

RIVERS MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
May 9, 2011
NH Dept. of Transportation
12:30 – 3: 00 pm

Members Present

Ken Kimball, Chair
Michele L. Tremblay, Vice Chair
Gary Kerr
Anne Krantz
Frederick McNeill
John Magee
Kathryn Nelson
Kevin Nyhan
Allan Palmer
Larry Spencer

Representing

Recreational Interests
Conservation Interests
Granite State Hydropower
Historical & Archaeological Interests
Municipal Government
NH Fish & Game Department
Local River Management Advisory Comm.
NH Dept. of Transportation
Business and Industry Association
NH Association of Conservation Comm.

Term

Dec. 28, 2011 V
Dec. 28, 2011 V
Jan. 5, 2012 V
June 15, 2013 V
Nov. 16, 2011 V
Indefinite NV
Sept. 5, 2013 V
Indefinite NV
Sept. 28, 2013 V
Oct. 12, 2013

Members Absent

Vacant
Jennifer Czysz
Gail McWilliam Jellie
Johanna Lyons
Jim Ryan
Richard Verville
Donald Ware

Agricultural Community
NH Office of Energy and Planning
NH Department of Agriculture
Dept. Resources & Economic Development
NH Fish & Game Commission
NH Dept. of Safety
Public Water Suppliers

Mar. 22, 2009 V
Indefinite NV
Indefinite NV
Indefinite NV
Sept. 28, 2012 V
Indefinite NV
Sept. 28, 2013 V

DES Staff Present

Steve Couture
Laura Weit-Marcum
Wayne Ives
Chris Williams
Ken Edwardson

NHDES Rivers Coordinator
NHDES Program Planner
NHDES
NHDES
NHDES

Guests Present

Keith Robinson
Jacquie Colburn
Shane Csiki

USGS
NHDES Lakes Coordinator
NHDES Geology

The Meeting Was Called to Order

Chairman Ken Kimball called the meeting to order at 12:40 p.m. with introductions.

I. Introductions/Minutes/Committee Business

1) Consent Items

i. March 18, 2011 RMAC Meeting Minutes

➤ *Michele Tremblay made a motion to accept the March 18, 2011 RMAC meeting minutes with corrections, second by Fred McNeill. Motion passed unanimously.*

ii. Env-Wq 1900 Instream Flow Rules – Readoption. JLCAR hearing expected May 20, 2011.

iii. RMAC Membership Update

- 1) Larry Spencer , Conservation Commission – reappointed
- 2) Kenneth D. Kimball (December 28, 2011)
- 3) Michele L. Tremblay (December 28, 2011)

iv. Surplus Land Reviews

- 1) Categorical Exclusion – DOT 11-03 Plymouth, DOT 11-04 Piermont

II. River Policy and Management

1) Dam removal sediment management guidance – Chris Williams

**See <http://xml2.des.state.nh.us/blogs/rmac/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/Barrier-Removal-Sediment-Management.9-May-2011-RMAC-Meeting-Presentation.pdf>

DES sediment quality document needs revision. Threshold limits are dated and need to be worked through. If material is not more contaminated than what is down stream it can be let go. Testing will be for impoundment and downstream. Sediment that exceeds background level needs to be taken out or conduct additional risk investigation.

Dredge/excavate portion of mobile sediment and allow remainder to naturally erode (via slow drawdown of impoundment)

The goal is to be able to give dam owners a guidance document to begin the process.

Questions:

- Could this be used for barrier replacement projects? Yes.
- Is a national movement? Yes, and there is a federal committee that is addressing this. This is running inline with the federal plan.
- The methodology on the 14 dams – has it been a problem?

John Magee arrives at 1:16 p.m.

2) Waterbody Assessment Unit Identification – Ken Edwardson

**See <http://xml2.des.state.nh.us/blogs/rmac/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/What-defines-an-AUID.pdf>

3) Lamprey River Instream Flow Water Management Plan – Wayne Ives

**See <http://xml2.des.state.nh.us/blogs/rmac/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/20110509-RMAC-on-LWMP.pdf>

III. Legislation/Rulemaking/Other

1) Legislation and Policy Subcommittee – Michele Tremblay, Vice Chair, RMAC and Chair of Policy and Legislation Subcommittee

Michele Tremblay, Chair of Policy and Legislation Subcommittee thanked Gary, Kathryn and Allan for their work to get reach agreement within their diversities.

River designations:

Mascoma River designation is thru the House and Senate.

Lamprey, Oyster, and Lower Exeter/Squamscott are through House. There are some changes in notification. They are going through Senate now.

SB 154 – CSPA – renaming it with large changes including refunding of fees and other changes will go through House as it went through Senate.'

There was discussion as to what to do as a committee as well as individuals regarding the cuts. LRMP and RRMP have 3 amazing staff Jacquie, Steve and Laura. There will no longer be work done on the Sustainability Initiative with Jenn gone. The budget has gone from \$544,000 down to \$200,000 - down to 1 individual. It will be a struggle to get the one staff from the legislature as the House does away with all. There were 8 hours of public hearing – 99% was on human needs.

Focus discussion on – what each can do from each committee. Ken noted work has been done with NH Lakes. There will now be over a billion dollar asset now with no management.

Steve thanked everyone for their work on this and their concern shown. He also appreciates the concern shown at this meeting. Senate finance will act on DES budget Friday at Executive session. Senator Forrester has asked for alternatives. Letters that have been written that go to the senate finance committee. What are

others going to do? The different interests represented around the table shared what they planned on doing to back keeping this committee as part of DES. Ken encouraged each to get letters out on Tuesday. Michele suggested a fax to the State House. Representatives and Senators emails are full and they are not reading their emails. Steve thought every LAC has submitted letters of support. If letters sent – make phone calls. Position to take is to go to the Governor's budget.

2) RMPP Budget and Staffing – Steve Couture, DES

This was covered in the budget discussion. RMPP/LMPP as proposed by Senate Finance will be jointly administered by 1 full time staff and 1 part time staff.

IV. Other Business/Action Item Review:

- 1) Water Sustainability Commission - Michele wants to talk about continuing the work on the Sustainability Initiative. What has been done in the past has been mailed to the Commission. It will be looked at.

V. Next Meeting(s)/adjourn:

The next meeting will be July 20, 2011, 9 a.m. at DES.

Jacque Colburn of the Lakes Management Advisory Committee thanked the committee for the cooperation with their work with the LMAC and all the efforts are really appreciated.

- ***John Magee moved to adjourn, second by Allen Palmer at 3:05 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.***