

MEETING MINUTES

NH Lower Merrimack Valley Stormwater Coalition Meeting Zoom

Thursday, November 17, 2022, 1:00 – 3:00 P.M.

Present:

<i>Dawn Tuomala, Chair</i>	<i>Merrimack</i>	<i>Amy Gill</i>	<i>Nashua</i>
<i>Jeanne Walker, Chair</i>	<i>Bedford</i>	<i>Scott McPhie</i>	<i>Nashua</i>
<i>Eric Slosek</i>	<i>Amherst</i>	<i>Doug Starr</i>	<i>Nashua</i>
<i>Nic Strong</i>	<i>Amherst</i>	<i>Sara Siskavich</i>	<i>NashuaRPC</i>
<i>Brandon Boisvert</i>	<i>Bedford</i>	<i>Emma Rearick</i>	<i>NashuaRPC</i>
<i>Emily DiFranco</i>	<i>CEI</i>	<i>Andrea Bejtlich</i>	<i>NHDES</i>
<i>Craig Durrett</i>	<i>Derry</i>	<i>Deb Loiselle</i>	<i>NHDES</i>
<i>Scott Ozana</i>	<i>Goffstown</i>	<i>Tom Swenson</i>	<i>NHDES</i>
<i>Kevin Anderson</i>	<i>Hollis</i>	<i>Dena Hoffman</i>	<i>Pelham</i>
<i>Joan Cudworth</i>	<i>Hollis</i>	<i>Victor (VJ) Ranfos</i>	<i>Pembroke</i>
<i>Thomas Bartula</i>	<i>Hooksett</i>	<i>Zach Swick</i>	<i>SNHRPC</i>
<i>Ben Berthiaume</i>	<i>Hooksett</i>	<i>Amanda Furtado</i>	<i>VA Medical Center</i>
<i>Heidi Marshall</i>	<i>Hoyle-Tanner</i>	<i>Kaitlyn Allen</i>	<i>Verdantas</i>
<i>Paul Elsholz</i>	<i>Laconia</i>		
<i>Kim Kliener</i>	<i>Litchfield</i>		

1. Introductions

- Roll call will be done alphabetically by municipality or affiliation

2. Approve meeting minutes

- Meeting minutes were approved for October 13, 2022.

3. [Clean Watershed Needs Survey \(CWNS\) Reminder and Updates](#)

- Emily DiFranco presented
- The deadline to submit the survey is December 2nd.
- Deb Loiselle requested that anyone who has not submitted their survey, please do so. It is important to have as many communities as possible fill this out as it determines the stormwater funding available in the future.
- CEI has been contracted to extract the data from the reports and plans submitted. Emily showed the CEI CWNS webpage and explained that the page has all the background information and the link to the survey. The submitted survey is sent to CEI. EPA will not see the survey that you submit.
- Any stormwater (gray infrastructure, green infrastructure, general stormwater projects) and hydromodification projects (stream banks and flow, dam removal, and bank stabilization projects) documentation can be submitted. You do not need to know what category the project falls under. CEI will extract that information for you. The types of documents that may be submitted are the SWPP if it has costs, CIP, Asset Management Plan, and watershed-based plans. You can upload the documents as any type of file or link to the document if it's online. You can list the projects you want to call attention to in the survey. There is also a spreadsheet available to fill out this information.
- After submitting the survey, CEI will review the reports and extract the projects that require funding. They will send you a spreadsheet with all of the eligible projects they have found in your documentation. CEI will send the spreadsheet to the contact person listed on the survey. There's a column on the spreadsheet listing any questions CEI has about specific projects. You can either call CEI directly with the answers or list the answers on the spreadsheet and then send it back to CEI.

- You can't go back into the survey after submitting it. If you need to update or change anything, you can create a new survey or email the documents to CEI directly.
- Emily used the Town of Merrimack as an example of someone who already submitted their survey. The CIP and Drainage Master Plan were submitted. CEI pulled out the projects that would count as stormwater needs.
 - A BMP installation on existing town owned facilities- shows a water quality benefit. The project cost was included.
 - Bridge replacement (US 3-DW Highway)- A bridge improvement/ flow restriction shows hydromodification. Bank erosion shows need. Cost was included.
 - CWSRF project (assume CWNS)- The project is installing subsurface drainage collection system (gray infrastructure).
 - Total needs: \$22,003,273.
 - CWNS Stormwater: \$14,385,000.
 - State Stormwater: \$790,000
 - NHDES has been going through the funded and unfunded grant applications. They will be providing this information in addition to what the municipalities submit.
- Amy Gill mentioned that the types of documents listed in part 3 of the survey was helpful to know what types of documentation they're looking for.
 - We have drainage projects that were submitted but not approved to go into the CIP. Would this count?
 - a. Emily is pretty sure that as long as you have the documentation, it should be fine. This is what CEI's job is! So, submit anything you think is helpful and CEI will go through it.
- Dawn said that it took roughly 20-25 minutes to get the information sorted out, but they already had the information gathered for the CIP update. It was easy!
- Q - When do you need the answers to the questions in the spreadsheet by?
- A - The goal is to have everything submitted to the EPA portal by the end of December.
- Jeanne said she was nervous that she may have submitted the survey incorrectly.
 - Emily- There is no wrong way to do it. Any information submitted is extremely helpful. Give CEI the documentation and they will do the heavy lifting.

4. Year 4 Annual Report Updates

- Deb presented.
- 100% of NH MS4 permittees submitted their Year 4 Annual Reports!
- EPA is currently reviewing the reports and hope to be done by the end of the year.
- NHDES and the coalition chairs will meet with EPA in the Spring to discuss how NH did on the Year 4 Annual Reports.
- EPA is starting to draft the new NH MS4 Permit. Their goal is to have a draft for review in Fall 2023.
- Each community will receive a letter saying EPA is extending the current permit period.
- The US Census no longer uses the term "urbanized". Since that's a determining factor in the NH MS4 Permit, there will be some changes. In December of 2022, EPA should have an updated definition of what an MS4 community is.

5. December 8th Holiday Meeting

- Dawn will need a headcount by Monday November 28th.
- Poll: Are you planning on attending the meeting?
 - Yes, I am. 8/23
 - No, I am not. 6/23
 - I'm not sure yet. 9/23
- What kind of food
 - Pizza 33%

- Subs 27%
- Chinese 27%
- Waffles 13%
- December 8th holiday meeting will be taking place at the Wasserman Park Function Hall in Merrimack.
- The holiday meeting will be in-person only. From 12-3 PM.
- If you plan to attend the holiday meeting, please RSVP on [Eventbrite](#).
- Wasserman Park Function Hall
116 Naticook Rd
Merrimack, NH 03054

6. New MS4 Website

- Tom did a walkthrough of the new website.
- The new [MS4 website](#) is live! Please make sure to change your bookmarks.
- Any thoughts or ideas are very much encouraged! Please let us know if you have any feedback for us.
- The calendar will have trainings and workshops as well as coalition meetings.
- Meeting minutes and agendas will be on the coalition pages under the date the meeting was held on. The previous years' meetings are in an accordion archive below the current year's materials.
- MCMs and Appendix F & H all have their own page to mimic the permit.
 - Appendix F & H have all the requirements on the same page, split up by impairment/TMDL.
- All the annual report templates and requirements are on the NH Resources- Annual Reports/ NOIs page. The current year's resources are at the top and previous years are in an accordion style below.
- The Water Quality page shows the current version of the 303 (d) list and a link to the assessment viewer.
- The Winter Maintenance page has the 500 ft salt buffer zones for each permittee at the bottom.
- There are new pages for all the NPDES permits. The EPA contact information and links to each permit are located on these pages.
- The Permittee-Specific Resources page has a separate page for each community. For permittees with salt buffer zone maps, there is a shortcut to those maps on your communities resource page.

7. 2020/2022 303(d) Impairment List

- Tom presented.
- NHDES has created a list of waterbodies with impairments based off the 2020/2022 303(d) impairment list
- Each permittee's impairment list is located on their "[permittee-specific resources](#)" page
- **Permittees should be using the 2020/2022 list for all Year 5 requirements!**
- Each list includes ALL impairments in or adjacent to the MS4 area, not just the ones that relate to the permit.
- These lists were made using GIS so errors may be possible. If you see anything that doesn't look right, contact Tom.
- A disclaimer is on the first tab of every spreadsheet. If you are listed as having a phosphorus or nitrogen impairment in the permit (pages 21-23 in the permit). Please continue to use these lists in the permit. We have been unable to replicate the original list EPA created.
- As always, contact Tom if you need any assistance.

8. MCM #1 Updates

- Tom presented.
- Yard waste outreach
 - MCM #1- Yard Waste has all the resources needed to complete this requirement.
- Draft industrial audience outreach materials
 - ALL permittees must reach out to the industrial audience twice in the permit period. The first outreach effort was completed in Year 3. The plan is to do the second outreach effort in Year 5.
 - The Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP) was updated in 2021. The brochure and letter to industrial facilities was updated to reflect the changes to the MSGP.
 - There is a list of organizations and companies currently obtaining coverage under the MSGP. Tom received the updated list from EPA and it will go onto the NH MS4 Website very soon.
- Chloride outreach materials
 - These outreach materials are located on the Winter Maintenance page. There is a brochure explaining why salt reduction is important and how/why you should hire a certified Green SnowPro contractor for snow removal.
 - There are two new social media posts that permittees could share with their communities. One post is for homeowners, and one is for business owners. This also includes a list of the certified Green SnowPro contractors.

9. Year 5 Requirements

- Tom presented.
- There are a lot of the requirements for Appendix F and H.
- Tom proposed creating an Appendix F and H subcommittee to create resources.
- Tom asked if anyone wants to be on the subcommittee.
- Dena and Jeanne said they would like to be on the subcommittee.
- If anyone else wants to join the subcommittee, please let Tom know.

10. New PFAS Website

- Tom shared the new NHDES PFAS website.
- There are funding opportunities available on the website under the “Funding opportunities” tab.
- There is also a map showing all the samples collected for PFAS by NHDES and the results.
- Paul asked- If a sample says 0, does that mean the well was actually sampled?
 - A- Yes, it means that no PFAS was detected.

11. Updates and Upcoming Events

- **NHDES Infrastructure Funding Webpage**
NHDES weblink: <https://www4.des.state.nh.us/infrastructure-funding/>
Information on any available funding will be posted on this website

Sign up for email alerts from NHDES pertaining to CWSRF/ARPA/Infrastructure funding opportunities at: https://www4.des.state.nh.us/infrastructure-funding/?page_id=26

Upcoming events and funding deadlines (currently known):

https://www4.des.state.nh.us/infrastructure-funding/?page_id=73

- ## 12. Upcoming meeting dates for 2022 – Mark your calendars!
- Meetings occur on the 2nd Thursday of each month, unless otherwise noted. We will continue working on the elements necessary for Year 5 requirements of the permit and update the SWMP template as needed. Following are

the topics that are planned for the monthly meetings. Please note that topics may change dependent on priorities identified during the year.

2022 Meeting Dates

December 8th 🎄 Holiday meeting – Wasserman Park Function Hall in Merrimack

2023 Meeting Dates

January 12th:

February 9th:

March 9th:

April 13th:

May 11th:

June 8th:

July 13th: Note this date is not during the regular monthly scheduled time

August 10th:

September 14th:

October 12th:

November 9th (Veterans' Day on 10th) or 16th:

December 14th: 🎄 Holiday Meeting

Please email potential agenda items and/or presentations to Deb Loiselle at deborah.s.loiselle@des.nh.gov. These will be considered for upcoming meetings and very helpful in the development of the monthly agendas.

13. Sign-in Sheet – Your names will be documented during introductions.