

**Representative Policy Board
Land Use Committee
South Central Connecticut Regional Water District
Hamden Middle School Project Site
560 Newhall Street, Hamden
Minutes of June 12, 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, June 12, 2019 at the Hamden Middle School Project Site, 560 Newhall Street, Hamden, Connecticut. Chair Levine presided.

Present: Committee Members: P. Betkoski, B. Eitzer, R. Harvey, M. Levine, J. Oslander and G. Malloy
 RPB: Jamie Mowat Young
 Authority: D. Borowy
 RWA Management: T. Norris and A. Velasquez

Chair Levine called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

1. He reviewed the Safety Moment distributed to members.
2. The Committee approved the minutes of its May 8, 2019 meeting, as presented.
3. Ms. Velasquez, RWA’s Environmental Compliance Analyst, provided an informative update on the progress of the Hamden Middle School remediation project. She toured areas that the RWA was responsible for cleaning up and highlighted that the project should be completed in the next few months.
4. Update on *The Land We Need for the Water We Use Program* – Mr. Norris reported:

Reservoir Levels (Percent Full)

	Current Year	Previous Year	Historical Average	Drought Status
May 31, 2019	99	96	93	None

Rainfall (inches)

	Current Year	Previous Year	Historical Average
May 2019	6.46	3.62	3.95
Fiscal YTD (6/1/18 – 5/31/19)	63.26	46.66	45.56

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

- Hamden – DePodesta property – Set closing date for June 12.
- Hamden – Hendrickson - Discussed closing with DEEP for them to release their right-of-first-refusal lien.
- Killingworth - Corresponded with property owner of 300+/- acres.
- Cheshire - Corresponded with property owner of 40+/- acres.
- Bethany - Corresponded with property owner of 12+/- acres.
- Bethany - Corresponded with property owner of 3+/- acres.

Rental houses:

- Bethany, 184 Downs Rd. – Discussed the water service at the house with the new owners and their contractor.
- Seymour, 59 Rimmon Rd. (SE 11) – Communicated with tenants through the month. Tenants vacated the property on May 31.

- Hamden, 95 Ives St. (HA 13) and 233 Skiff St. (HA 9A) – Reviewed draft surveys of both properties. Discussed need for zone change at Skiff 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) – 50% complete
- Madison - Waterman’s Cabin Oak Salvage, (MA 2) – 90% 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.
- **Bethany – East of Lake Bethany softwood (BE 18) – Awarded. Will start in November.**
- **Bethany – East of Lake Bethany hardwood (BE 18) – Awarded. Will start in November.**
 - Planted Christmas trees at Lake Gaillard.
 - Awarded two timber sales.
 - Attended drone training workshop/class at UConn.
 - Worked on forest regeneration plots on Madison.
 - Walked with Audubon CT on our BUI property in Bethany to work on improving our silviculture practices to benefit wildlife.

Recreation

- Recreation permit holders – 4.021
- Bass tournament at Lake Saltonstall was cancelled due to weather.
- Kids Fishing Derby at Maltby Lakes had 14 kids.
- Prospect bird walk with Audubon CT had 6 people.
- Animal tracking class with Branford Land Trust had 3 people.
- Stocked catfish at Maltby Lakes
- Walked proposed relocation of Quinnipiac Trail in Prospect with CFPA staff.
- Started discussion about potential increase in recreation fees.
- Received large donation of fishing equipment from Bass Pro Shop.
- The Water Wagon attended 6 events.

Special Activity Permits

- Connecticut Botanical Society-(Mr. Peter Rzasa)-Surveying and categorizing all lichens growing in Connecticut. Samples are being collected, preserved and stored at Yale University’s Herbarium for future study, Stone Quarry off Haddad Rd., near Peat Swamp in the Pine Hill Recreation Area, Seymour, (6/12/2019)
- Resources in Search and Rescue, Inc.-(Dr. Leyenda Harley and designees)-Wilderness Training of Search and Rescue K9s, 200 Hatfield Hill Road (adjacent or south of Lake Bethany), (05/07/19-12/31/19)
- Resources in Search and Rescue, Inc.-(Ms. Celeste Robitaille and designees)-Wilderness Training of Search and Rescue K9s, Pine Hill Recreation (south side of Rimmon Road), (05/13/19-12/31/19)
- Southern Connecticut Gas Co., (Mr. Jeffrey Mannheim and designees)-remote controlled boat in Lake Whitney to view gas main under the bridge, Davis Street at Lake Whitney, Hamden,(05/21/19)
- Yale University School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, (Professor Gaboury Benoit and Professor Steven Brady of SCSU)-Research on road salt transport through the natural

environment with a focus on small surface water bodies including vernal pools and BMP ponds, Lake Whitney off of Whitney Avenue known as “Lake Hudak” and sediment pond known as (School House Basin) Hamden, (05/17/19-05/16/20)

Other items

- Encroachments/agreements –
 - Agricultural fields – Discussed possible use of some fields for hemp production. Told the requestor that we were not interested.
 - Gaylord Mountain Rd, Hamden and Bethany (HA 28) – Discovered encroachments and issued letters. One was for Blair who already has a license agreement.
 - Bethany Horsemen, Bethany – Received and executed the annual agreement.
 - North Branford, former Swajchuk property (NB 17) – Laskowski entered into a license agreement for his encroachment. Have not heard from the other two property owners.
 - Gaudio, Beech St., North Branford (NB 4A) – Sent certified letter to Gaudio instructing them to remove the encroachments including a vehicle and plow.
 - Bethany, Tennessee Gas ROW (BE 23) – Executed license agreement for gas company to use additional 10’ on each side of their easement.
 - Bethany, former Lumpkin encroachment (BE 1) – Contacted by potential buyer of the Sperry Rd. property if we would enter into a new license agreement.
- Durham, Vasel driveway – Attended inland wetlands meeting where the commission approved the application with few minor amendments, not including DPH change-in-use permit. Authorized Juliano to pin the easement. Had conference calls with Murtha to discuss the matter and future plans. Submitted appeal and stay to the inland wetlands permit they received.
- North Haven easement – Recorded easement off of Old Clintonville Rd. for North Haven Opportunity for Affordable Housing.
- UNH easement – Contacted UNH staff about this easement. They noted there were issues with title related to the status of the road that they had to figure out first.
- Orange, Route 34 bridge access – DOT staff contacted us about using the road that we installed parallel to Rt. 34 to work on the Lake Wepawaug spillway. In the end, they decided not to enter into a license agreement and just get access to the bridge from the road.
- North Haven, Nume Rd water main – Researched records for any easement for our water main by this road off of Washington Ave.
- Deer hunt – Applications for this year’s hunt have been sent out.
- Invasive plants – Operations staff worked on the road at Furnace Pond for the water chestnut extraction. Pulled or treated Devil’s Walking Stick at various timber sales. Identified Amur corktrees near Lake Watrous. Contractor started clearing of 4 acres of invasives at Lake Gaillard.

Invasive Species Documented/ Mapped (ac)	1.7
Invasive Species Treated (ac)	1.5

5. There were no other land items to report.
6. The next regular meeting will take place on Wednesday, July 10, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.
7. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Mark Levine, Chairman