

Montague Conservation Commission

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MEETING MINUTES

Thursday December 10, 2020- 6:30pm

Meeting held remotely via ZOOM due to COVID-19

Commissioners Present: M. Fairbrother (Chair), S. Werle, J. Fermann, L. Reid. D. Francis

Absent: D. Henson,

Staff: Walter Ramsey (Conservation Agent)

Also Present: Tobias Carter and Anthony Reiber

6:30 PM Chairman Fairbrother opened the meeting. No public meetings or hearings were scheduled. Two prospective commissioners were welcomed. Anthony Reiber and Tobias Carter, both of Montague Center were present to observe the meeting and meet the Commissioners. The two prospects introduced themselves. Anthony directs the Natural Resources program at GCC. Tobias is licensed forester.

6:33pm: *MOTION by S. Werle TO ACCEPT the minutes of October 8, 2020 Seconded by Donna F. VOTE: Werle-AYE, Fermann- AYE, Reid- AYE, Francis- AYE, Fairbrother- AYE. MOTION PASSES.*

MOTION by S. Werle TO ACCEPT the minutes of November 11, 2020 Seconded by Donna F. VOTE: Werle- AYE, Fermann- AYE, Francis- AYE, Fairbrother- AYE, Reid- ABSTAINING. MOTION PASSES.

6:35pm: Agent Report:

- Review draft agency correspondence, Millers Falls Rd, washout report (Emergency Cert 2020-02) Agent reviewed the content of the letter addressed to MassDEP, NHESP, EPA, and ACOE. (See exhibit) Commission commits to annual monitoring of the washout for three years to observe for invasive plant species.

MOTION by S. Werle to endorse the correspondence as drafted and to advise the Selectboard to approve it. Seconded by Justin F. VOTE: Werle-AYE, Fermann- AYE, Francis- AYE, Fairbrother- AYE, Reid- AYE. MOTION PASSES.

- Brief Commission on Burn Dump Cap design modification (NOI 2018-05 Sandy Lane Solar Phase II) Cap modification has been engineers. Agent reviewed for compliance with existing Order of Conditions. Additional filing will not be required and the footprint on the southern section is not changing.

- Topics not anticipated within 48 hour posting requirement
 - Agent reports that Firstlight has filed its license application with FERC. It is currently being reviewed by town staff and partner agencies. 3 river access points are proposed to receive improvements.
 - Landowner at 414 Greenfield Road (Ron Rodden) is seeking a water meter to his parcel's frontage on Meadow Road (opposite the Sawmill River). The lot is not buildable. Agent informed him that underground water utility work does have some limited exemptions if it stays within existing road and driveways. Owner was advised to file for any additional work beyond the narrow exemption.

MOTION by TO ADJOURN by Seconded by VOTE: Werle- AYE, Fermann- AYE, Reid- AYE, Fairbrother- AYE. Motion passed unanimously.

Approved by: _____

Date: _____