

Town of Exeter, N.H.
River Advisory Committee
Via Zoom Meeting
April 16, 2020
FINAL Minutes

1. Convene the Meeting

Chairman Richard Huber called the Meeting to order during the Covid situation, a virus pandemic, following RSA 91A, 2-3B that allows for virtual meetings due to the present state of emergency. Every attempt was made to follow appropriate guidelines during this virtual meeting. Members present included Richard Huber, Chair, Dan Jones, Carl Wikstrom, W/S, Warren Biggins, PEA, Lionel Ingram, Terrie Harman and new member, Niko Papakonstantis, Select Board Representative. Robert Glowacky, EXTV/IT was present as technical facilitator.

2. Minutes of the February 20, 2020 Meeting – instructions to speak were provided according to protocol for virtual meetings:

Chairman Huber requested to review and vote to accept the February 20, 2020 Meeting Minutes as revised and presented: Richard Huber, Aye; Warren Biggins, Aye; Dan Jones, Aye; Carl Wikstrom, Aye; Terrie Harman, Aye; Niko Papakonstantis, Abstain. A quorum was present, and the Minutes passed.

3. Update on Warrant Article 14

Chairman Huber thanked the voters for passing the Warrant Article: 1,354 to 1,115, in favor by 54.8% to fund the hydraulic study in the amount of \$110, 000. The work at the Pickpocket Dam will be completed by VHB. There was no further discussion.

4. Other Business

Chairman Huber referenced an email update from Paul Vlasich who could not attend the meeting regarding the Pickpocket Dam, the Great Dam and the Draft Great Bay Total Nitrogen Permit:

- a. Pickpocket Dam - the Emergency Action Plan was sent to NHDES Dam Safety Bureau for their review. VHB is putting together a scope for the "2.5 times the 100-YR storm" analysis. Final contract verbiage to be sent to the Select Board for their approval is close to completion.
- b. Great Dam - the Aquatic Mitigation Fund (ARM) from which was received \$100K requires two more years of river monitoring. The ARM fund will consider relaxing this requirement after review of an additional report on vegetation reestablishment in the work area. VHB is preparing this report for their consideration.
- c. Draft Great Bay Total Nitrogen General Permit. The Town's legal counsel is McLane Middleton. Wright-Pierce and Geosyntec are reviewing the permit on behalf of the town. The comment period has been extended to May 8, 2020.

5. Public Comment

Kristen Murphy, Natural Resource Planner, announced preparations for the Volunteer River Assessment Program water quality monitoring to occur on May 23, 2020. Contact Kristen by email for participation information for this approximate 2-hour training session. The training will likely be provided as a virtual session and will target the sampling season of June, July and August.

Niko Papakonstantis announced Select Board's intent to reappoint those Committee Members whose terms expire on April 30 at their next meeting on April 27, 2020. Respond to Pam McElroy via email if you are interested and have not yet done so.

Niko Papakonstantis responded to Mr. Don Clement's question about public ability to review the two reports noted by Paul Vlasich: regarding Pickpocket Dam feasibility study and the Aquatics Management Fund at the Great Dam. Mr. Papakonstantis agreed that they were critical and that they would soon be available.

There was no further discussion.

6. Adjourn the Meeting

Chairman Huber set the date for the next meeting for 3:00 pm on Thursday, May 21, 2020. Chairman Huber Moved to Adjourn, Seconded by Carl Wikstrom. The Roll vote: Chairman Huber, Aye; Niko Papakonstantis, Aye; Terrie Harman, Aye; Carl Wikstrom, Aye; Dan Jones, Aye and Warren Biggins, Aye. The Motion passed and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Celeste M. Camire
Recording Secretary