



Boscawen  
Bow  
Canterbury  
Concord  
Franklin  
Northfield

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PO Box 3019 | Denacook, NH 03303

UMRLAC Meeting Minutes for February 8, 2021  
Virtual Meeting via Conference Call

*Members present:* Michele Tremblay (At Large), Steve Landry (At Large), Gary Lynn (Bow), Krista Crowell (Bow), Mike Hansen (Bow), Anne Dowling (Canterbury), Gary Lemay (Concord), Tom Gilmore (Boscawen), Adrienne Hutchinson (Canterbury), and Mary Lee (Northfield)  
*Members absent:* Jeffrey Perkins (Franklin), Ashley Warner (Northfield), Wayne Ives (Franklin), Rick Chormann (Concord), Donna Liolis (Franklin), and Nita Tomaszewski (At Large).  
*Others present:* Cheryl Bondi (NH DES), Sarah Large (NH DOT), John Magee (NH Fish and Game), and Lori Sommer (NH DES)

The Chair of UMRLAC, Michele Tremblay, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, after reading the Governor's Executive Order 2020-04 and his supporting memorandum on virtual meetings. UMRLAC voted to accept the consent agenda (roll call unanimous vote). The next meeting will be another virtual meeting to be held on **March 9, 2021**.

#### Annual Meeting

The annual meeting was convened at 8:04 PM following the guest speaker presentation. The existing slate of officers was re-elected unanimously and was the only slate of officers proffered. The proposed 2021 budget was approved unanimously after it was amended to add \$800 for two copies of Quickbooks Pro.

#### Minutes

The January minutes and February consent agenda were approved via roll call vote.

#### Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's reports for November, December and January were approved and placed on file.

#### Brownfields Advisory Committee

No significant change in status.

#### FERC Update

No significant developments.

#### Guest Speaker

John Magee and Cheryl Bondi provided a very informative presentation on Stream Crossings. John discussed that there are over 20,000 stream crossings in New Hampshire and in aggregate stream crossings are a major environmental and infrastructure issue. Improper culvert design has the potential to cause flooding, road damage, erosion, barriers to fish/wildlife passage and public safety issues. He discussed the New Hampshire Stream Crossing Initiative and the effort

to assess every stream crossing in the state (10,500 surveys completed to date). Cheryl discussed the importance of prioritization of the substandard crossing upgrade needs and need for robust public access to the stream crossing surveys. She discussed the criteria used to prioritize stream crossing upgrade needs (geomorphic compatibility, aquatic organism passage, hydraulic vulnerability, asset condition and flood history), and how the surveys and prioritization ranking could be easily accessed. The Statewide Asset Data Exchange System (SADES) is an online system containing all of the stream crossing surveys and NH DES has an online mapping tool (Aquatic Restoration Mapper) that provides access to this ARCGIS information. Cheryl provided some information on this map based tool and more in depth training in its use was discussed.

Upper Merrimack Monitoring Program (UMMP) No update

Projects

Steve reviewed the alteration of terrain (AOT) permit application for the Mojalaki Solar Array in Franklin. The application was prepared for GSSG New Hampshire, LLC by the Nobis Group. The project consists of the installation of 6.1 acres of solar panels (one megawatt) within the confines of a 96 acre, former golf course property. The solar panels will be fenced in with access provided by former golf cart paths. No changes to stormwater runoff volume from the site and the impervious surface area of the site will be minimally impacted. There are some minor issues such as a mislabeled figure. UMLAC will prepare a short response letter.

UMLAC also reviewed Concord’s AOT permit application for the I-93 Exit 17 roadwork. This project consists of the construction of two new rotaries, resulting in 7.5 acres of soil disturbance and 28,000 sq ft of new impervious surface. UMLAC previously provided comments on the wetlands permit application. VHB (engineering company for the project) responded to UMLAC’s comments and provided a clarifying map showing where tree cutting will take place. UMLAC determined that VHB’s response adequately addressed our comment letter. UMLAC has additional questions/concerns related to the AOT permit application, however.

These questions /concerns include the following:

- 1) UMLAC believes that it would be highly desirable to use sustainable, native species in the rotary plantings and to use soil that is invasive species seed free.
- 2) UMLAC would like to understand why one of the rotaries is two lane, result in a significant amount of additional impervious surface.
- 3) UMLAC notes that the stormwater flow increased at design point #4 but did not see any new outfall to the river. Is the flow infiltrated to the swale?
- 4) UMLAC would like to see down shaded lighting, if lighting is required.
- 5) The gas station is a Mobil station, not an Irving station.

UMWA Update

The UMWA update will be provided at the March UMLAC meeting.

Summary of Assignments

Michele	- Prepare March UMLAC meeting agenda.
Steve	- Prepare brief letter on Mojalaki Solar Array AOT project. - Prepare letter on Exit 17 roadwork AOT application.
Mike	- Continue to track Brownfields Advisory Committee.
Wayne	- Consider guest speaking presentation on minimum instream flow.

Gary	- Prepare minutes.
Gary Lemay	- Continue to track FERC licensing activities. - Draft generic letter on shorelands and wetlands permits.
Krista	- Prepare Treasurer's report.

*Minutes submitted by Gary Lynn.*