

Connecticut River Valley Flood Control Commission

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PURSUANT TO NOTICE, THE QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION was held at North Springfield Dam, Lake office, 98 Reservoir Road, North Springfield, VT on June 12, 2024.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Connecticut	Commissioner Denise Ruzicka Commissioner Richard Sherman
Massachusetts	Commissioner Mike Misslin Commissioner Carl Gustafson (proxy) Commissioner Robert Lowell
New Hampshire	Commissioner Paul Berch Commissioner Antonio Ortiz Commissioner Cathryn Harvey
Vermont	Commissioner Evan Hammond Commissioner Gary Moore Commissioner John Arrison

Also attending: Angela Chaffee – Administrator for the Commission, Sally Greer, Barbara Sherman, and Chase Franklin - US Army Corps of Engineers.

1. Gary Moore, Chair, called the meeting to order, 10:12 am.
2. Public Comment – none.
3. Old Business
 - a. Commission reviewed March 6 meeting minutes. John Arrison moved to approve meeting minutes, second by Paul Berch. Motion passed.
 - b. Commissioner vacancies & appointments:
 - i. MA: Loise LeGouis is no longer able to join due to family emergency. Rob and Mike are looking for another retired engineer from western MA to join.
 - ii. CT: Still trying to get appointments now that legislative session is over. Denise is moving but staying in the basin in CT. Graham Stevens, Bureau Chief of the Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse at CT Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (CT DEEP) is still interested in being appointed.
 - iii. NH: All set.
 - iv. VT: John has been reappointment and will send the paperwork to Angela.
 - c. All four states have paid their invoices for the 2023-2024 annual administrative payment.

- d. The Upper West River SGA (Stream Geomorphic Assessment) work was delayed by the flooding in VT last summer. Fitzgerald Environmental Associates got pulled into lots of emergency repair and resiliency work so they requested an extension on the SGA. The new schedule plans to have all work completed by September. We will follow up to get a copy of the report. Commissioners discussed the history of the sedimentation issue, as well as effects of changing climate, and water quality concerns.
 - e. Letter to governors about adjusting PILOT payments was sent on February 15, 2024. There has been no response yet from the states. John followed up in VT, and the state feels they don't have adequate info to make any changes. MA EOEEA questioned why it went to them and not the tax office. MA payments do not get dispersed to each town, rather into the general fund. Discussion of lump sum payments, which is how this has been handled for other rivers and other compacts. Land values, secondary economic benefits (tourism, recreation, etc.), inflation and other factors complicate the matter. Discussion of next steps and how to get responses from the states. Commission will continue to track this.
4. New Business
 - a. CRC's invoice: Paid via standing motion.
 - b. Commission reviewed draft FY2024-25 budget. Update dates at bottom to 2024, increase postage budget to \$150, Evan Hammond moved to approve budget with modification as discussed, second by Paul Berch. Motion passed.
 - c. Other New Business – none.
 5. Public Comment – Dick and Barbara Sherman started Scantic River *E. coli* sampling and testing in CT, results posted online, Angela will send the link. Gary noted the importance of all commissioners sending proxies.
 6. Meeting adjourn at 11:17 am.