

Lake Auburn Watershed Protection Commission

Regular Meeting

Wednesday, April 12, 2023

Location: Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments (AVCOG), Auburn, Maine

Time: Meeting began at 3:30 PM

Recording: The meeting was video recorded. A link to the video is on the Commission website.

Commissioners Present: Alan Holbrook, Mary Ann Brenchick, Amy Landry, Glen Holmes, Heather Hunter, Dan Bilodeau, Rick LaChapelle and Camille Parrish

Others Present: Michael Broadbent Commission Secretary, Erica Kidd Watershed Manager, Carolyn Houtz Education and Outreach Coordinator.

Agenda Item 1. Minutes

Vote 1 On a motion by Commissioner LaChapelle and seconded by Commissioner Landry to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2023 regular meeting of the Commission.

Commissioner Holmes had a few comments. He wants to make sure that if there is discussion in open session that the discussions be included in the meeting minutes. He also asked for consistency with titles when system representatives speak at the Commission meetings.

Passed 8-0

Vote 2 On a motion by Commissioner Hunter and seconded by Commissioner Holmes to approve the minutes of the March 29, 2023 special meeting of the Commission.

Passed 6-0-2 Commissioners Bilodeau and LaChapelle abstained because they were not present at the special meeting.

Agenda Item 2. Consent Agenda

Vote 3 On a motion by Commissioner Holmes and seconded by Commissioner Bilodeau to remove the Water Quality Report from the Consent Agenda.

Passed 8-0

Vote 4 On a motion by Commissioner Hunter and seconded by Commissioner Parrish to approve the remaining items in the Consent Agenda.

Passed 8-0

Commissioner Holmes asked that, within the Water Quality Report, the different graphs include limits so that Commissioners better understand how the current levels relate to limits.

Commissioner Holmes also pointed out that one of the graphs did not include a title. This appeared to be a formatting issue but the point was noted.

Vote 5 On a motion by Commissioner Holmes and seconded by Commissioner LaChapelle to approve the Water Quality Report.

Passed 8-0

Agenda Item 4. Public Comment

Lucien Mathieu of 65 Beech Hill Rd in Auburn was present with his wife. They did not have any specific comments other than they are interested in what is going on in the community.

Agenda Item 3. Executive Session

Vote 6 On a motion by Commissioner Holmes and seconded by Commissioner Hunter to go into executive session in accordance with 1 MRSA 405 (6) (C) to discuss land restrictions.

Passed 8-0

The executive session ended at 4:35pm

Agenda Item 5. Staff Report

5.A Commission Secretary, Mike Broadbent, had nothing new to report to the Commissioners.

5.B Watershed Manager, Erica Kidd, reported that the WRS proposal to study the possibilities and benefits of applying alum to the Lake Auburn Tributaries has begun. This study will take several months and she will provide updates as progress is made. Erica is working to renew the Alum discharge permits to Lake Auburn that we currently have. These permits have to be renewed every couple of years.

Erica discussed a new CDM Smith Proposal that she would like the Commissioners to consider. In 2022, CDM Smith was asked to review all available data and determine if a section of the watershed boundary near Gracelawn Road could be moved based on the lack of impact on Lake Auburn. This new proposal is to further define the watershed boundary using 3d-modeling, to answer questions proposed by the Maine Drinking Water Program and to look at another section of private property that was not previously considered by consultants. The proposal was for \$19,800 and they estimated that it could be completed by the end of May, 2023.

Vote 7 On a motion by Commissioner Holmes and seconded by Commissioner Bilodeau to authorize staff to consult with CDM Smith and proceed with a study from the sinking fund with a not to exceed cost of \$19,800.

Passed 8-0

Erica also reported that GIG Aggregates has applied for a traffic movement permit because of a proposed development of 1,100 units in the Gracelawn pit area. Commission Secretary, Mike Broadbent, did file the appropriate notice that we would like to be copied on the correspondence regarding the study and have the opportunity to participate in the meetings.

Agenda Item 6. Old Business

A. By-Law Ad Hoc Committee, Trails Committee

Commissioner Brenchick distributed draft Rules of Order for the Commission. It was suggested that the two City Clerks review the draft and the Commissioners discussed majority and quorum qualifications. The Commissioners were asked to review and provide comments prior to the next meeting in June.

Commissioner Bilodeau reported that he and Commissioner Holbrook met with Jonathan Labonte of the City of Auburn to discuss the Southern Link Trail. The next step will be to schedule a trail walk with a goal of opening up a winter trail this year. He also mentioned that there could be matching Grants to get a winter trail established. Watershed Manager, Erica Kidd, raised the concern that the AWD By-Laws for the protection of Lake Auburn restrict access to the area where the trail is proposed.

B. Minot, Hebron and Buckfield 3-year term for representation.

Commissioner Parrish reported that she received authorization that Commissioner Holmes was recommended for another 3-year term and that the three communities are working to make this a 3-year nomination.

D. Watershed Management Plan Update

Watershed Manager, Erica Kidd, shared with all of the Commissioners a draft copy of the Management Report and it will be on the agenda for the June meeting to discuss.

Agenda Item 7. New Business

B. Clerk's discussion

Mike Broadbent, Auburn Water Superintendent, reported that the Trustees discussed the possibility of the AWD Superintendent serving as Clerk but the discussion was tabled. The Trustees expressed interest in reviewing the Commission By-laws prior to approving the services of the Superintendent.

C. Consent Agenda Change

Commissioner Parrish asked if moving forward the water quality report could be removed from the consent agenda.

D. Role of Superintendent in Real Estate discussions

This item was deferred until June.

Vote 8 On a motion by Commissioner Holmes and seconded by Commissioner LaChapelle to go into executive session regarding negotiations of potential land transactions in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A 405 (6) (C).

Passed 7-0

Vote 9 On a motion by Commissioner Holmes and seconded by Commissioner LaChapelle to adjourn the meeting.

Passed 7-0

A true record, attest;



Michael Broadbent
LAWPC Secretary