

CHITTENDEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
CLEAN WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE – DRAFT MINUTES

DATE: **Tuesday, April 2, 2019**
 SCHEDULED TIME: 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
 PLACE: CCRPC Offices, 110 West Canal Street, Suite 202, Winooski, VT
 DOCUMENTS: Minutes, documents, and presentations discussed accessible at:
<http://www.ccrpcvt.org/meetings/clean-water-advisory-committee/>

Committee Members in Attendance		
Bolton:	Hinesburg: Merrily Lovell	St. George:
Buels Gore:	Huntington:	Underhill:
Burlington: Jenna Olson	Jericho:	Westford:
Charlotte:	Milton: Dave Allerton	Williston: James Sherrard
Colchester: Karen Adams, Andrew Douglas	Richmond: Jessica Draper (dep. 12:01 p.m.)	Winooski: Ryan Lambert
Essex:	Shelburne: Chris Robinson	VAOT: Jennifer Callahan
Essex Junction: Chelsea Mandigo	South Burlington: Tom DiPietro	VANR:
Burlington Airport: Polly Harris (Stantec)	University of VT: Lani Ravin (arr. 11:06 p.m)	CCRPC Board: Don Meals
Friends of the Winooski River:	Lewis Creek Assoc:	Winooski NRCD:
Other Attendees:		
CCRPC Staff: Dan Albrecht, Charlie Baker, Kathryn Koberna (CCRPC UVM intern, departed after introductions)		

1. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order by Don Meals at 11:00 a.m. Introductions were made.

2. Changes to the Agenda and public comments on items not on the agenda None.

3. Review and action on draft minutes of March 6, 2019.

After a brief recap by Dan Albrecht, *James Sherrard made a motion, seconded by Chelsea Mandigo to approve the minutes as drafted. MOTION PASSED with abstention by Meals, Harris and Lovell.*

4. Road and Bridge Standards Synchronization

Jim Ryan explained how the VTRANS “Town Road and Bridge Standards” are being updated especially via incorporation of various standards from DEC’s Municipal Roads General Permit. There are seven different sections as follows:

Road and Bridge Standards Sections	Hydrologically-connected road segments*	Non-hydrologically-connected road segments**
Section 1 – Municipal Road Standards	YES (Required by Act 64)	YES NO
Section 2 – Class 4 Road Standards	YES (Required by Act 64)	YES NO
Town wide		
Section 3 - Perennial stream- bridge and culvert standards	YES (Required by DEC Stream Alteration Standard)	
Section 4 – Intermittent stream crossings	YES NO	
Section 5 - Roadway construction standards	YES NO	
Section 6 - Guardrail standard	YES NO	
Section 7 - Driveway access standard	YES NO	

To qualify as meeting one of the four mitigation measures for achieving a favorable amount of State match from the Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund (ERAF), municipalities will need to adopt Sections 1 through 4 plus Section 7. Jim and Dan noted upcoming opportunities to learn more in detail about the proposed update to the Standards. These include: a VTRANS Local Roads “Road Roundtable” in Lincoln (editor’s note: this is on May 13th at 3 p.m.) and a CCRPC Road Foremen’s meeting here at CCRPC at 8 a.m. on April 24th. Jim concluded noting that DEC has recently announced the “Grants-in-Aid” allocation for the next fiscal year to be \$3.2 Million which is slightly higher than last year.

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2 **5. Draft CCRPC recommendations on S.96**

3 Charlie brief the committee on the proposed CCRPC comments on S.96 which is scheduled for a 3rd
4 reading today in the Senate. After the CWAC and Executive Committee reviews the draft letter the full
5 CCRPC Board will act on the final version of the letter at its April 17th meeting. CWAC suggested edits
6 were as follows:

7 Sec. 3 10 VSA § 1387: strengthen the language to emphasize that a long-term funding solution is needed
8 soon otherwise EPA will impose penalties such as requiring even more cost-inefficient upgrades to sewer
9 plants;

10 Sec. 1, 10 VSA

11 § 922: change to read "...allocating grant funding based upon pollution reduction need.

12 § 923: add language to improve how "design life" issues are addressed. Members noted that design life
13 depends upon maintenance; best available science should be used to determine design life; efficacy drops
14 over time but does not drop precipitously after design life is exceeded

15 § 924: this is the most complicated part. The overall concept of the bill was originally to set up a regional
16 structure for subgranting and project administration but now its morphing into a permit program where a
17 "clean water service provider" (an RPC) would be responsible for maintenance to assure pollution
18 reduction targets are met and could be subject to an enforcement action by the ANR Secretary if it failed to
19 do so. Members supported the proposed comments to soften these requirements but still have "providers"
20 responsible for reporting on project implementation and maintenance practices

21 § 925: by and large, members agreed with the proposed comments. James Sherrard noted that in the end
22 establishment of this new regional program would divert a finite amount of money needed for permit-
23 regulated obligations to new, non-obligatory programs. Don Meals disagreed saying that argument seems a
24 little bit like "turf-protection" for municipalities. Tom DiPietro said that it is somewhat the case but for him
25 its about making sure funds are allocated towards projects that get the most efficient pollution reduction per
26 dollar spent.

27 Sec. 1, 10 VSA §926, Sec. 6, 24 VSA §4345a. and Sec. 7, 24 VSA §4353: Members agreed with these
28 comments. Clean water service providers should work off of standardized partner and maintenance
29 agreements, basin water quality advisory councils should be the ones prioritizing projects and allocating
30 funding to partners. Dan Albrecht noted that RPCs are well suited to handle sub-grants for projects as well
31 as project tracking and annual reporting as it is similar to their work with CWBG grants and tracking
32 progress on the Municipal Roads General Permit.

33 Charlie indicated he would incorporate the suggested revisions into an updated draft.

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35 **6. Updates.**

36 Dan noted the following:

37 April 24th Road Foremen's meeting here

38 April 11th webinar by DEC on the (editor's note: see info here:

39 <https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/cwi/outreach/lecture-series>

40 The Basin 5 (Direct-to-Lake) TBP update process is underway. Dan will be reaching out soon to
41 gather info on town input on new water quality concerns, problem sites, etc.

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43 **7. Items for May 7th meeting agenda.**

- 44 • Chairman Meals asked members to contact Dan if they have agenda items for consideration.
- 45 • Legislative update will likely be on the agenda

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47 **8. Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 12:11 p.m.

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49 *Respectfully submitted, Dan Albrecht*
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