

Pemigewasset River Local Advisory Committee

May 26, 2020 (7:00 PM)

Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84896035489>

Meeting ID:

Members Present: Barry Draper (New Hampton), Neil McIver (Plymouth), Bill Bolton (Plymouth), Max Stamp (Bristol), Richard LaFlamme (Bristol), Myrtle Lewis (Thorton), Carl Lehner (Holderness), Kathleen DeWolfe (Ashland), Lisa Doner (Plymouth), Judy Faran (Bridgewater), Mike O'Donnell (Holderness), Neil MacIver (Plymouth)

Guest: Eli Badger, Chair BOS (Ashland)

1. Meeting called to order by B. Bolton at 7:00 PM. Roll call.
2. Approval of March 31, 2020 minutes: Motion to approve by C. Lehner, L. Doner seconds; approved by B. Draper, J. Faran, B. Bolton; abstained K. DeWolfe, M. O'Donnell, M. Stamp, R. LaFlamme.
3. Approval of April 28, 2020 minutes: Motion to approve by R. LaFlamme, N. MacIver seconds; all who were present at the April meeting approved.
4. Follow-up discussion regarding PFAS concerns as they pertain to the Pemi
 - a. B. Bolton introduced a tour offered by RMI (Resource Management Incorporated) plant in New Hampton. RMI processes wastewater treatment sludge.
 - i. M. Lewis, N. MacIver, M. Stamp, B. Draper, J. Faran, R. LaFlamme, L. Doner, B. Bolton are willing to go.
 - ii. B. Bolton will try to schedule either June 2nd or 10th, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM.
 - b. N. MacIver reported on meeting minutes of the New Hampton town Planning Board dated August 20th, 2013 on the approval process RMI went through to get permits to operate in New Hampton, NH. The document includes the standards that the town was trying to hold RMI to. PFAS was not an issue at that time. B. Bolton will send a link of the document to PRLAC members.
 - c. N. MacIver suggested that PRLAC should request updates from the state or USGS on PFAS on developing testing programs.
5. Permit Applications: There were no new permit applications since our last meeting
6. Review and comment on Town of Ashland's application for Clean Water State Revolving Funds to construct an Energy Audit Measure Implementation project at its Wastewater Treatment Facility
 - a. K. DeWolfe summarized the project. The energy audit was started three years ago of the wastewater treatment plant and water plant. Both plants are aging and need

- refreshing. The loans would be used to upgrade to more energy-efficient methods and monitoring of powering the system.
- b. E. Badger (the water and sewer commissioner at the time the application was initiated) wanted to remain an observer but agreed with K. DeWolfe's summary of the application.
 - c. B. Bolton will forward the link to the application to PRLAC members for review.
 - d. PRLAC members will acknowledge that we have received the document. B. Bolton will reach out to Liz Pereira to ask how quickly she needs a response.
7. Max Stamp to provide an update on the status of the VRAP water testing program
 - a. M. Stamp reported that he took the testing equipment to DES to upgrade and calibrate the units. Also included was instructions on testing during COVID-19 epidemic which he reported. First testing on June 23rd for the north team and the 24th for the south team. N. MacIver will be joining the north team. A testing schedule for the year will be sent by M. Stamp to PRLAC members.
 8. L. Doner reports that the state will not be testing for E.coli this year. If we want to test we need to find a private lab (which will be more expensive). Spikes in E.coli have been reported at the confluence of the Baker R. into the Pemi R. in August and September during the last two year. PRLAC has discussed adding an E.coli site below the confluence.
 - a. M. Stamp reported that the state will analyze for chloride and will contribute money if another lab is found to test samples. This is a work in progress...
 - b. In past years, DES analyzed samples for E.coli, nitrate, nitrogen, phosphorous, and chloride.
 - c. L. Doner suggested that we coordinate so the Baker and Pemi Rivers are sampled on the same day. If we choose to sample for E. Coli, she would too.
 - d. Members discussed how to obtain a list of state certified labs and costs in order to determine if testing for E. coli is possible.
 9. B. Draper asked about the status of Eversource trimming trees under powerlines. B. Bolton has not been updated by T. Tarr.
 10. L. Doner reported on White Mountain Trails Collective. A group who is interested in the Holderness/Plymouth oxbow ponds adjacent to the Baker and Pemi Rivers. A letter of intent has been improved for further development and L. Doner will be doing site walks with a state representative. If funded, this is a \$800,000 proposal to buy lands for conservation, isolate sensitive wetlands from trails, and better develop walking and bike trails to prevent erosion in floodplain.
 11. B. Bolton reported that he received a final copy of a supplemental watershed plan concerning the rehabilitation of the flood control dam #8 of the Baker River watershed. If members want to review the plan we should request it from Jim Gallagher, Dam Bureau Administrator at DES

Motion to adjourn 8:39 by M. Stamp, seconded by R. LaFlamme / approved