

# 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 the Connecticut River Conservancy office, 15 Bank Row, Greenfield, MA on September 17, 2025.

## COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

<b>Connecticut</b>	Commissioner Richard Sherman (phone)
<b>Massachusetts</b>	Commissioner Mike Misslin
	Commissioner Robert Lowell
<b>New Hampshire</b>	Commissioner Paul Berch
<b>Vermont</b>	Commissioner Evan Hammond (phone)
	Commissioner Gary Moore
	Commissioner John Arrison

Also attending: Angela Chaffee – Administrator for the Commission, Ramona Goode – CT DEEP, Nick Germana and Sam Jacobs – NH representatives.

1. Gary Moore, Chair, called the meeting to order, 9:32 am. No quorum.
2. Public Comment – none.
3. Old Business
  - a. Commission reviewed July 9 meeting minutes. No comments or corrections.
  - b. Commissioner vacancies & appointments:
    - i. MA: Peter Mulcahy may be appointed but nothing final. Linda Hutchins is still a possibility. Rob Lowell is still waiting to be formally appointed.
    - ii. CT: Denise Ruzicka notified us on 9/12/25 that she resigned effective immediately. This leaves us with only one commissioner in CT, though two are pending appointment. Chuck Lee (CT DEEP) has been pushing for appointments for Ramona Goode & Graham Stevens of CT DEEP.
    - iii. NH: Paul Berch introduced Sam Jacobs & Nick Germana, NH state representatives whose districts border the Connecticut River. Their names have been submitted for appointment, now waiting on Executive Council and Governor's office to finalize paperwork. Both are from Keene.
    - iv. VT: All Set.
  - c. NH has paid their invoice for the 2025-2026 annual administrative payment. Still waiting on the other three states. VT has a new vendor payment system, they may require additional info from us to process our payment.
  - d. Review of final FY 2024-25 expenses.
  - e. Upper West River Stream Geomorphic Assessment (SGA) report has been completed and released publicly. Ideally, this will open up funding for projects to help solve sedimentation issues at Townsend Dam. John Arrison attended a public

hearing held in Londonderry, VT on 9/3. It included a presentation by the engineering firm that produced the report and Marie Caduto of VT DEC. About a dozen people attended, most live along the West River or tributaries. Showed map with 60 locations that need attention, suggested work varied in scope as simple as fencing to complex as replacing bridges. There are funds in VT to address some of these projects. The hearing presenters suggested sedimentation issues will continue at the recreation area. John and Gary will pursue an in-person meeting with Marie to discuss next steps.

- f. Gary shared the background of the issue with PILOT payments. Payments were frozen since early 1980's, all states except VT put these payments into their general funds rather than pass thru to the towns. VT towns are asking for more. An initial letter to governors about adjusting PILOT payments was sent on February 15, 2024. Follow up letter sent April, 9, 2025. We have received responses from states of VT, CT and MA. Discussion of next steps, possible phased approach. In MA & CT the PILOT payments are adjusted every five years. Paul proposes that at next meeting we vote on Phase 1 of raising the payments, then send another letter to Governors explaining the change and suggest revisiting the process with all four states.

4. New Business

- a. CRC's invoice: Paid via standing motion.
- b. Commission reviewed Standing Motions & Document Retention policy. Gary shared background of moving our historic files to CT State Archives.
- c. Report from Nominating Committee. Paul nominated for Chair and Mike nominated for Vice-Chair. Will vote at next meeting to accept nominations.
- d. Other New Business – Paul asked about interest in holding special meeting to vote on items needing a vote, consensus is there's no urgent need, will vote at next regular meeting. Mike asked for input on June 2026 site visit. Paul requests getting the figures on the value of flood control protection provided, from Army Corps. Audit Committee will meet after the December meeting.

5. Public Comment – none.

6. Meeting adjourn at 11:03am.