

**JOINT
LAKES MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**
NH Lakes Management and Protection Program
AND
RIVERS MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
NH Rivers Management and Protection Program

New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
29 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095

MEETING MINUTES
December 21, 2007
DES Conference Rooms 112 - 114
9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

LMAC:

Members present:

Phil O'Brien, Chair
Larry Sunderland, Vice Chair
Jennifer Czys
Jim Haney, Ph.D.
Diane Hanley
Mark Hemmerlein
Ken Jordan
Mitch Kalter
Sheri Colby
Fred Murphy
Dari Sassan
Michele L. Tremblay

Representing:

NH Lakes Association
Conservation Community
NH Office of Energy & Planning
Scientific Community, UNH
NH Assoc. of Conservation Commissions
Commissioner, DOT
NH Association of Realtors
NH Fish & Game Commission
Commissioner, DRED
Planning Board
NH Office of Energy and Planning
State Conservation Committee

Term:

August 1, 2009
September 19, 2010
Indefinite
August 1, 2009
August 22, 2010
Indefinite
August 1, 2008
August 22, 2009
Indefinite
August 1, 2008
Indefinite
August 1, 2009

Members not present:

Wendell Berry,
Mark Gallagher
Steve Perry
Ken P. Wilson
Vacant
Vacant
Vacant

NH Business and Industry Assn
Commissioner, DOS
Fish & Game Dept.
NH Marine Dealers Association
Tourism Industry
Elected Municipal Official
Commissioner, Dept. of Agr., Markets & Food

July 8, 2007
Indefinite
Indefinite
August 22, 2008
Expired
Expired
Indefinite

RMAC:

Members Present

Ken Kimball, Chair
Michele L. Tremblay, Vice Chair
Allen Bartlett
Bob Beaurivage
Jennifer Czys
William Heinz
Walter Morse
Kathryn Nelson
Kevin Nyhan
Ted Sutton
Anne Krantz

Representing

Recreational Interests
Conservation Community
Agricultural Community
Public Water Suppliers
NH Office of Energy and Planning
Granite State Hydropower Assoc.
NH Fish & Game Commission
Local River Management Advisory Comm.
NH Dept. of Transportation
Municipal Officer
Historical & Archaeological Interests

Term

Dec. 28, 2008 V
Dec. 28, 2008 V
Mar. 22, 2009 V
Sept. 28, 2010 V
Indefinite NV
Jan. 5, 2009 V
Sept. 28, 2009 V
Sept. 5, 2010 V
Indefinite NV
Nov. 16, 2008 V
June 15, 2010 V

Members Absent

Gail McWilliam Jellie
Allan Palmer
John Magee
Johanna Lyons
VACANT

Dept. of Agriculture, Markets and Food
Business and Industry Association
Fish & Game Department
Dept. Resources & Economic Development
NH Assn. of Conservation Commissions

Indefinite NV
Sept. 28, 2007 V
Indefinite NV
Indefinite NV
VACANT V

Staff Present

Paul Currier
Jacquie Colburn
Steve Couture

Administrator, Watershed Management Bureau (WMB)
Lakes Coordinator, WMB
Rivers Coordinator, WMB

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| Laura Weit | Assistant Planner, Rivers and Lakes Programs |
| Jennifer Rowden | Assistant Planner, Rivers and Lakes Programs |
| Sonya Carlson | Limnology, WMB |
| Paul Susca | Planning & Programming, Drinking Water & Groundwater Bureau |
| Carolyn Guerdet | Admin. Asst., Water Division |

Guests

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|---------------|---|
| Derek Durbin | NH Lakes Association |
| Josh Kline | New Hampshire Rivers Council |
| Ken Stern | Society for the Protection of NH Forests |
| Larry Spencer | Pemigewasset River Local Advisory Committee |

The Meeting Was Called to Order

- **Phil O'Brien, called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.**

I. Joint LMAC and RMAC Meeting

1) Welcome and Introductions

Members introduced themselves and indicated which organizations they represent on each Committee(s).

2) Sustainability Initiative Paper and Appendix – Steve Couture, NHDES

Steve provided an overview of the Sustainability Initiative: 1) How did we get here and why we developed this document and 2) Where do we go from here as well as next steps in this process.

Based upon a recommendation from the NH LAKES, the Governor convened a Lakes Forum in February of 2006 with state agencies, the Lakes Management Advisory Committee (LMAC) and NH LAKES to discuss topics relevant to jurisdictional activities that pertain to the state's lakes and ponds. One of the recommendations that came out of that meeting was the LMAC should be charged with developing a strategic plan for the state's lakes. In December of 2006 the LMAC decided that this would be their number one priority and renamed this effort the "Sustainability Initiative." Jacquie and Laura met with Commissioner Burack on January 2007, who gave his support for this effort and recommended that the LMAC work together with the Rivers Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) to address the surface waters of the state. Six subcommittee meetings were held with LMAC and RMAC members from January through November of 2007 to discuss the content and process of developing the Sustainability Initiative. From January through May of 2007, presentations were given to the LMAC on several related topics. In March of 2007, the RMAC voted to move forward with the Sustainability Initiative. In May of 2007, the LMAC voted to move forward with the Sustainability Initiative.

It has been determined that the programs and policies in place to address water quality degradation and the associated affects of land use change are inadequate. The Sustainability Initiative Paper assesses what has been done to date and indicates that we must take action now, since water quality is still degrading. The Sustainability Initiative Paper acknowledges that while we cannot do everything, we must do something now. The Sustainability Initiative Paper also acknowledges that this is an on-going effort with a January – September 2008 timeframe.

There are several other efforts currently underway: the DES Strategic Plan, the Source Water Protection Strategy, the State Land Use and Water Protection Programs, and the State Water Plan. It is essential that these efforts are coordinated to eliminate duplication of efforts. The next steps that are proposed are: 1) meet with the Commissioner to present the Sustainability Initiative, 2) meet with DES staff to identify opportunities for cooperation and collaboration as well as funding opportunities, 3) provide a copy of the Sustainability Initiative to NH LAKES and the NH Rivers Council and post to the LMAC and RMAC websites, 4) present the Sustainability Initiative Paper to Kate Peters, Special Assistant for Policy for the Governor, and 5) follow up with developing recommendations and indicators as outlined in the Sustainability Initiative Paper.

Ken K. reviewed the goal of the meeting and encouraged discussion as to whether this paper addresses the targets and how to move forward to make it happen.

Phil O. pointed out that many groups will be involved in moving this forward and this will be a growing effort. Sustainability depends in part on where we start, and then it becomes a complex effort.

Michele T. noted the appendix summary but asked about writing an implementation plan. She and Jennifer C. asked the question - What is next?

Fred M. recommended that the Sustainability Initiative Paper go to the Commissioner's office, and the LMAC and RMAC will take their elements and make a 25 year game plan.

Steve C. mentioned the next steps as laid out in the PowerPoint presentation. The idea is to develop indicators, both programmatic and environmental that look at the eight issues as identified in the Sustainability Initiative. This step is to ensure that success or lack of success is measured.

Ken K. pointed out that the appendix is an attempt to note a number of the efforts in the past and that Tables 1 and 2 (specific to the RMPP and LMPP) are summaries of how past strategies have worked, or not worked. It is understood that the issues identified in the Sustainability Initiative involve multiple agencies, beyond DES. This is a roadmap on how to set up the strategy.

Michele T. and Phil O. noted the need for financial and human resources as well as a commitment of significance to achieve the outcome desired.

Kath N. asked what would be happening today. She noted that an Initiative is different than a Plan.

Steve C. said that if this document is approved today it would go to the Commissioner for his consideration and support.

Phil O. reminded the group that the Commissioner gave his blessing when Jacquie and Laura met with him in January 2007. He suggested that "authorizes" be changed to "authorized," in the last paragraph on the first page, since Tom has already given his support.

Steve reported that DES will be developing a new strategic plan in the spring of 2008, which would tie in well with the Sustainability Initiative. Lakes Management and Protection Program (LMPP) and Rivers Management and Protection Program (RMPP) staff feel the next step is to meet with the Commissioner to see if he is still in favor of moving forward to tie the DES Strategic Plan in with the Sustainability Initiative. If approval is given, and sufficient resources are determined, a meeting would then be set up with the Governor's Office. He clarified that this document will not be edited significantly beyond what is being presented.

It should also be noted that the Sustainability Initiative is an initiative driven by both the LMAC and the RMAC, DES staff just support them in these efforts. Therefore, it is prudent and reasonable to have the LMAC and RMAC Chairs and associated LMPP and RMPP staff meet with the Commissioner when presenting the Sustainability Initiative to him. It was agreed that the Chairs will present the Sustainability Initiative to the Commissioner, and DES staff will set up the meeting.

Paul Susca spoke about the Source Water Protection Strategy and how some of the issues can be addressed and coordinated through the efforts that they are undertaking. Paul then gave a presentation about the Land and Water Program which is to prevent the contamination of the public water supply sources and work with municipalities on ground water protection. There was a press release the day before that announced, as New Hampshire is one of the fastest growing states, the NH Department of Environmental Services is one of three organizations to receive federal assistance to address the challenges posed by growth to protect water sources.

Steve and Paul noted that issues one and two identified in the Sustainability Initiative overlap very substantially with the Land and Water Program. Both issues have a September 2008 deadline.

- ***Michele L. Tremblay made a recommendation to change "authorizes" to "authorized" in the last paragraph on the first page of the Sustainability Initiative document, and to support moving forward with the sustainability initiative as presented. The LMAC and RMAC members unanimously supported the recommendation.***

- ***This recommendation sends the document to the two committees for their independent vote.***

Jennifer C. asked to have the State Development Plan included in the Sustainability Initiative and for some minor word smithing to be done to issue number three.

Kath N. asked to have “quantity” added to the description of issue number two.

- ***It was agreed that any additional non-substantive typographical changes would be submitted via email to staff by January 4, 2008.***
- ***It was also agreed that Phil O’Brien and Ken Kimball would review the edits and finalize the Sustainability Initiative Paper before it is sent to the Commissioner.***

Fred M. announced a seminar to be held at DES on January 14, 2008 relating to management systems.

3) Leasing of State Owned Lands Commission (HB 710)

Mitch K. and Bill H. gave an update on the HB 710 Commission. The Commission has met three times, David Campbell is the Chair, Maynard Goldman is the Vice-Chair, and Mitch K. is the Clerk. The Interim Report was submitted to the Legislature as required on November 1st. The Interim Report reiterated the ten issues that have been brought forward; they are not listed in order of importance and are not limited to the ten issues listed. The state lands sub-committee (comprised of DOT, DES, F&G and DRED) will be presenting to the HB 710 Commission on January 22, 2008 at 1 p.m. to discuss what data is available. The HB 710 Commission took a dock tour, which brought up several issues. Steve noted that RSA 483:10 charges the RMPP to develop Long-Range Management Plans for all designated river tributary drainage areas, which include state-owned lands.

The joint meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m. to go into separate committee meetings.