

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

DATE: **Tuesday, February 2, 2021**  
 SCHEDULED TIME: 12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
 PLACE: ONLINE via Zoom  
 DOCUMENTS: Minutes, documents, and presentations discussed accessible at:  
<http://www.ccrpcvt.org/meetings/clean-water-advisory-committee/>

<b>Committee Members in Attendance</b>		
Burlington: James Sherrard	Burlington Airport:	Williston:
Colchester: Karen Adams	Milton: Dave Allerton, Kirsten Jensen	Winooski: Ryan Lambert
Essex: Annie Costandi, co-chair	Shelburne: Chris Robinson	VAOT: Jennifer Callahan
Essex Junction: Chelsea Mandigo, co-chair	South Burlington: Tom DiPietro, Dave Wheeler	Univ. of VT: Lani Ravin
DEC: Christy Witters		
<b>Other Attendees:</b> Winooski NRCD: Kristen Balschunat; DEC: Padraic Monks, Jim Pease, Emily Schelley; Stantec: Polly Harris; Watershed Consulting Associates: Kerrie Garvey, Fitzgerald Environmental Associates: Evan Fitzgerald, Evelyn Boardman; Stone Environmental: Amy Macrelis; Pluck: Dave Barron (arrived 1:15 p.m.),		
<b>CCRPC Staff:</b> Dan Albrecht, Sai Sarepalli, Chris Dubin (arrived 1:00 p.m.)		

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

The meeting was called to order at 12:17 p.m. With the consent of the co-chairs, it was agreed to have Dan Albrecht facilitate the meeting since it was all online. At the request of Karen Adams, a discussion of House Bill Number 108 was added to the agenda. No public comments were made.

**2. Review and action on draft minutes of January 5, 2021**

After a brief recap by Dan Albrecht, *Annie Costandi made a motion, seconded by Chelsea Mandigo to approve the minutes of January 5th as drafted except for a correction to line 40 on page 1 to read Chris Dubin, not Chris Robinson. No further discussion. MOTION PASSED.*

**3. Rethink Runoff, Pluck**

**a. Review & vote on proposed \$1,500 budget increase for Drain Defenders video**

Dan recapped the short proposal from Pluck. Funds would be used to film, edit and produce a live-action video for this pilot program. Chelsea noted it will be piloted in Essex Junction this summer. The idea came from a desire for additional small “pocket projects” beyond storm drain stenciling and rain barrels. Kristen Balschunat added that the program would be repeatable in other towns. She would work with Dave on the script and share it with all MS4s. A portion of the script would be adaptable to use town-specific content.

*Lani Ravin made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Callahan to approve the addition of \$1,500 to the FY21 Pluck Task Order to produce a Drain Defenders video. Lani noted that she demonstrated the [www.rethinkrunoff.org](http://www.rethinkrunoff.org) website to some colleagues at UVM and she felt that while the layout was okay the content was thin. After a brief discussion, it was noted that Pluck should be working on some updates to the website this spring, that her comment would be relayed to Pluck and that it might be a good idea for the committee to review the website in detail soon at one of its upcoming meetings. MOTION PASSED unanimously.*

**4. Stream Team: Winooski NRCD**

**a. Update on 2020 Stream Team Storytelling Season**

Kristen Balschunat recapped the highlights of the Google Earth storymap for each of the individual stream sites which volunteers engaged with this summer. She showed photos, journal notations and other items they provided. The story will be posted to the Rethink Runoff website in the coming weeks.

Several members complimented Kristen on the project. Kristen indicated she will use the material to create some social media vignettes to promote interest in the storymap as well as add some clean water projects. Dan

1 suggested she reach out to local newspapers as these are great stories and they are always looking for local  
2 content.

3  
4 **5. Crediting for phosphorus treatment by municipality: treatment of private parcel runoff; treatment**  
5 **as co-permittee; sponsorship/funding of natural resources projects, WISPR; assuming private parcel**  
6 **baseload but not as co-permittee**

7 Chris Robinson opened the discussion by showcasing the recently completed Town of Shelburne sponsored  
8 project to build a gravel wetland on VELCO property at an area west of US Route 7 just south of the town line  
9 with the City of South Burlington. The project treats runoff from multiple properties including VTRANS plus  
10 some 3-acre permit sites. The project was envisioned and developed before the 3-acre permit became a reality.  
11 They partnered with the Blue Linx property with an agreement that the project would treat runoff from their  
12 property in exchange for the Town getting a formal easement so they can cross Blue Link property to access  
13 the gravel wetland for maintenance.

14 Padraic Monks started off by saying that DEC is still trying to figure out who needs to be on the permit. If a  
15 Best Management Practice to meet a landowner's obligations is located at an off-site location then that  
16 landowner needs to be listed as a permit holder. He shared a screen as follows to illustrate the current thinking  
17 of DEC with regards to different types of projects and where the P-reduction credit is applied.

18 **PCP credits for treatment of private lands by an MS4 municipality**

19 **3-acre sites, and other regulated sites requiring upgrades:**

- 20 • PCP, in aggregate, achieves the lake segment reduction (e.g. 20%) from municipal lands and 35% P  
21 from the privately owned land
- 22 • MS4 assumes full legal responsibility for the stormwater system. (See Parts 7 and 8.2 of MS4 GP)

23 **Permitted, but requiring no upgrade**

- 24 • PCP gets full credit for treating private lands towards municipal reduction requirements
- 25 • MS4 assumes full legal responsibility for the stormwater system. (See Parts 7 and 8.2 of MS4 GP)

26 **Not Permitted**

- 27 • PCP gets full credit for treating private lands towards municipal reduction requirements
- 28 • MS4 establishes maintenance agreement to ensure maintenance of the BMP.

29 **River/Flood Plain Projects**

- 30 • Same as "Not Permitted"

31  
32 In response to various questions, Padraic and others made additional points/clarifications.

33 Padraic: If an MS4 sponsors a WiSPR project the MS4 would only get credit for the P-reduction coming  
34 from that portion of the project-treating-watershed attributed to Developed Lands.

35 Padraic: At this point, there is not a standard value of P-reduction for given types of projects (aka in-house  
36 estimate) so project sponsors would need to hire a consulting firm to come up with a site-specific estimate

37 Emily Schelley: DEC is continuing to work on standard value estimates and modeling for p-reduction as  
38 she had described when she presented to this subcommittee several months ago (Editors Note: See  
39 presentation and minutes for February 4, 2020 meeting) however for a specific project a consultant-generated  
40 estimated would be needed at this point.

41 Amy Macrelis: She just participated in a meeting regarding the Functional Floodplain Initiative. Big  
42 picture estimates are being generated for various projects at the stream reach scale but as of now there must be  
43 a project specific estimate generated.

44 If a project is sub-jurisdictional and the MS4 carries it out, then it could apply the credit towards its PCP.

45 Chelsea Mandigo noted that Essex's treatment exceeds the goal but since it is all going into the same lake  
46 segment that now Essex is planning to treat some of Essex Junction's phosphorus load as the Village was not  
47 meeting its assigned target. The planned PCP for Essex Junction will include some potential p-reduction  
48 projects as a backup in case the proposed load-sharing agreement is discontinued.

49 Christy Witters stated that the next step is for towns and consultants working on PCPs to send examples of  
50 potential projects where clarity is needed on phosphorus-reduction-crediting so DEC can provide guidance.

51  
52 **6. House Bill 108**

1 Karen Adams noted that testimony on this bill was being taken today. The bill would add Section 401  
2 review (which deals with Cumulative Impacts) to formally exempt projects. Individual MS4s may wish to  
3 submit comments. From her perspective she is not sure what the sponsors are trying to achieve.  
4

5 **6. Adjournment** Zoom ended the meeting transmission abruptly around 1:35 p.m. The meeting was not  
6 resumed.

7 *Respectfully submitted, Dan Albrecht*  
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DRAFT