

**MWA Minutes,  
December Meeting  
1 December 2021**

**Present at the meeting via Zoom**

President, David Converse, Treasurer, Jennifer Hopkins; Secretary, Stan Chop, Board Members: Doug Coutts, Tom Latta, Hillary Potter; MCI Representative, Peter Lepine, MWA Members: Ben Copans, Mary Pat Goulding, Valerie Dillon; Project Manager, Patrick Hurley: Guest Speaker, Kendall Lambert.

**Secretary's Report**

Tom made the motion to accept the minutes of 11/3/21 as written. Doug seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report for 11/30/21**

Mary Pat Goulding donated \$1,000. High Meadows is giving us \$15,000 on condition MWA find a paid employee. Jennifer put the \$15,000 into a CD for six months.

We talked about doing a membership drive again. We recognize that we need to do a targeted drive, but it's hard to do with other activities going on.

Stan made the motion to accept the treasurer's report. Tom seconded the motion and the motion passed.

**Clean Water Service Provider**

Kendall Lambert is the Clean Water Program Manager for our region and gave us a presentation about the program. ACT 76 established sustainable funding for clean water and a grant program to distribute the funding. L. Memphremagog has phosphorus loading and we are required to reduce our phosphorus load. There will be a Basin Water Quality Council composed of 9 members who will select projects to be funded. There will be 4 meetings each year and subcommittees can be formed. Most likely there will be term limits. There will be a conflict of interest policy. There will be a 5 year target. The Council will be soliciting proposals for non-regulatory projects. The council will look at annual goals in addition to the 5 year review. Peter raised the question of money being used for international projects. Meetings will be open to the public. Ben mentioned there will be a report out soon regarding phosphorous reduction. During the last couple of years there has been a stall in reduction. Ben mentioned that good agricultural practices probably resulted in the initial phosphorous reduction data. The money should be released sometime next year. Kendal will share the powerpoint via Jennifer

**Current Grant Status Updates**

High Meadows Fund-Mary Pat and Jennifer did a verbal and written final report. In the report the difficulty of hiring an executive director was discussed.

Regional Aquatic Nuisance Control-We are trying to wrap up the grant work of 6 towns. We are 2 weeks behind. We need to close out that grant at the end of the month. Newport Center's

grant was pulled back by the state because the work was not completed through no fault of the town.

Riparian Buffers -Patrick mentioned that there is one landowner who wants to meet when he gets back in town. Patrick is “chasing” people down so he can hand a letter personally to landowners. He mentioned Fred’s Plumbing is interested in a small project. The town of Derby wants to sell a small property. Patrick still has 12 letters to give landowners.

WUV Tactical Basin Planning Workplan Grant- Patrick worked on ACT 76.

WUV Project Development Grant – Barton, Glover, Wetlands-Nothing has happened since last meeting.

WUV Implementation Grants – Barton and Newport-Jennifer said we got a letter that we were awarded money for .... But we don’t have a grant agreement yet.

### **Committee Reports/ Other Activities Updates**

Leachate Forum-The forum is moving forward. We are looking at the end of January for a date for it to take place as a hybrid meeting.

Membership Committee-Mary Pat is working on a membership letter.

#### Partnership Updates:

MCI-Peter mentioned that MCI focused efforts on zebra mussel eradication. He also mentioned a scholarship opportunity for young men and women to pursue projects in restoring quality.

MCM-David mentioned the partnership with MWA and hopes to continue the partnership. There is some EB-5 monies coming forth. MCM is guardedly optimistic it will receive funding.

### **Other Business**

Valerie wanted to thank everyone for their contributions to the newsletter.

**Annual Meeting**-will immediately follow this board meeting, at 6 PM

**Next Meetings** We are at the end of prescheduled monthly zoom meetings. A new link for the 2022 meetings will be provided on the January meeting agenda. When “in person” meetings resume, we will have hybrid meetings at Work Commons and via zoom.

Tom made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Jennifer seconded it. The motion passed at 6:00 PM.