

**Representative Policy Board
Land Use Committee
South Central Connecticut Regional Water District
90 Sargent Drive, New Haven
Minutes of April 10, 2019 Meeting**

A regular meeting of the Land Use Committee of the Representative Policy Board of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District (“RWA”) took place on Wednesday, April 10, 2019 at 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven, Connecticut. Chair Levine presided.

Present: Committee Members: P. Betkoski, B. Eitzer, R. Harvey, M. Levine, J. Oslander and G. Malloy
 Authority: D. Borowy
 RWA Management: T. Norris and J. Triana

Chair Levine called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

1. He reviewed the Safety Moment distributed to members.
2. The Committee approved the minutes of its March 13, 2019 meeting, as presented.
3. The Committee discussed the Recreation Program Annual Meeting that took place prior to the Committee meeting.
4. Update on *The Land We Need for the Water We Use Program* – J. Triana reported:

Reservoir Levels (Percent Full)

	Current Year	Previous Year	Historical Average	Drought Status
March 31, 2019	97	92	91	None

Rainfall (inches)

	Current Year	Previous Year	Historical Average
March 2019	2.70	2.75	4.33
Fiscal YTD (6/1/18 – 3/31/19)	49.39	36.49	38.36

Land We Need for the Water We Use Program (Dispositions/Acquisitions)

- Hamden – DePodesta property – Reviewed map and supplied comments. Had DePodesta contact town about storm sewer pipe.
- Hamden – Hendrickson - Checked that pins were set. Final acreage came out at 6.67 acres.
- Killingworth - Corresponded with property owner of 2+/- acres.
- Killingworth - Corresponded with property owner of 300+/- acres.
- Cheshire - Corresponded with property owner of 40+/- acres.
- North Haven - Corresponded with property owner’s agent of 6+/- acres.
- Hamden – discussed town’s acquisition of the Beers property with HLCT staff.
- North Branford - Corresponded with TPL about properties of 10+/- and 25+/- acres.
- Derby tank properties – P&SA’s sent to town and both owners. Both owners indicated they would sign the agreements.

Rental houses:

- Bethany, 184 Downs Rd. (BE 22) – Bid completed with four bidders. High bidder was \$61,200. Signed P&SA with Tuzcu and scheduled closing in April.
- Woodbridge, 2040 Litchfield Tpk. – Bayram’s started installing the gate.

- Hamden, 95 Ives St. (HA 13) and 233 Skiff St. (HA 9A) – Had Rotha better secure the Skiff St. house. Executed amendment to license agreement for Ives St.

Forestry Update

- Bethany - West of Old Mill Road (BE 3) – 70% complete
- Guilford – West of Sugar Loaf ash salvage (GU 4) – 20% complete
- Madison – Hammonasset Peninsula (MA 9) – 75% complete
- **Madison – West side of Hammonasset (MA 9) – 85% complete**
- **North Branford - Beech Street Softwood (NB 4) – 40% complete**
- **Madison - Waterman’s Cabin Oak Salvage, (MA 2) – 50% complete**
- Hamden - Downs Road Tornado Salvage, (HA 28/29) – 85% complete. **Area expanded to include other nearby locations with tornado damage.**
- Killingworth - East Hammonasset Leaf Screen Thinning, (KI 4) - Contract not yet awarded.
- Hamden - Overstory removal and Tornado Salvage, (HA 36) – Not started yet
- Cheshire - North Cheshire Well Field Larch/Pine Thinning, (CH 1) – Not yet started.
 - Planned to remove more of the overgrown Christmas trees at Lake Gaillard.
 - Checked on all active sales at least twice per week: fluctuating weather and precipitation results in potentially volatile conditions. This requires more frequent and through inspections to ensure our property is protected against damage.

Recreation

- Recreation permit holders – 3,898
- Held walk at Cedar Swamp with Craig Bordersen that was rescheduled from beginning of the month. Seven people attended.
- Attended meeting at Rockland Preserve with Madison town staff to discuss mountain biking on our property.
- Reviewed potential revised route for the Quinnipiac Trail relocation in Prospect.
- Discussed trails at Gaillard with North Branford Land Trust staff.

Special Activity Permits

- CT DEEP – Wildlife Division (Brandon Bernhardt) - Investigate possible kill site of collared bobcat - Swamp west of Durham Road (Coordinates: 41.37805, -72.64820) – (3/1/2019 - 3/31/2019)
- Univ.of New Haven Army ROTC (CPT Mace/SFC Andino) - Squad Tactical and Platoon Tactical Training – Request to add use of additional land in the West River Training Area, Woodbridge on 3/8/2019 to an already-existing permit.
- UConn-Waterbury, Dept of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology (Trumbo) - Continue on-going research on the behavior and ecology of burying beetles - Off Route 42 (near the Cheshire-Bethany-Prospect line) just east of traffic light at Rt.69-Rt. 42 juncture - (5/1/2019 - 10/1/2019)
- A. DiCesare Associates (Kurt Gabrielson) - I-95 bridge inspection for CTDOT – Lake Saltonstall, East Haven (4/11/2019 & 4/12/2019)
- North Branford Congregational Church (Laurie Vincent) - Annual Easter Sunrise Service - Lake Gaillard (4/21/2019)
- Valley Laboratory at CT Agricultural Experiment Station, Windsor, CT (Dr. Carole Cheah)
- Hemlock and woolly adelgid survey and research - Hemlock Forest around Lake Bethany (03/25/2019 to 12/31/2019)
- Menunkatuck Audubon Society (Tom Kelly) - Monitoring of Barn Owl nesting boxes - North Guilford owl box locations: Menunkatuck Reservoir (RT 77); Saw Mill Hill Road; Beaverhead Road; Great Hill Road (2 locations) (04/01/2019 to 07/01/2019)
- Univ.of New Haven Army ROTC (CPT Torres/Patricia Jones) – Request to use the Maltby Lake area for training from 8/24/19 to 5/27/20. This request was rejected due to the number

of uniformed cadets accessing this very-heavily used site by our recreation permit holders. (The group already has a special permit for our West River area, which is more amenable for their purposes.)

Other items

- Encroachments/agreements
 - Agricultural fields – Met with potential farmer for Prospect fields. Responded to other inquiries for Prospect, North Branford, and Haddam fields.
 - Hamden, LWWTTP campus – Signed amendment giving Kay ability to install hives at this location.
 - Hamden, NHCC parking lot – Completed appraisal that is required every 5 years.
 - Killingworth, Connelly – Called about hazardous trees. Spoke with Trevor to see if the encroachments were addressed yet.
 - Bethany Horsemen – Sent them copy of updated agreement.
 - Cheshire, Southwick Condos – Corresponded with staff about extra parking they are planning for.
 - Hamden, Broken Arrow Christmas trees – Contacted by Broken Arrow to extend the agreement another 10 years.
- Historical sites – Met with Ted Groom to investigate potential home/foundation of former slave on our property by Beech St.
- Durham, Vasel driveway – Received notification about a new application from Vasel’s attorney. Issued letter to commission stating many points including that he did not have standing as the owner to submit the application.
- Lyman Hall HS group – Met vo-ag class at Lake Gaillard to talk about water supply protection.
- Invasive plants – Charter Oak cleared the old field of invasives at Lake Chamberlain. Posted educational sign about the activities. Issued PO for them to clear the spoils area at Furnace Pond. Contacted Branford Inland Wetlands about what they require. UI contacted us about treating invasive plants within the ROW at Saltonstall. Cut 10 acres of oriental bittersweet in Bethany ahead of timber sale. Cut and treated autumn olive in abandoned field in Prospect. Documented large area of multiflora rose, oriental bittersweet and burning bush in Bethany and Beacon Falls.

Invasive Species Documented/ Mapped (ac)	55.83
Invasive Species Treated (ac)	47.78

5. Mr. Triana reported that the RWA’s Recreational Program is progressing. He stated that fishing season begins on Saturday, April 13, 2019.
6. The next regular meeting will take place on Wednesday, May 8, 2019 at 4:30 p.m.

The Chair reminded members about the committee’s special joint meeting with the Consumer Affairs Committee on Wednesday, April 24, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. to review the FY 2020 Budget.

7. The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Mark Levine, Chairman