

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 Knightville Dam, 49 Knightville Dam Road, Huntington, MA on July 9, 2025.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Connecticut	Commissioner Denise Ruzicka (absent) Commissioner Richard Sherman
Massachusetts	Commissioner Mike Misslin Commissioner Robert Lowell (proxy)
New Hampshire	Commissioner Paul Berch
Vermont	Commissioner Evan Hammond (proxy) Commissioner Gary Moore Commissioner John Arrison

Also attending: Angela Chaffee – Administrator for the Commission, Ramona Goode – CT DEEP, Keith Goulet – US Army Corps, Barbara Sherman, Linda Moore

1. Gary Moore, Chair, called the meeting to order, 10:05 am. No quorum.
2. Public Comment – none.
3. Old Business
 - a. Commission reviewed March 25 meeting minutes. No comments or corrections.
 - b. Commissioner vacancies & appointments:
 - i. MA: Rob has been formally appointed. No appointment paperwork for Rob yet. Linda Hutchins is no longer with FEMA; Mike will see if she wants to rejoin the Commission.
 - ii. CT: Ramona Goode & Graham Stevens' of CT DEEP have been put forward and paperwork is underway to move them toward appointment. No official appointments yet. Graham is on medial leave.
 - iii. NH: Tony Ortiz notified us on 4/6 that he resigned effective 5/1/25, the end of his original appointment. His schedule has become too busy to attend our meetings regularly. He sent a resignation letter to the NH Governor, urging the vacancy be filled in a timely manner. Cathryn Harvey notified us on 7/6 that she resigned immediately. This leaves us with only one commissioner in NH. Paul has another local legislator interested in joining the Commission. Nick Germana's district includes Connecticut River towns and he will get the appointment process started. Paul will work on finding another.
 - iv. VT: All Set.

- c. An initial letter to governors about adjusting PILOT payments was sent on February 15, 2024. We have received a response and follow-up questions from Kimberly McKee of VT ANR/DEC. September 1 is the deadline for states to submit comments on our proposed tax loss rate increase. We will continue to wait for feedback until 9/1/25 deadline.
 - d. Upper West River Stream Geomorphic Assessment (SGA) report has been completed and released publicly. Ideally, this will, in time, open up funding for projects to help solve sedimentation issues at Townsend Dam. Gary shared the history of the issue and summary of the report. John & Gary visited the dam last night and the reservoir continues to be filled with sediment. Commission has lobbied congressional delegates and VT DEC to resolve the matter, but solutions and funding are difficult to find. Gary & John met last night with the Townshend Selectboard. They are frustrated by the sedimentation issues making their recreation area unusable. Areas of highest problems are private property and outside Army Corps jurisdiction. Concern about sedimentation affecting the reservoir capacity of flood control dams. Discussion of meeting with senators or their staff to urge federal funding for further studies and/or cost estimates or work plans. Suggestion to talk to Marie at VT DEC about next steps. Angela will reach out to her; Gary & John are willing to meet with her before our next meeting and invite her to our next meeting.
4. New Business
- a. CRC's invoice: Paid via standing motion.
 - b. Commission reviewed draft FY2025-26 budget. No comments.
 - c. Set 2025 Audit and Nominating Committees. Paul and Gary will serve as the Nominating Committee. Evan and Mike will serve as the Audit Committee.
 - d. Recent correspondence handled in 3d. Commission reviewed recent correspondence from Townshend, VT Selectboard. Gary attended their 7/8/25 meeting and shared an update.
 - e. Other New Business – none.
5. Public Comment – Keith Goulet is project manager at Knightville & Littleville Dams, offered history of the Knightville Dam and facts about the dam. Provided a tour.
6. Meeting adjourn at 11am.