

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

DATE: **Tuesday, December 6, 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: Joss Besse	Hinesburg: Merrily Lovell	St. George:
Buels Gore: Brendan O’Brien	Huntington:	Underhill: Nick Atherton
Burlington:	Jericho: Tom Joslin	Westford:
Charlotte: Alex Dobbs, Vice-Chair	Milton: Nicholas Prussock	Williston: Christine Dougherty
Colchester: Karen Adams, arr. 11:10 a.m.	Richmond: Ravi Venkataraman	Winooski: Ryan Lambert
Essex: Annie Costandi, Chair	Shelburne: Chris Robinson	VAOT: Jennifer Callahan
Essex Junction: Chelsea Mandigo, arr. 11:25 a.m.	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: Kate Kelly, Andrea Morgante	Winooski NRCD: Adelaide Dumm,
Other Attendees: Pat Suozzi, Lake Iroquois Association, Dean Pierce (Basin 7 CWSP), Brian Voigt (Basin 8 CWSP); Karen Bates, Meagan Koss & Keith Fritschie, DEC; Jill Sarazen, DEC/LCSG		
CCRPC Staff: Dan Albrecht, Charlie Baker, Taylor Newton, Chris Dubin, Darin Schibler		

1. **Call to Order.** 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** No changes. Darren Schibler introduced himself.
3. **Review and action on draft minutes of November 1, 2022.** *Dobbs made a motion, seconded by Dougherty to approve the minutes as drafted. All in favor except Palola abstained. MOTION PASSED.*
4. **Presentation on activities & projects of the Lewis Creek Association, Kate Kelly & Andrea Morgante (Info)**

Kate Kelly provided an overview of the organization. She explained the organizational mission which is focused on providing education and outreach, planning, and conservation. Kate reviewed the Ahead of the Storm (AOTS). She noted that AOTS ties data collection, planning, restoration, and education together to act as a holistic tool for identifying and addressing water quality problems and habitat enhancement in the LaPlatte River watershed. Kate then reviewed examples of positive land stewardship projects funded through the program.

Kate then reviewed a few other specific projects funded through Lewis Creek Association related to water quality, water sampling, invasive species removal, and a landowner’s guide.

Annie asked how AOTS projects are funded. Kate said Lake Champlain Basin program or DEC funding, along with some local match, funded the majority of the project. Christine asked about on-going maintenance of installed projects. Kate said maintenance is usually conducted by a community partner after installation. Andrea discussed the need for solid operations and maintenance agreements with partners to ensure continued water quality benefits long-term.

1 **5. Update on planned DEC fees & design rebate program for 3-9050 Permit applicants.** Meaghan
2 explained the fees related to notice of intent to comply with 3-acre permit and the fees for notice of
3 intent.

4 Existing programming to help compliance with the permit include Green Schools Initiative, about
5 eight Public-private partnership projects that were previously designed and a new Manufactured Home
6 Communities Initiative to fund the engineering work for those communities to comply.

7 There is \$40M in ARPA funds. Need to be spent by December 31, 2026. Permit rebates, MHC
8 Initiative, construction assistance, P3 projects

9 DEC is developing Rebate programs – engineer of choice can be used. Rebate is formula based. \$9K
10 max rebate for now. Hoping to change to a \$49K maximum (permit fees plus up to \$20K for
11 engineering). Most projects are eligible. Rebate would be received at permit application (full NOI).
12 Application is made via ANR Online.

13 They also plan to develop a process to fund construction for residential properties subject to the 3-acre
14 permit. They want to fully fund these projects for construction if possible. Two payments (initial after
15 contract, invoice, permit and final after construction and Engineer's Certification).

16 Christine asked who should apply for these grants if there's no HOA in place for residential projects.
17 Meghan said that an HOA may be required to be formed, but said that she reach out to DEC for
18 details. Karen Adams asked if the State is thinking about other funding (besides ARPA) that could
19 help with permit compliance. Meghan stated that she is not sure at this time of other funds.

20 **6. Update on operations of Clean Water Service Providers for Basins 5, 7 and 8**

21
22 Dean Pierce stated that the Lamoille council (Basin 7) met in November and discussed project
23 solicitation and prioritization. He noted that the council is frustrated related to budgeting for the
24 CWSP. Hoping that the solicitation will begin this winter. Have completed a RFQ for partners
25 (implementors) and another for contraction. Have decided upon partners and now reviewing
26 construction responses.

27
28 Darlene (Basin 8) noted that the Winooski council is still struggling with how to implement the co-
29 benefits white paper. Noted that Brian Vogt has done a lot of work to review previously identified
30 projects in Basin 8. Have also sent out RFQs, but have not had responses yet.

31
32 Dan (Basin 5) showed the [CWSP link on the CCRPC website](#). Adopted conflict of interest and
33 engagement policies. Started a pre-application process for project funding. He reviewed the cost
34 effectiveness formula noted some example of project co-benefits and stressed that the application
35 process will be similar to Design Implementation Block Grants but projects will also have to show
36 phosphorus reduction benefit, cost-effectiveness over project design life time period and note any co-
37 benefits so that the CWSP and its Basin Water Quality Council have the data they need to decide
38 whether to support a project.

39
40 **7. Updates by Staff**

41 Chris Dubin noted that he's working with non-MS4 communities to comply with their December 31st
42 reporting deadlines for their MRGP. Still needs to contact Bolton and Huntington. He also noted that
43 he'll be working with MS4 communities after the non-MS4 communities to meet their April 1st
44 reporting deadline.

45
46 Darlene asked about discussing expansion of the Rethink Runoff program. Dan explained that that
47 program is targeted to serve the MS4 communities, and it would dilute that brand to go outside of their

1 service area. He explained that Friends of the Winooski River and the Winooski NRCD have programs
2 targeted to rural residents to educate them about good homeowner practices to mitigate the effects of
3 stormwater. Adelaide Dumm of Winooski NRCD provided [a link to their Stormsmart program](#) which
4 addresses residential programs and said she will contact Darlene.
5

6 **8. Items for January Meeting Agenda**

7 January agenda – t.b.d. Tactical basin plan update at February 7th meeting.
8

9 **10. Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.
10
11

Respectfully submitted, Taylor Newton & Dan Albrecht