

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

DATE: **Tuesday, October 11, 2022**
 SCHEDULED TIME: 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
 PLACE: ONLINE VIA ZOOM
 DOCUMENTS: Minutes, documents, and presentations discussed accessible at:
<http://www.ccrpcvt.org/meetings/clean-water-advisory-committee/>

Committee Members in Attendance (all online unless otherwise noted)		
Bolton:	Hinesburg: Merrily Lovell	St. George:
Buels Gore: Brendan O'Brien	Huntington: Darlene Palola	Underhill:
Burlington:	Jericho:	Westford:
Charlotte:	Milton: Nicholas Prussock	Williston: Christine Dougherty
Colchester: Karen Adams	Richmond: Ravi Venkataraman	Winooski: Ryan Lambert
Essex: Annie Costandi, co-chair	Shelburne: Chris Robinson	VAOT: Jennifer Callahan
Essex Junction: Chelsea Mandigo	South Burlington: Dave Wheeler	VANR:
Burlington Airport: Catie Calabrese (EIV)	University of VT: Lani Ravin	CCRPC Board:
Friends of the Winooski River:	Lewis Creek Assoc:	Winooski NRCD: Remy Crettol, Adelaide Dunn
Other Attendees: DEC: Karen Bates Other: Dean Pierce (Northwest RPC), Alex Dobbs (Charlotte resident)		
CCRPC Staff: Dan Albrecht, Charlie Baker, Chris Dubin, Sai Sarepalli, Jared Carpenter		

1. **Call to Order.** Co-chair, Annie Costandi called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m.
2. **Changes to the Agenda and public comments on items not on the agenda** None.
3. **Review and action on draft minutes of September 6, 2022** After a brief recap by Albrecht, Palola *made a motion, seconded by Mandigo to approve the minutes as drafted. MOTION PASSED.*
4. **Presentation on activities & projects of the Winooski NRCD, Remy Crettol, District Manager**
 Crettol delivered a detailed summary of the WNRCD's recent activities (see posted powerpoint). Key programs were noted as follows
 - WRNCD's service area is the largest of all the districts in Vermont.
 - They continue to partner with Friends of the Mad River and Friends of the Winooski River on the Storm Smart residential site assessment program. They received a new grant with a goal of conducting 125 new assessments through March 2025.
 - They continue to carry out the Stream Team outreach/engagement effort serving the County's MS4 permites.
 - They are managing the upcoming Envirothon, a state-wide competition where high school students put their knowledge of forestry, wildlife, soils and water resources to the test.
 - They are less well known for their agricultural programs but plan to get ramped up on that such as technical assistance, Vermont Pay for Phosphorus Program and th Vermont Agricultural Water Quality Partnership.
 - They are partnering with the Lake Iroquois Association and the Lewis Creek Association to develop a Lake Iroquois Watershed Action Plan. They hope to identify 40-50 projects and then prepare 30% Design Plans for a subset of the most promising projects.
 Crettol then displayed several examples of recent projects including the following: Hands Mill Dam Removal, Aquatic Organism Passage improvement, Morse Farm Gravel Wetland, Shady Rill streambank restoration.
 Crettol concluded his presentation noting the following projects were on their radar for development: Underhill Central School stormwater treatment and various projects from the Richmond SWMP.

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2 Palola asked Remy if WNRCD could help out in Huntington, communicate with their Conservation
3 Commission to investigate how to address sites with bank erosion and steep slopes. Crettol indicated he
4 would be glad to.

5 6 **5. Draft Municipal Roads General Permit Update, Chris Dubin, CCRPC**

7 Dubin presented a powerpoint regarding the update process. Key points were as follows:

- 8 • The second 5-year permit cycle will run from 1/26/23 to 1/26/28.
- 9 • Towns will have to re-apply for coverage under the new permit by 1/26/23.
- 10 • Municipalities have to conduct a Road Erosion Inventory Reassessment between May 1, 2023, and
11 October 31, 2027.
- 12 • Municipalities will have to upgrade on an annual basis at least 7.5% of their non-compliant road
13 segments.
- 14 • As part of the 7.5% target, at least 20% of a town's Very High Priority segments will need to be
15 upgraded.
- 16 • GSI practices were added as an allowed BMP for Catch Basin Outlet Stabilization.
- 17 • For erosion scoring there will no longer be a category of Partially Meets. Additionally, DEC proposes a
18 detailed rubric to generate an Erosion Score such that segments with gully erosion, steeper slopes, are
19 eroded culverts generate a higher score.
- 20 • Section 4.1.b of the draft permit notes that DEC will be given the authority to re-assess
- 21 • Public comments are due by October 24th and a Comment Responsiveness Report will be prepared by
22 DEC.
- 23 • The permit will be re-issued in late November 2022.

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25 Regarding CCRPC's assistance to towns, the CCRPC will

- 26 • Begin conducting REI Reassessments in the summer of 2023
- 27 • These reassessments will be conducted over a 2-to-3-year period.
- 28 • They plan to conduct reassessments in both MS4s and non-MS4 towns each year.

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30 Dubin asked members if they had any comments on the draft permit and if they felt that the Committee
31 should draft a formal comment letter. He is getting some clarification by email from Jim Ryan at DEC but
32 he does not plan to send comments. Dougherty expressed concerns around the timeline for getting Very
33 High Priority sites done in 2 years. That should be removed or extensions allowed out to 3-5 years since it
34 takes time to get design done, line up contractors, etc. Dubin noted there are still 68 VHP segments out
35 there in the county. She also expressed that permits need to be made simpler and encouraged CCRPC to
36 express such comments. Other members did not feel that the Committee needed to send a letter. Costandi
37 noted that she did not have strong opinions and they have been getting segments upgraded due to the use of
38 the Grants-in-Aid fund. Wheeler stated that nothing immediately jumps out to him as worthy of comment.
39 Constandi concluded noting that members have comments they can send them individually to the DEC. [
40 Note: the link to the draft permit is here: [https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/stormwater/permit-
41 information-applications-fees/municipal-roads-program](https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/stormwater/permit-information-applications-fees/municipal-roads-program)

42 43 **6. Update on Clean Water Service Providers for Northern Lake Champlain, Lamoille & Winooski 44 Basin and Act 76 Implementation**

45 Dean Pierce, Basin 7: Their Water Quality Council met on September 22. Their next meeting is December
46 1st. They are still feeling their way along. They may issue a survey to potential project partners to get a
47 better sense of what the demand for Basin 7 CWSP subgrants must be. They have issued an RFQ for
48 Project Subgrantee Partners with responses due by October 24.

49 Basin 8: Albrecht reported that Voight could not make the meeting but asked him via email to report the
50 following: 1) CVRPC signed their Formula Grant & 2) ED (Bonnie) is leaving CVRPC and Christian
51 Meyer (Senior Planner – CVRPC) will be the Acting Director until Bonnie's replacement has been
52 identified.

1 Dan Albrecht, Basin 5: We have eight water quality firms prequalified to provide subcontracted
2 engineering services to CCRPC. CCRPC has also prequalified eleven entities (four land conservation
3 and/or water quality organizations, three NRCDs and two municipalities). He will be reissuing this RFQ in
4 case there are more organizations or municipalities that want to be certified as potential subgrantees. They
5 are at least a month or two away from issuing any call for proposals.
6

- 7 **7. Elect Vice-Chair for FY23** Costandi asked for a volunteer to serve which should come from a non-MS-4
8 community. Alex Dobbs of Charlotte stated that he had already interviewed once with their Selectboard to
9 be their CWAC member. He is not yet confirmed but anticipates being confirmed on October 24th. He
10 stated he is willing to serve as vice-chair if no one else wants to step up. He has a background in
11 advertising and marketing and believes he could be an asset to the Committee. Costandi stated that the
12 Committee will table this item until the November 1st meeting.
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- 14 **8. Updates by Staff, Members and Guests** None
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- 16 **9. Items for November meeting agenda**

17 Costandi will work with Albrecht to develop the agenda with at least one item being action on the Vice-
18 Chair.

- 19 **10. Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 12:17 p.m.
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Respectfully submitted, Dan Albrecht