



South Lake Champlain Basin Water Quality Council (BWQC)

June 15, 2023, 11:00 am

Online and in-person at the Rutland Regional Planning Commission offices.

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order 11:05

Council Members present: Erin Rodgers, chair (TU); Shayne Jaquith (TNC); Adam Piper (VLT); Katy Crumley (PMNRCD); Adam Lougee (ACRPC); Paul Donaldson (Town of Poultney); and Mary Ann Goulette (Town of West Rutland).

Staff present: Barbara Noyes-Pulling, RRPC/CWSP; Hilary Solomon; PMNRCD/CWSP.

VTDEC present: Angie Allen

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion to approve agenda made Paul Donaldson, seconded by Adam Lougee. Motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes as written from April 28, 2023, made by Shayne Jaquith, seconded by Adam Lougee. Motion carried.

FINAL REVIEW FOR REQUEST FOR PROJECTS PROPOSAL – SUGAR HOUSE LANE

Erin Rodgers and Katy Crumley recused themselves from voting because they are partners of the project; staff member Hilary Solomon is also a partner.

Erin Rodgers described the project – Sugar House Lane Fish Passage Barrier Removal and Bridge Replacement in Dorset and answered questions. Project partners are seeking \$15,000 to finalize the project budget. This is a small part of the total project cost, which is funded mostly through Federal funds. Staff member Barbara Noyes Pulling reviewed the staff recommendations and project scoring for the project (64 out of 80). Acting chair Shayne Jaquith led the group through the scoring of co-benefits which scored 11 out of 20. The project's total score was 75 out of 100. A motion to approve the project was made by Adam Lougee, seconded by Shayne Jaquith. The motion was amended to be contingent on the project getting all necessary permits.

There was some discussion about the staff recommendation to make it contingent on getting an Operations & Maintenance (O&M) agreement with the primary landowner. Angie Allen indicated that it would be good best practice to execute an O&M agreement prior to funding, but she recommended that

since the concerns raised were going to be part of the public record of the meeting that the group could proceed with the grant vote as worded. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

ACT 76 GUIDANCE CHAPTER 5 – CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Staff member Barbara Noyes Pulling informed the council that Chapter 5 of DEC Guidance was in a public comment period until July 12, 2023. She asked if members had any comments to get them to her or Hilary Solomon by July 10.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public present. Hilary Solomon and Barbara Noyes Pulling indicated a potential need for some up-front funds from the BWQC to do preliminary project ID/Development work with consultants. Staff will put the item on the next meeting's agenda and, in the meantime, welcomes comments/questions from the BWQC.

NEXT MEETINGS

The staff is hoping to have meetings in July and August to review a new round of projects and will send out a poll to schedule the next set of meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Adam Lougee, seconded by Shayne Jaquith.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:00 PM

Respectfully submitted by Barbara Noyes Pulling & Hilary Solomon