

CHITTENDEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
MS4 SUBCOMMITTEE
 OF CLEAN WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE – **DRAFT** MINUTES

DATE: **Tuesday, February 4, 2020**
 SCHEDULED TIME: 12:15 p.m. to 1:30 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		
Burlington: James Sherrard	Burlington Airport: Polly Harris (Stantec)	Williston: Christine Dougherty
Colchester:	Milton:	Winooski: Ryan Lambert
Essex: Annie Costandi, co-chair	Shelburne: Chris Robinson	VAOT: Jennifer Callahan, Tyler Hanson
Essex Junction: Chelsea Mandigo, co-chair	South Burlington: Tom DiPietro	Univ. of VT: Lani Ravin
DEC: Christy Witters		
Other Attendees: DEC: Emily Schelley, Karen Bates, Jim Pease, Staci Pomeroy; Watershed Consulting Associates: Andres Torrizo, Emily French; City of St. Albans: Chip Sawyer; Northwest RPC: Kate Longfield; Stone Environmental: Amy Macrelis		
CCRPC Staff: Dan Albrecht, Charlie Baker		

1. Call to Order, Changes to the Agenda and Public Comments on Items not on the agenda:

Chelsea Mandigo called the meeting to order at 12:18 p.m. No changes to the agenda nor public comments were made.

2. Review and action on draft minutes of January 7, 2020

After a brief recap by Dan Albrecht, *James Sherard made a motion, seconded by Lani Ravin to approve the minutes as drafted. MOTION PASSED with abstentions by Harris, Dougherty and Witters*

3. Review and Action on purchase of RRST materials (rack cards and stickers)

After a brief discussion and illustration of the two rack cards and the stickers, it was decided that Dan would send an email to the members to finalize an order.

4. Confirm \$6,000 per member dues for FY21

Dan noted that we had neglected to draft an FY21 budget and dues. He polled the members a few weeks ago and those that reported indicated they had planned on \$6,000 annual dues for FY21. *Tom DiPietro made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Callahan to set the dues for FY21 at \$6,000 per member. Motion passed with Harris abstaining.* Dan indicated he would begin to draft a working budget for FY21

5. Discussion of phosphorus reduction credits for natural resources (stream restoration) projects

Emily Schelley of DEC delivered a detailed powerpoint (see Cmttee webpage). Key points were:

- The TMDL is comprised of both Wasteload Allocation (wastewater, stormwater, treated CSOs and agriculture farmsteads) and Load Allocation (Forest land, agricultural land and stream channel instability/erosion).
- By reconnecting streams/rivers with floodplains this can increase deposition and adsorption of phosphorus by increasing floodplain storage.
- Research in Chesapeake Bay watershed has helped to define P-removal rates for various types of individual stream restoration projects.
- Required data to calculate these rates include: flow data, topo data, surface roughness estimate, land cover, export coefficients and floodplain efficiency.
- Based upon a test using sites in the Lamoille drainage, the average cost of Total P-removal for a floodplain reconnection projects were \$321/kg/year. This compares very favorably with stormwater

1 treatment projects which average \$26k-\$85k per kg/year and road erosion remediation projects which
2 average \$14k-\$67k per kg/year.

- 3 • Benefits also include improvement to habitat and flood resilience.

4 Staci Pomeroy of DEC added that she is part of a DEC “Functioning Floodplain Initiative” working group. She
5 is happy to help with identifying potential projects. The old River Corridor Plans and Fluvial Erosion Hazard
6 Assessments often recommended floodplain reconnection projects

7 Discussion by members centered on what the known benefit to MS4s would be a project was undertaken.
8 Albrecht pointed out that members are busy trying to implement projects identified in Flow Restoration Plans
9 and also complete their first Phosphorus Control Plans. Without knowing for sure exactly how much P-
10 reduction credits will be given, MS4s may be reluctant to invest the staff time and eventual funds into a stream
11 restoration project. It was noted that in Chittenden County one type of project would try to raise the streambed
12 of heavily incised streams. Remember, however, before undertaking any such project first take care of any
13 significant upstream flow inputs such as direct stormwater discharges from parking lots and roads. Christy
14 Witters indicated that DEC would continue to work to refine the analysis so that more specific numbers can be
15 generated to use as a credit. It was noted that these types of projects could potentially be supported via Water
16 Infrastructure Sponsorship Program (aka WISPr) grant. Discussion concluded with a consensus that interested
17 members and DEC should continue to work to explore the concept.
18

19 **6. Updates**

- 20 a. Rethink Runoff presentation at 2020 NEIWPC Non-Point Source Conference

21 Chelsea Mandigo noted that NEIPCC had accepted a proposal from she and Annie Costandi for a presentation
22 about Rethink Runoff at this conference taking place in April in Woodstock.

- 23 b. Final Baseload Calculation

24 Tom DiPietro urged DEC to finalize the numbers for each municipality for their applicable Phosphorus
25 Control Plan as soon as possible. Right now, he has having to put work by City’s consultants on hold as there
26 is no point in authorizing the work if the goalpost keeps moving.
27

28 **7. Items for upcoming meetings**

29 Wednesday, March 4th

- 30 a. Presentation by USGS on Clean Streets project
- 31 c. Review and action on 1) draft Annual MCM #1 report, 2) draft Annual MCM #2 report and 3) draft
32 RRSST Water Quality Sampling report.
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- 34
- 35 **8. Adjournment** The meeting adjourned at 1:12 p.m.
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Respectfully submitted, Dan Albrecht