

# Northern Lake Champlain Basin Water Quality Council Regular Meeting, October 19, 2022 10 a.m. (Online) Minutes

See meeting recording & meeting materials at:

<https://www.ccrpcvt.org/northern-lake-champlain-basin-water-quality-council/>

## 1) **Introductions, Changes to the Agenda and Public comment on items not on the agenda**

*The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Vice-Chair Molly Varner. A quorum of 9 seats out of 9 were represented as noted in Bold.*

(# seats)	Members Present	Alternates Present
<b>Watershed Protection Organizations (2)</b>	<b>Kent Henderson, Friends of Northern Lake Champlain</b>	<i>Don McFeeters, Friends of Northern Lake Champlain</i>
		<b>&lt;&lt;Roger Crouse, Lake Iroquois Association</b>
<b>NRCDs (2)</b>	<b>Remy Crettol, Winooski NRCD</b>	
	<b>Molly Varner, Grand Isle NRCD, VICE-CHAIR</b>	<i>Lauren Weston, Franklin County NRCD</i>
<b>Municipalities (2)</b>		<b>&lt;&lt;Tom Briselden, Town of North Hero</b>
	<b>Dave Wheeler, South Burlington</b>	
<b>RPCs (2)</b>	<b>Dean Pierce, Northwest RPC</b>	
	<b>Karen Adams, Chittenden County RPC</b>	
<b>Land Conservation Organizations (1)</b>	<b>Emily Alger, South Hero Land Trust</b>	
<b>Primary Clean Water Service Provider Staff</b>		<b>Secondary CWSP Staff</b>
<i>Dan Albrecht, Manager</i>		<i>Chris Dubin</i>
<b>Guests</b>		
<i>Karen Bates, DEC, Basin 5 Watershed Planner</i>		<i>Kate Kelly, Lewis Creek Association</i>
<i>Erin De Vries, Vermont River Conservancy</i>		

*On a motion by Henderson, with a second by Wheeler, the draft agenda was approved unanimously. No public comments were made on items not on the agenda.*

## 2) **Review and approval of Minutes for Meeting of September 21, 2022**

*On a motion by Varner, with a second by Henderson, the draft minutes of September 21, 2022, were approved unanimously.*

## 3) **Discussion with Karen Bates, DEC, Basin 5 Watershed Planner**

Albrecht noted that Act 76 states “the purpose of a BWQC is to establish policy and make decisions for the CWSP regarding the most significant water quality impairments that exist in the basin and prioritizing the clean water projects that will address those impairments based on the basin plan.” He introduced Bates noting that she has an excellent overall knowledge of the issues/concerns in the Basin.

Bates then discussed each of the various sub-regions in the Basin and led a discussion with members and guest focused on the following questions:

- a) What areas are suffering the most significant water quality impairments within the basin?
- b) What are some clean water projects that have highly efficient phosphorus removal rates and/or have high overall total phosphorus removal potential.

The results of that discussion are as follows (see attached “Working Document”).

**4) Adoption of Council Policies**

- a) Conflict of Interest Policy: After a brief recap of changes since the previous draft was discussed, *a motion was made by Wheeler to adopt the policy as proposed, seconded by Varner and the motion was approved unanimously.*
- b) Public Participation Policy: After a brief recap of changes since the previous draft was discussed, *a motion was made by Crettol to adopt the policy as proposed, seconded by Varner and the motion was approved unanimously.*
- c) Operating Policies & Procedures: After a brief recap of changes since the previous draft was discussed, *a motion was made by Alger to adopt the policies and procedures as proposed, seconded by Henderson and the motion was approved unanimously.*

**5) Additional updates as needed from CWSP staff, DEC, BWQC Members and Guests**

Albrecht noted that we are still reviewing Chapter 6 Guidance. He is still in communication with the DEC about some sort of interim DEC review process so he can get some grants out the door for design. He also reached out to River Management staff at DEC regarding how they plan to allocate the \$100k they have for performance of “Stream Geomorphic Assessment – Lite” by their two retained contractors. In response to a query from Henderson, he is planning to adapt a DI Block Grant application process into a CWSP Formula Grant application and then have applicants complete them so he can push the envelope and get DEC to say yes or no.

Henderson noted that the Annual Meeting of the Friends of Northern Lake Champlain will be held at the Village of Swanton complex on November 17<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 p.m.

Albrecht noted he has received one additional response from a Grand Isle County entity to be prequalified as a Subgrantee and he asked Roger Crouse to reach out to organizations in Lake Iroquois and encourage them to submit a response to the RFQ.

**6) Items for draft agenda for meeting of November 16<sup>th</sup>**

- a) Pre-Proposal process to be assure a project is viable and to facilitate proper procurement process prior to development of formal proposal
- b) Co-benefits

**7) Adjournment**

*On a motion by Wheeler, seconded by Crettol, a motion to adjourn at 11:29 a.m. was passed unanimously.*

Note: These minutes included the attachment entitled “WORKING DOCUMENT TO HIGHLIGHT ON-GOING PROJECTS AND IDENTIFY NEEDED NEW PROJECT FOR BASIN 5”

**WORKING DOCUMENT TO HIGHLIGHT ON-GOING PROJECTS AND IDENTIFY NEEDED NEW PROJECT FOR BASIN 5**

Contact: Dan Albrecht, CCRPC, Basin 5 CWSP Manager: 802-861-0133, [dalbrecht@ccrpcvt.org](mailto:dalbrecht@ccrpcvt.org)

- a) What areas are suffering the most significant water quality impairments within the basin?
- b) What are some clean water projects that have highly efficient phosphorus removal rates and/or have high overall total phosphorus removal potential

Sub-region	Source of WQ impairment or General Location	Discrete Location	Existing Projects addressing this already under design	New projects that are needed
Champlain Islands	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Shoreline erosion</li> <li>2. Lawns, Roads</li> <li>3. Alburgh</li> <li>4. some private roads</li> <li>5. North Hero:</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Keeler Bay / South Hero</li> <li>2. Carry Bay</li> <li>3. Sucker brook (next to Golf Course, see SWMP), mud brook and 2 unnamed tribs</li> <li>4. many</li> <li>5. private roads, direct discharges from culverts into Lake</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bioengineering</li> <li>2.</li> <li>3.</li> <li>4. possible funding source for private road inventory besides CWSPs</li> <li>5. have completed six Lakewise Assessments</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. yes looking beyond shorelines to identify WQ restoration projects</li> <li>2. Lakewise outreach</li> <li>3. wetlands restoration where ag land being retired; any areas where wetlands drained, try to re-connect. see Wetlands restoration layer</li> <li>4. need funding</li> <li>5. SWMPs not yet done, ideas from 'shoreline socials' / connectivity issues in Pelots Bays / / want to move inland a bit for wetlands restoration and some private roads / there are some direct discharge culverts into the lake.</li> </ol>

Sub-region	Source of WQ impairment or General Location	Discrete Location	Existing Projects addressing this already under design	New projects that are needed
Swanton, St. Albans, Georgia & Fairfax	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. St. Albans</li> <li>2. Rugg Brook</li> <li>3. Stevens Brook and Mill River</li> <li>4. Swanton</li> <li>5. North Maquam shoreline is in B-5</li> <li>6. Georgia shoreline already completed.</li> <li>7. Mill River in Georgia,</li> <li>8. Fairfax: double-check SWMP</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. shoreline most applicable</li> <li>2. near top of Rugg Brook, near Sr. Ctr comm living, near park and ride, behind elementary school</li> <li>3.</li> <li>4. mostly small streams straight into lake, lots of ag</li> <li>5.</li> <li>6.</li> <li>7. erodes easily, empties into St. Albans Bay, longstanding issue</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.</li> <li>2. Rugg Brook Flow Restoration Plan</li> <li>3.</li> <li>4.</li> <li>5. FNLC applying for design &amp; construction at Town Beach</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.</li> <li>2.</li> <li>3. update FEH studies</li> <li>4.</li> <li>5</li> <li>6. look at outfalls above Georgia shoreline or find non-regulated farms</li> <li>7. Floodplain &amp; wetland restoration, update FEH or use FFI, or do in-stream restoration project to slow flow. For p-credits find flat areas to raise channel</li> </ol>

Sub-region	Source of WQ impairment or General Location	Discrete Location	Existing Projects addressing this already under design	New projects that are needed
Chittenden Cty MS4s	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Milton</li> <li>2. Milton</li> <li>3. Colchester</li> <li>4. Colchester</li> <li>5. Colchester</li> <li>6. Colchester</li> <li>7. Colchester</li> <li>8. Colchester</li> <li>9. Colchester</li> <li>10. South Burlington</li> <li>11: South Burlington</li> <li>12. South Burlington</li> <li>13. South Burlington</li> <li>14. South Burlington</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Allen Brook watershed</li> <li>2. Stone Brook</li> <li>3. Malletts Creek</li> <li>4. Indian Brook</li> <li>5. Potash Brook</li> <li>6. Colchester Pond</li> <li>7. Pond Brook</li> <li>8. Horse farm on Poor Farm Road</li> <li>9. F&amp;W access in Mallets Bay, stream under Champlain Marina</li> <li>10. Potash Brook floodplain restoration project near CWD Treatment Plant</li> <li>11. Grandview Drive</li> <li>12. Farm South of Butler Farms neighborhood. Murmurs of possible housing development on property</li> <li>13. UVM Horticultural Farm, old dam site within tributary of Bartlett Brook</li> <li>14. flows from Spear Street uphill from Hort Farm from top of hill</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. CCRPC using Trans fund to understand nature of SW discharge into brook</li> <li>2.</li> <li>3.</li> <li>4.</li> <li>5.</li> <li>6.</li> <li>7.</li> <li>8.</li> <li>9.</li> <li>10. 30% Design already completed</li> <li>11. 30% Design already completed</li> <li>12.</li> <li>13. City has been in touch with UVM</li> <li>14. now being captured, using City-installed weir for flow splitter</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. lots of potential, lots of sand</li> <li>2. Bugs in great shape, lots of ag, may not be eligible. Perhaps do SGA / FEH study</li> <li>3, 4 &amp; 5. Wetland Restoration and Check private roads: Karen Adams, Town staff: muni would not lead them, Pine campground-3 acre permit, would need partners, horse farms, trailer park on Bay Road, Cons. Cmsn- yes interested, town does not have bandwidth. \$20 million for PCP. Town plate is full. CWSP \$ may be able to fund portion of a Town project that treats non-regulatory runoff</li> <li>6. Remy-WNRCD with WVPD project on Colchester pond, access road washout and shoreline projects, soil compaction</li> <li>7.</li> <li>8.</li> </ol>

				<p>9. look to NRCDs Flows directly into Smith Creek 10. needs 100% design 11. needs 100% design 12. wetland restoration? 13. dam blew out during Halloween storm of 2019, remove dam and restore FP, contact Karin Dailey, contact TNC...poke UVM... 14.</p>
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Sub-region	Source of WQ impairment or General Location	Discrete Location	Existing Projects addressing this already under design	New projects that are needed
Chittenden Cty Non-MS4s	1. Lake Iroquois 2. Lake Iroquois 3. Lake Iroquois 4. McCabe's Brook 5. Shelburne Farms: 6. Hinesburg 7. Hinesburg: working on concept plan for Lyman Meadows, will follow up with ask to cwsp 8. St. George 9. Holmes Creek: Holmes Creek 9. Long point: Town Farm Bay watershed...Thorp and Kimball	1. west side of lake, 2. east side of Pond Road, 3. entire lake watershed 4. entire watershed 5. along shoreline down hill from Lone Tree Hill... 6. behind United Church of Hinesburg 7. Lyman Meadows subdivision, not 3-acre permit regulated 8. Tributary to LaPlatte River near Rocky Hill golf course 9. Dam near Charlotte Town Beach	1. N/A 2. N/A 3. development of action plan underway 4. LCA working on updating list, projects will get uploaded in Jan-Feb. 5. N/A 6. LCA has design & construction grant underway 7. LCA working on concept plan now	1. address private roads 2. stream restoration 3. N/A 4. N/A 5. bio-engineering to stop shore erosion 6. N/A 7. N/A 8. look for streamside planting opportunities 9. working with Town CC, dam removal, update the FEH, SGA-lite>>>Gretchen alexander maybe planting projects...