

Connecticut Lakes Headwaters Citizens Committee
May 6, 2017

In Attendance: Bing Judd, Ramon DeMaio, Hasen Burns, Richard Moquin, Gene Chandler, Rick Samson, Jeff Rose, Glenn Normandeau, Jim Gallagher, John Morse, Steve Ellis, and Darrin Jock.

Staff: Brad Simpkins, Phil Bryce, Johanna Lyons and Sandy Young

Landowner: John Steward

The meeting was opened by Chairman Judd with the pledge of allegiance and introductions at 10:00 am.

New member Darrin Jock was welcomed to the committee. Ray DeMaio has been reappointed. Other reappointments due in 2017 include Bing Judd, Hasen Burns, Rick Sampson, Ken Hastings, Harry Brown and Paul Doscher.

The minutes of the meeting December 9, 2016 were accepted.

Monitoring Compliance (RSA 12-A:9-b, V (a)) – no report

Public Recreation Use (RSA 12-A:9-b, V (b))

- Division of Parks & Recreation is meeting with LandVest next week to go over roads that are needed for forest management and public use.
- Gates are closed. Snowmobiling ended last week.
- Expect the roads to open no sooner than Memorial Day weekend depending on weather conditions. The roads are very wet.

State Park, Natural Area and Lake Francis Impoundment Area Management (RSA 12-A:9-b, V(c), (g), (h))

Parks & Recreation

- One of the topics to discuss next week with LandVest is the trail from Coleman to the headwaters property for snowmobile, horse and Cohos trail.
- Boundary lines are being updated at Deer Mountain.

Fish and Game

- There are plans to gravel and upgrade the East Inlet Road.
- Baiting Rules: The baiting rules were part of the larger rule revision that took place. Public hearings were held in Concord, Keene and Lancaster.
 - Rules used to be first-come/first-served, received complaints that the same people were getting them. New rules are by lottery.
 - Worked with the CLH landowner on the program and number of permits to issue.
 - Hasen Burns expressed that the rule change should have been presented to the CLHCC prior to going to the public.

- Perley-Terrill Dam
 - Dam needs to be replaced or removed. Funding of \$500,000 requested in the 2022-2023 capital budget.
 - The current dam replaced a driver dam. The pond is shallow.
 - Several deficiencies including seepage, sloughing, erosion to the core wall and misalignment of stop logs. Maintenance is needed for the auxiliary spill way to remove trees & brush.
 - It is a stocked site. There is native brook trout above and below the dam.
 - Water temperatures in the pond are at the upper level to support trout habitat and the warm water flowing from the dam warms the water up in the stream.
 - Removal of the dam would be for the benefit of the native brook trout to cool the water temperatures.
 - The department will be holding a public information session to discuss further.
 - The Executive Director and Commission will make the final decision on the dam.
 - Committee Comment: Keep the dam, it is a traditional use. Can change the season management over the course of the season and when the water warms up allow taking the fish. Sportsmen want to catch the big fish.
 - MOTION: Recommend steps be taken to keep the dam in place. VOTE: Majority in favor with Glenn & Jim abstaining.

DES Update

- Working with the new owners of the TransCanada properties, Great River LLC.
- Great River LLC is meeting with the guides on 5/25.
- DES has contracted for an independent analysis of the Murphy Dam for probability of failure and consequences.
- DES is also contracting to look at the mechanical and instrumentation portions of the dam.

Plan Revision and Easement Amendment (RSA 12-A:9-b V (d))

- Since December the Division has been working on some loose ends in the plan; tractor and shooting range.

Tractor

- The Division has stewardship functions to accomplish to fulfill our legal requirements which cost approximately \$26,000/year; plowing, trash pickup, maintenance of pit toilets, kiosks, gates, parking lots and some roads.
- The remaining balance of annual appropriation to be invested in the roads; tractor operator & maintenance, purchase of mower (year 1) and lease to own tractor for 60 months.
- Tractor specifications: 165 hp Case-New Holland tractor with bucket.
- Looked at two scenarios; financing full amount (\$157,000) or half the cost (\$68,500).
 - If the full amount was financed, there would be a deficit in the stewardship account (based on a budget of \$50,000)
 - If half the amount was financed, then the first year there would be a small deficit, but in subsequent years there would be approximately \$16,000/year for stewardship.
 - The stewardship reserve would contribute 50% of the cost and the stewardship annual appropriation would make the lease payments.
 - MOTION: Recommend 50% finance scenario. VOTE: Majority in favor.

Shooting Range

- Landowner was approached by the Warriors @ 45 North to construct a shooting range on the property. The landowner referred the project to the State managers.
- Phil, Brad and Glenn met with representatives of the organization on March 24th.
- The organization has a camp on Mercier Road that they invite active duty and veterans to come and relax. They have a small range at the site but it is disturbing neighbors.
- During the conversation the point that shooting ranges need to be supervised came up. The organization is willing to supervise when they are using but do not have the capacity to always supervise. Since the committee recommends that all available stewardship funding be dedicated to the roads, there is no funding for the state to supervise the range.
- John Steward commented that the landowner is concerned about liability of target shooting on the property and lead in the gravel from the pits that shooting is occurring.
- MOTION: Table the proposal from the organization. VOTE: Majority voted to table the proposal.

Lease Camp (RSA 12-A:9-b, V (b),(e) and (h))

- 13 camps were marketed last year of the 15 allowed. Minimal interest & only 3 were leased.

Land Owner Recreation Fees (RSA 12-A:9-b, V (f)) – NA

Other Business

- Boat Subcommittee – Gene, John S., Dick, Glenn, Bing and Jeff volunteered to discuss boat storage and boat management and make recommendations to the committee.
- Nomination for Chairperson: Gene Chandler nominated Bing Judd for Chairman, no other nomination were received. Unanimous vote for Bing Judd for Chairman.

Public Comment

- Maryellen Hasselbacher asked for an update on the horse trail from Coleman. Sandy explained that more information will be available after next week's meeting with the landowner.

Meeting adjourned: 11:25 am

Respectfully Submitted, Johanna Lyons

Connecticut Lakes Headwaters Stewardship Plan Statement of General Direction:

This recreation plan does not include any additional recreational improvements to the property. The stewardship's endowment funds (the reserve and annual appropriation) are being allocated primarily to upgrade the road system to provide adequate access to the property for the public. Members of the Citizens committee have also expressed concern over a change in the character of experience on the property due to the installation of recreational improvements such as kiosks, pit toilets, parking lots, and enhanced trail access. The challenge going forward will be how to maintain the historic character of experience while addressing additional impacts of increased use and changing expectations.

pab 5/5/17

Stewardship-Tractor Finance Scenarios

		Tractor Only Lease to Own		
	Current (2017)	Finance Full Amount	Finance Fifty Percent	Comment
	Amount:	\$ 137,000	\$ 68,500	
	Mo. Payment:	\$ 2,523	\$ 1,262	
Stewardship Endowment (3745)				
Improvements	\$ 1,000			New projects
Ongoing Stewardship	\$ 14,000			Staff costs and maintenance supplies*
SCA	\$ 11,000			Boat cleanup, trail work
Tractor Operating Costs		\$ 8,500	\$ 8,500	Fuel/Maintenance/Support Vehicle
Tractor Operator Costs		\$ 10,240	\$ 10,240	640hrsx\$16/hrx16 weeks
Purchase Mower		\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	
Lease-to-Own		\$ 30,276	\$ 15,144	4% financing for 60 months/mo x 12
	TOTAL	\$ 26,000	\$ 53,884	
Annual Stewardship Revenue	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	
Available Balance Year 1	\$ 24,000	\$ (19,016)	\$ (3,884)	
Available Balance Year 2-5		\$ 984	\$ 16,116	Mower cost not included
	5/5/2017			

* Plow parking lots winter, cleaning pit toilets year round, trash pick up, light road maintenance, supervise SCA.
 Note: Supervision of road projects currently paid for with trails bureau and park funds, not endowments.