeting held at the offices of the Connecticut River Conservancy (CRC) in Greenfield, MA. No formal votes were taken due to a lack of quorum. It was noted that Linda Tanner (NH) and Bob Kline (NH) had resigned. Administrative matters were addressed such as CRC's invoice payment (paid via a standing motion) and a review of Standing Motions (no changes), and Document Retention Policy. Minor changes recommended to the Document Retention Policy to be approved at subsequent meet with quorum.

The December 7, 2022 meeting was held in person in Greenfield, MA. Continued discussion of Commissioner vacancies, appointments and reappointments. We continue to receive updates on the Upper West River Stream Geomorphic Assessment, related to Townshend Lake dam sedimentation issue. Of note, we were informed that Andy Fisk, Executive Director of CRC, has resigned and is taking a managerial position at Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. Lastly, a concern was raised regarding the purchase of hydro dams along the main stem of the Connecticut River by Hydro Quebec.

The March 2023 meeting of the CRVFCC was cancelled.

The June 21, 2023 meeting was held at the Army Corps of Engineers Ranger's office at Colebrook dam in Colebrook, CT. This is a major flood control facility for the Farmington and Connecticut Rivers in Connecticut. It was the first Commission meeting that anyone can recall to be held in Connecticut. Of note at this meeting a full quorum was achieved with the recent appointments of Rob Lowell (MA), and Antonio (Tony) Ortiz (NH) and Rep. Cathryn Harvey (NH). We welcome all the new Commissioners. The Commission reviewed and adopted edits recommended to the Document Retention Policy at the 9/14/22 meeting. An important motion was passed to remove Andy Fisk as a signor on CRVFCC accounts. A 2023 Audit Committee was established of volunteers Tony Ortiz and Rob Lowell. Commission also discussed and established the nominations the next officers to be Gary Moore as chair, and Paul Berch as vice-chair. Following the meeting a tour of the Colebrook Reservoir dam was undertaken.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Ruzicka (CT)
Chairman

SUMMARY OF COMMISSION MEETINGS MINUTES

Full minutes are available at www.crvfcc.org or by request.

September 14, 2022

1. Old Business
 - a. Commission reviewed June 15, 2022 meeting minutes. Correction needed for the future meeting dates. Gary Moore moved to approve June minutes with correction, second by Evan Hammond. Motion passed.
 - b. Commissioner vacancies & appointments:
 - i. MA: Mike has some names he will bring to the new Commissioner. Carl needs to move off this commission due to other work commitments, will stay until we get new appointments. The commission expresses appreciation of his work.
 - ii. CT: Someone from CT DEEP is interested in joining the Commission. Denise will get in touch with Jason to check his status.
 - iii. NH: Linda Tanner and Bob Kline have resigned.
 - iv. VT: Gary & Evan have been reappointed. Looking for an additional person to serve. Gary will try to get ahold of Brian to check his status.
 - c. MA & VT have paid 2022-2023 invoices for their annual administrative payment. Denise will call and check the status of the CT payment.
 - d. Work continues on the upper West River Stream Geomorphic Assessment (SGA). No additional details. Commission requests they send us an update. The SGA will eventually open up funding for projects to solve sedimentation issues at Townsend Dam.
 - e. Review of final FY 2021-22 expenses.
2. New Business
 - a. CRC's invoice: Paid via standing motion.
 - b. Review Standing Motion & Document Retention Policy. Remove "duplicate" from deposit slips" and "& subsidiary ledgers" (next to journals). Vote to approve at next meeting.

December 7, 2022

1. Old Business
 - a. Commission reviewed June 15, 2022 meeting minutes and September 14 meeting notes. Evan Hammond moved to provisionally approve June minutes and September notes, second by Paul Berch. Motion passed.
 - b. Commissioner vacancies & appointments:
 - i. MA: Rob is serving at discretion of DCR and new gov, no official paperwork. Replacement for Carl will be brought to new Governor Healey.
 - ii. CT: Someone from CT DEEP is interested in joining the Commission. Denise will get in touch with Jason to check his status.
 - iii. NH: Cathy Harvey is interested in serving & will talk to Governor's appointment secretary, then they'll find a 3rd to serve. Linda Tanner and Bob Kline have resigned.
 - iv. VT: New commissioner John Arrison recently appointed.
 - c. MA & VT have paid 2022-2023 invoices for their annual administrative payment. Denise called CT and it's been approved in their system, should arrive soon. Angela will follow up with NH contact.
 - d. Work continues on the upper West River Stream Geomorphic Assessment (SGA). Angela Chaffee shared a recent update from Joe Bartlett of Fitzgerald Environmental Associate on SGA progress – field work completed, data entered this winter, in spring will prepare a list of potential restoration projects. Final report due next November. The SGA will eventually open up funding for projects to solve sedimentation issues at Townsend Dam.
 - e. Review at next meeting the edits made to Document Retention Policy at September meeting (Remove "duplicate" from deposit slips" and "& subsidiary ledgers" (next to journals).
2. New Business
 - a. CRC's invoice: Paid via standing motion.
 - b. Review 2022 Tax Loss report. Evan Hammond moved to approve report as written, second by Mike Mislin. Motion passed.

- c. Review 2021-2022 Annual Report. Paul Berch moved to approve report with discussed change, second by Evan Hammond. Motion passed.
- d. Set 2023 meeting schedule: March 8, June 21, September 13, December 6. Discussion of June field trip to Colebrook Dam (CT), Denise has called the state and Mike will follow up.
- e. Other New Business:
 - i. Andy Fisk has resigned as CRC's executive director. CRC's board of trustees is beginning the work of hiring a firm to search for his replacement. In the meantime, we need to approve an additional signer on our bank accounts. Paul Berch moved to authorize Angela Chaffee as new signer on our accounts, second by Evan Hammond. Motion passed.
 - ii. Pay USPS bill.
 - iii. Paul mentioned purchase of 13 hydro dams on Deerfield & CT Rivers by Hydro Quebec, concern is additional hydro added to dams, none of them are flood control dams.

June 21, 2023

1. Old Business

- a. Commission reviewed December 7 meeting notes. June 15, 2022 meeting minutes and September 14 meeting notes have been provisionally approved. Gary Moore moved to accept meeting minutes and notes, second by Paul Berch. Motion passed.
- b. Commissioner vacancies & appointments:
 - i. MA: Serve until someone is reappointed. All spots are filled, but not necessarily appointed formally. Carl is seeking replacement and they are working to suggest a new person to be appointed. Rob has been nominated and is here officially.
 - ii. CT: Serve until someone is reappointed.
 - iii. NH: All set. Antonio (Tony) Ortiz and Rep. Cathryn Harvey were recently appointed.
 - iv. VT: All set.
- c. All four states have paid 2022-2023 invoices for their annual administrative payment. Invoices for 2023-24 will be sent in early July. Rob provided a new address for MA administrative payment invoices.
- d. Work continues on the upper West River Stream Geomorphic Assessment (SGA). The SGA will eventually open up funding for projects to solve sedimentation issues at Townsend Dam. Angela Chaffee shared a recent update. The Vermont DEC Rivers program has put a temporary hold on doing any active SGA work. Joe Bartlett of Fitzgerald Environmental Associate informed us that their contract has been extended and West River is the only active SGA project. All deliverables will be completed by the end of the year. Commission would like a copy of their final report.
- e. Commission reviewed the edits made to Document Retention Policy at September meeting. Paul Berch moved to approve updated policy, second by Gary Moore. Motion passed.

2. New Business

- a. CRC's invoice: Paid via standing motion.
- b. Commission reviewed draft FY2023-24 budget. Mike Misslin moved to approve budget with one modification as discussed to reflect total administrative payments of \$20,000, second by Gary Moore. Motion passed.
- c. Andrew Fisk, former director of Connecticut River Conservancy and signer on our bank accounts, needs to be removed as signer. Cathy Harvey moved to remove Andrew Fisk as signer, second by Gary Moore. Motion passed.
- d. Set 2023 Audit and Nominating Committees. Tony Ortiz and Rob Lowell volunteered for the audit committee. Commissioners discussed the nomination of next officers to be Gary Moore as chair, Paul Berch as vice-chair, to be officially nominated and voted on at the next meeting, taking office at the start of the December meeting.

Connecticut River Valley Flood Control Commission
Income & Expense Budget vs. Actual
 July 2022 through June 2023

	ACTUAL		Budget Forecast
	Jul '22- Jun 23	22/23 Budget	Jul 23 - Jun 24
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
Total State Payments	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
Total Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	175.73	102.00	102.00
Total Income	20,175.73	20,102.00	20,102.00
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	182.00	100.00	100.00
Printing and Copying	0.00	100.00	100.00
Supplies	0.00	100.00	100.00
Telephone, Telecommunications	75.95	100.00	100.00
Total Operations	257.95	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	0	400.00	400.00
Travel	1,966.03	3,000.00	3,000.00
Total Travel and Meetings	1,966.03	3,400.00	3,400.00
Total Expense	17,418.98	19,600.00	19,600.00
Net Ordinary Income	2,756.75	502.00	502.00
Net Income	2,756.75	502.00	502.00

Reconciled balance for the CD as of June 30, 2022: 69,802.90

Reconciled balance for the checking acct as of June 30, 2022: 40,326.82

Adjustments for June, 2022 (uncleared transactions: travel): 7575.95

Adjusted ending balance net uncleared transactions as of June 30, 2022: 32,750.87

Support money is received as follows:

Vermont
\$2500

New Hampshire \$2,500

Massachusetts \$7,500

Connecticut \$7,500

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

2022 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	18.25	\$ 250.00
Huntington	238,190.00	19.99*	4,990.00
<u>Littleville</u>			
Chester	487,480.00	19.18	9,618.00
Huntington	29,360.00	19.99*	615.00
<u>Birch Hill</u>			
Phillipston	110.00	16.94**	1.00
Royalston	38,200.00	12.21	382.00
Templeton	694,670.00	15.24	7,433.00
Winchendon	323,620.00	15.11	6,919.00
<u>Tully</u>			
Athol	7,900.00	16.05	77.00
Royalston	180,000.00	12.21	<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	31.03	\$3,166.00
Roxbury	26,740.00	26.04*	758.00
<u>Surry Mountain</u>			
Surry	238,190.00	24.52*	<u>7,765.00</u>
TOTAL		**2020 rate *2021 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 7, 2022.

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

2022 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	\$23.39	\$78.00
Thetford	203,380.00	25.62	3,675.00
<u>North Hartland</u>			
Hartland	110,140.00	23.28*	2,324.00
Hartford	328,470.00	8.68	7,292.00
<u>North Springfield</u>			
Springfield	32,880.00	37.36*	960.00
Weathersfield	554,510.00	16.68	10,092.00
Perkinsville(dissolved)	11,760.00	16.68	10.00
<u>Townshend</u>			
Jamaica	42,420.00	20.95*	1,756.00
Townshend	204,780.00	20.78	5,656.00
<u>Ball Mountain</u>			
Jamaica	12,460.00	20.95*	516.00
Londonderry	176,020.00	19.79	<u>2,341.00</u>
TOTAL		*2021 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