

Connecticut Lakes Headwaters Citizens Committee

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Connecticut Lakes Headwaters Citizens Committee and Water Resources Council Agenda June 26, 2010 at 10:00 AM

In attendance: Bing Judd, George Bald, Bev Lord, Jen Landry, Richard Moquin, Merrill Dalton, Ken Hastings, John Lanier, Matt Sampson, Glenn Normandeau, Hasen Burns, Jim Gallagher, Designee for Thomas Burack
Others present: Chris Gamache, Sandy Young, John Steward,

Absent: Paul Doscher, Michael Pearson,

Welcome and Introductions: Chairman Bing Judd called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. welcoming all and asked for introductions. The Committee introduced themselves.

The Chairman asked that Council Members ask questions and speak then the audience would have turns asking the Council questions

Matt Sampson of the Forestland Group was asked what the new landowners had in mind for the leases. He said they would be consistent with the way things have been run in the past, the leases will change a bit and there will be no changes to the camps, with computer use there will be greater access to communicate with the landowner. The due date will change to be the same due date as all other lands owned by the Forestland Group.

Approval of the 09/25/2009 minutes: The minutes from meeting on September 26, 2009 meeting were unanimously approved.

Status of dams on the CLH: Of the 274 dams in the state 214 are run by DES. The Connecticut Lakes Headwaters dams are in need of repair. The berms are being driven on by the tourists and it is causing seepage and compromising dam structures. Winter's freezing is causing concrete to crack. Newer material would make dams last longer. Tourism is severely needed in the North Country and the dams need to be maintained.

Dam Maintenance and Liability: DES takes into consideration when there are risks to dams, so if dam failure occurs what would happen to properties below the dams, camps, and roads. DES will submit legislation for the upcoming FY 2012 - 2014 for funding and will have to consider which dams are more of a priority. DES would be the most cost effective than other companies to do the repairs. The landowner is limited because their focus is on timber harvesting for their investors. John Steward of Landvest will make sure there are large rocks to prevent cars from driving on the berms at Pearly Terrill Dam. Public safety and insurance liability are concerns for all. George Bald will contact the Attorney Generals office to find out general liability obligations the state has so the landowner can inform their insurance company. Landowner noted if letter of deficiency and risk is issued they would need to breach dams for safety and liability.

Water Resources Council, Land that was managed by the former Water Resources Council around lake Francis: Jim Gallagher of the Department of Environmental Services (DES) gave a presentation of the dams in the Lake



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Francis area. At the Back Lake dam there is erosion of the concrete and the money for that repair is in the capital budget. Scotts Bog will get a band-aid repair and will not be drained.

Any other business:

Matt Sampson has asked that all owners' of boats in the CLHWF have their names on them and register the boats with The ForestLand Group each year, as to what lakes they are on and what kind of boat it is.

The Great North Woods ATV Riders Club stated that ATV use is very important to the economy in the North Country. Wherever there is an ATV Club in an area there is a good trail system in place. With multiple clubs working together to connect areas through the trails it makes the system even better. It would be good to have a bill that gives ATV's access to ride along roads to get to stores and restaurants. Interconnecting trails with access to services would draw long distance visitors. An ATV Subcommittee has been formed with Chris Gamache was designated to set and organize the first meeting. The members are: Jenn Landry, Sandy Young, Glen Normandeau, John Lanier, John Stewart, Merrill Dalton, Clark Corson, and if available Bing Judd.

Two hiking trails, the Round Pond Brook Trail and Moose Alley Trails have been blazed by the dedicated, hard work of the Cohas Trail Association, Peter and Lannie Castine reported.

The Connecticut Lakes Headwaters Working Forest Management Plan was referred to when the people in the audience asked about dirt bike and horse back riding. Sandy Young pointed out that these and any recreation in the area needs to be supported buy a club or group advocating the recreation.

Ron Hughes suggested that there should be a representative from the Leaseholders on the CLHCC.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 A.M.

Next meeting at the call of the Chairman

Respectfully submitted, Jane Carey, Clerk

