

Representative Policy Board  
Land Use Committee  
South Central Connecticut Regional Water District  
90 Sargent Drive, New Haven  
Minutes of January 8, 2020 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, January 8, 2020 at 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven, Connecticut. Chair Levine presided.

Present: Committee Members: P. Betkoski, R. Harvey, M. Horbal, M. Levine, G. Malloy, and J. Mowat Young (via teleconference)

Authority: S. Sack

RWA Management: R. Gavrilovic, T. Grant, T. Norris and J. Triana

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

1. Chair Levine reviewed the Safety Moment distributed to members.
2. The Committee approved the minutes of its December 11, 2019 meeting.
3. Mr. Grant, RWA’s Natural Resources Analyst, provided a Deer Management Program Update, which included:
  - Reducing deer density
  - Deer hunting locations
  - 2019 hunting season overview
  - Harvest totals
  - Research and reporting requirements
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
December 31, 2019	85	95	72	None

Rainfall (inches)

	Current Year	Previous Year	Historical Average
December 2019	7.16	6.45	4.11
Fiscal YTD (6/1/19 – 12/31/19)	31.07	38.42	27.12

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

- Cheshire - Corresponded with property owner of 40+/- acres.
- Durham - Corresponded with property owner of 16+/- acres.

Rental houses:

- Seymour, 59 Rimmon Rd. (SE 11) – LUC determined the application was complete and forwarded to the full RPB. RPB set public hearing in February at the Seymour Land Trust facility.
- Hamden, 95 Ives St. (HA 13) and 233 Skiff St. (HA 9A) – Received notice from town that the split of the lot for 95 Ives St. is complete.
- Woodbridge, 115 Sperry Rd. – Issued letter to mortgage company noting that the propane tank that Urbano installed underground did not violate the restriction on underground tanks

since it had gaseous materials. Notified by the end of the month that the property has been conveyed to Andrea Urbano.

- Woodbridge, 2040 Litchfield Tpk. – Notified by Bayram that they interior of the house has been completed.

#### Forestry Update

- Guilford – West of Sugar Loaf ash salvage (GU 4) – 40% complete
- Madison – Hammonasset Peninsula (MA 9) – 80% complete
- Madison – West side of Hammonasset (MA 9) – 85% complete
- **North Branford - Beech Street Softwood (NB 4) – 75% complete**
- Hamden - Downs Road Tornado Salvage, (HA 28/29) – 85% complete. **Area expanded to include other nearby locations with tornado damage – logging complete.**
- 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) – Will start in the winter.
- Bethany – East of Lake Bethany softwood (BE 18) – Awarded. Will start in the winter.
- Bethany – East of Lake Bethany hardwood (BE 18) – **15% complete.**
  - Met CAES staff at Genesee area to discuss future of cutting methods study.
  - Corresponded with Hamden Historical Society staff about hauling the Door Tree to a mill.
  - Ordered Christmas trees and Pitch Pine for spring 2020 planting season.
  - Attended Bethany Wetlands meeting in regards to timber harvest crossing.

#### Recreation

- Recreation permit holders – 3,761
- New shed for the fishing area was dropped off.
- Held annual Christmas tree cutting event at Lake Gaillard. 75 trees cut.
- Working to get fence replace by Operations at the Hosley Ave. hiking parking lot since the gravel is gone.
- Completed clearing the Sugarloaf trails, but still need to blaze last section of the orange trail.

#### Special Activity Permits

- New Haven Bird Club (Patrick T. Leahy) – Maintain and monitor bluebird nesting boxes on 7 sites – Downes Road, Bethany, adjacent to Lake Bethany property and field below Lake Dawson dam, Woodbridge, farm field on Sperry Road and Lake Chamberlain below the dam, Lake Watrous and other properties – 1/1/20 – 12/31/20.
- McLaren Engineering Group (Craig Plate) – Perform a routine and underwater inspection of the Davis Street Bridge over Lake Whitney; contracted by CTDOT to perform the inspection; 12/20/2019
- Branford Land Trust (Tom Cleveland ) - Tracking class - Lake Saltonstall woods - 1/25/2020 (Rain Date: 1/26/2020) & 2/22/2020 (Rain Date: 2/23/2020)

#### Other items

- Encroachments/agreements –
  - Orange, Dogburn Rd. and Indian Hill Rd. – Discovered multiple encroachments while checking the line there varying from substantial to non-substantial.
- Deer hunt – Post-hunt surveys were mailed to hunters.
- Invasive plants – Checked invasive populations in Madison, Guilford, and Hamden Mapped invasive plants in Bethany, Branford, and Hamden.

Invasive Species Documented/ Mapped (ac)	17
Invasive Species Treated (ac/MH)	2* * - accumulated trail clearing at Sugarloaf

- Durham, Vasel driveway – Reviewed letter regarding condemnation of the easement. Letters and email sent to Vasel and his attorney.
5. Other land items – Rose Gavrilovic, RWA’s Director of Capital Planning and Delivery, provided an update of the Derby Tank project, which is currently delayed due to legal issues.
  6. Chair Levine reviewed the assignment for the January 16, 2020 Authority meeting.
  7. The next regular meeting will take place on Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.
  8. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

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Mark Levine, Chairman