



## Farmington River Coordinating Committee

### FRCC Monthly Meeting

7:00 PM, February 26, 2024

### Zoom Meeting

*Attendees: Alison Jassen, Matt Gocłowski, Mario Santoro, Dan Bowler, Tom Stanton, Bill Coleman, Tom Carpenter, Roger Behrens, Jim Buchok, Andrew Petitdemange, Alison Murdock, Jim Randazzo, Laura Hart, Paige Vichiola*

*Called to order at 7:02PM*

### WELCOME and INTRODUCTION

- Paige Vichiola, Watershed Manager from FRWA presented 2023 Upper Farmington River Water Quality Data Report
  - Presentation can be shared upon request.
- Approval of January 22, 2024 Minutes –
  - Pg1 – MDC hydroelectric plant at Goodwin Dam is not a FERC licensed, it is an exempted facility
  - Pg2 – change DPH to DEEP. “Based on CT DEEP water diversion regulations.”
  - 10BG is water storage space NOT actual drinking water
  - MDC customers would be on the hook for 35% of 40mil repairs.
  - Correct Hydro-revenue has taken a downturn because MDC cannot operate it’s hydroelectric facility is limited during Army Corp flood control operations at Colebrook Lake Reservoir Dam.
  - MDC would relinquish its rights to 10BG of storage and would run hydroelectric on reserve storage during dry years

### TREASURERS REPORT

Payment of \$3,900 to the Barkhamsted Historical Society for renting space in Squires Tavern.

### EXECUTIVE SUBCOMITTEE

- Workplan for 2025: Have been approved in subcommittees, keeping it very similar to our current workplan. No discussion added. **Vote: motion to accept the draft workplan for 2024-2025 moved by Dan Bowler, seconded by Alison Jassen. Passed unanimously.**

### RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP

- HWA control project grant proposal from Dr. Cheah at CAES for \$12,625.50 of beetles and beetle shipping cost, recommended to approve by R/S. **Alison Jassen moved to approve \$12,625.50, Dan Bowler seconded.** Discussion: HWA control project will be filmed in the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of PSF video. Detailed reports from Dr. Cheah in the past and will request one for this year as well. **Passed unanimously.**

- FALPS request for up to \$10,000 for purchasing 25 trees for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of PSF. R/S recommends approval. Alison Jassen moved to approve up to \$10,000 for FALPS, Roger Behrens seconded. Discussion: April planting. Celebration in October. Passed unanimously.
- West River Road bank stabilization project – new 1<sup>st</sup> selectman on board, Laura reached out to DEEP to communicate with USACE for permitting process.

## EDUCATION & OUTREACH

- Working hard on all projects (Junior Ranger Books, Kiosks, Flow Information one-page flier)
- Met with Kevin Witkos Canton 1<sup>st</sup> selectman – regarding the FRCC kiosk installation and David Sinish boat launch ceremony in the spring.
- River Day program in September, will apply for a FRCC grant. Expanding it to Colebrook, Norfolk, and Hartland students as well as Barkhamsted. Will need River Ranger booklets. Event in honor of Pat Keener.

## New Business

- Hydro at Goodwin can only pass 400cfs max. If 1000cfs is released by USACoE, MDC can only use 400cfs for power generation and would lose 600cfs because it would need to be passed down stream not through hydroelectric facility.
  - Generates 13million kilowatt hours per year (on average). Less in recent years since MDC abandoned 10BG storage in Colebrook Reservoir.

## Updates

**Barkhamsted** - none

**Canton** - none

**Colebrook** - none

**Hartland** – Dan: Annual report with include FRCC info. Ask other Towns to include this as well.

**New Hartford** – Alison: discussion about conservation commission starting up again

**MDC** – Jim: Reservoirs are full, flows normal.

**DEEP** – Matt: resumed fish stocking in the Farmington this week

**NPS** – none

**FRWA** - none

**FVTU** – Jim: Notice to proceed for the Hogback Rd culvert, concerns about the land owner. Tom: flows legislation update from FVTU – bill from Mark Anderson for the environment committee to give DEEP control of water in Colebrook and to update the instream flow study.

**FRAA** – none

**River Stewards** - none

Adjourn: 8:22 PM