

**MEETING MINUTES
NEW HAMPSHIRE WATER SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
December 5, 2012**

**New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
Concord, NH**

Commissioners in attendance:

Virginia Battles-Raffa
Kris Blomback
John Boisvert
Thomas Burack
John Gilbert, Chair
Denise Hart
Michael Licata
Marcy Lyman, Vice Chair
Amy Manzelli
Glenn Normandeau
Cliff Sinnott
Chuck Souther

Commissioners not in attendance:

Dave Allen
Alison Watts

Public in attendance:

Terry Cox
Rosemary Landry
Jennifer Rowden
Martha Spaulding
Paul Susca

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

I. November 28th Meeting Minutes

A motion to accept the November 28, 2012 meeting minutes was made by Glenn and seconded by Kris. The motion to accept the minutes passed unanimously with Mike, Denise, Amy and Marcy abstaining.

II. Report Discussion

John G. explained a few Commissioners members who were not present at the last meeting for the vote to approve final report have requested that the report be re-opened so that some additional revisions to the report can be made. Marcy, Denise and Amy reviewed the additional revisions they wished to see included in the report with the rest of the Commission. The Commission discussed the implications of re-opening the report for revision, whether the revisions offered substantially changed the report or corrected inaccuracies, and if there had been sufficient opportunity for Commissioners to comment on the report.

A motion to re-open the report for revisions was made Mike and seconded by Tom. The vote passed 8 to 4.

The additional revisions offered were briefly discussed by the Commission and those that the majority of Commission were comfortable with were accepted. Due to the short time-frame for getting the report to the Governor's Office by December 10th (so they would have one week to review it prior to the event on the 17th), John noted that the Commission would not have time to meet to accept the final version of the report.

A motion to accept the report pending the inclusion of the discussed revisions was made by John G. and seconded by Marcy. The motion passed unanimously.

John and Marcy indicated they would work on incorporating the changes and work with Jenn to get the final formatting completed by December 10th. The final report would be sent to the full Commission at the same time it is passed to the Governor's Office.

III. Report Rollout Discussion

The following update was provided by Amy.

A. Water Prize

Marcy is spearheading this effort. Currently, she is arranging a meeting for interested folks to join and discuss.

B. Website

We want a long-term presence on the internet. That way, when our work comes up in the future, as we hope it will, people will be able to Google and find the website as easily as they can now. Currently, our website is hosted on part of the Governors' portion of NH.gov and maintained by DES, presumably by Jenn Rowden. Amy contacted Linda Sheldon at the Dept. of Information Technology (DoIT). She spoke with Theresa Pare-Curtis, the Director of Web Services at DoIT. Linda reports that Theresa sees no reason that the website should come down after the governorship changes. So long as DES continues to maintain the website, it can stay up indefinitely.

C. Gubernatorial Leadership

Event with Governor Lynch tentatively scheduled for Monday December 17 at 2:30 at the State House. John is spearheading this. After some discussion, the Commission agreed that this event should focus upon the sitting Governor Lynch and that we should not invite Governor-Elect Hassan.

D. Upcoming Events for WSC Presentations

1. Conservation NH Green Eggs & Ham Breakfast – January 2013: Agenda for event is set through a series of monthly policy meetings starting in November and attended by most big environmental groups in NH. John and Amy attended their November 9, 2012 meeting to present the report in hopes of getting us on the agenda for the January breakfast. They are thinking about our pitch. If declined, CNH suggested that it may be able to provide an alternate venues with legislators.
2. NH Travel Council Annual Conference – Spring 2013: Kris worked with Alice Pearce, SkiNH President; Karl Stone, SkiNH and NHTC Board; Van McLeod, NHTC; Peter Ramsey; and Henry G. Veilleux. Planning for the conference will occur in November and December, 2012. We need someone to spearhead this. Kris will be out of town for the conference.
3. Drinking Water Week: Paul will work the WSC Final Report into the topics to be covered in the one-week long drinking water week at DES in the first week of May 2013.
4. PSU Center for the Environment Spring 2012 Colloquium Series: Virginia has arranged for John to speak on March 27, 2013.
5. Municipal Association (LGC) Annual Conference: Cliff is working with Julie LaBranche, a senior planner on the Board of NECAPA. They'll contact the LGC in May 2013 to see about a session for their annual conference in November 2013.
6. New Hampshire Planners Association annual conference: Cliff is working with Julie LaBranche, a senior planner on the Board of NECAPA. Conference Planning begins in late Dec-Jan. Conference expected in June. Julie has forwarded a heads-up email to Sarah Marchant, who is current president of NHPA.
7. Northern New England APA Chapter annual conference: Julie LaBranche is on conference planning committee and will carry the request.
8. OEP's annual planning conference. OEP contact is Joanne Cassulo (271-2155). Cliff is spearheading this. He has confirmed a spot for the WSC. It will probably be in Manchester on a Saturday in May.
9. Water Education Summit December 14. Marcy will be participating in this event.
10. Possible presentations to legislative committees. John is working with Rep. Spang and Glenn is working with Sen. Odell on this.

E. Media

1. Exchange with Laura Knoy on NHPR: Virginia is working on this, but they are more interested in January than right now.
2. Glenn will have F&G public relations staff help distribute press release. Paul had volunteered to will work with Jim Martin, DES' press information officer, to distribute the press release. After some discussion, the Commission decided it was not concerned about possible overlaps given the interest in getting the word out as broadly as practicable.

3. Glenn will have F&G public relations staff work towards a spot on Chronicle or otherwise on WMUR.
4. John will reach out to NH Public Television – meeting on Monday, December 10th.

F. Canned Presentation

Paul and Jenn have begun a 30-minute “canned” presentation for Commissioners to use when presenting about the WSC in the future. They will complete this according to the final version of the report.

G. Recent Presentations

1. John presented at the BIA/DES Water Symposium on November 9 as part of a two-hour session with two other speakers on water issues in the state.
2. Amy presented on November 3, 2012 at the Annual Conference of the NH Association of Conservation Commissions.
3. Granite State Rural Water Association, John spoke to them and submitted an article for their newsletter. The Association expressed an interest in being part of a consortium, however it evolves, that works to implement the recommendations of the Commission

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m. The presentation of the report to Governor Lynch is tentatively scheduled for Monday, December 17th from 2:30 to 3:00 at the State House in the Executive Council Chambers in Concord. It was requested that as many Commissioners attend as could be available.