Lamoille Basin Water Quality Council (BWQC) Meeting DRAFT MINUTES

Thursday, March 23, 2022, 9:00-11:00 AM
Virtual Meeting/Held Via Zoom* (computer/smartphone/tablet etc.)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UPW22095e8g

A VIDEO RECORDING OF THE MEETING IS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE NRPC YOUTUBE CHANNEL. THE WRITTEN MINUTES ARE A SYNOPSIS OF THE DISCUSSION AT THE MEETING. MOTIONS ARE AS STATED. MINUTES WILL BE SUBJECT TO CORRECTION BY THE COUNCIL. CHANGES, IF ANY, WILL BE RECORDED IN THE MINUTES OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Attendance: Peter Danforth (Q), Kent Henderson (Q), Lauren Weston (Q), Emily Finnegan, Jed Feffer (Q), Sai Sarepalli, Richard Goff (Q), Meghan Rodier, Ken Minck (Q until Sarah Hadd joined the meeting, Brad Holden (Q), Casy Spencer, Bruce Wheeler (Q), Erin De Vries joined at 9:30am (Q), Sarah Hadd joined the meeting at 10am (Q), (Q=toward quorum).

Staff: Dean Pierce, Dea Devlin,

Guests: Rod Rodjenski, Branden Martin, Alison Spasyk, James King, Karen Bates

Members Not Present: None.

1. Welcome and Introduction

Peter Danforth called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. as Chair of the BWQC. Everyone introduced themselves.

2. Review meeting protocol

Peter Danforth reviewed the Zoom norms of the BWQC protocol.

3. Review/adjust and approve agenda

Jed Feffer moved to approve the agenda for the meeting. Kent Henderson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

4. Approval of Minutes

Lauren Weston moved to approve the minutes for the previous meeting. Jed Feffer seconded the motion with one edit to correct the of the meeting to January 26th, 2022. Motion carried.

5. Public comment not related to items on agenda

No members of the public offered any comments.

6. Seating of any new reps or alternate(s) (if required)

Dean Pierce confirmed there was no seating of representative or alternates to present to the BWQC at this time.

7. Voting process

Dean Pierce shared some slides that explained the rule surrounding proper practices for the BWQC to vote upon. Dean Pierce explained that there are some options for organizing the order and process when voting to approve projects. Peter Danforth confirmed that he would continue to facilitate the meeting as Chair even in the instance where he must recuse himself from a vote. Ken Minck expressed preference for voting for projects individually versus on a slate.

8. Cost effectiveness "threshold"

Dean Pierce shared slides to provide further information and context for the BWQC to consider when evaluating cost effectiveness in project applications.

9. Prioritized project list

Dean Pierce reviewed the project list for the applications that were submitted in the funding round that closed in March.

Richard Goff moves to approve the funding for a project submitted by the Town of Jericho (11322). Brad Holden suggested that motions for approving funding have language that indicates that this is based off CWSP analysis.

Jed Feffer moved to accept the project submitted by the Town of Jericho based upon CWSP scoring. (Richard Goff indicated he withdrew his initial motion.) Richard Goff seconded the motion, and a vote was taken. Motion carried. Sarah Hadd, who had arrived mid discussion, abstained.

Dean Piece shared a dashboard tool to the BWQC that shows the application information and explained this tool will be available in the future.

Richard Goff moved to approve the CWSP ranking and analysis of project 11361. Erin DeVries seconded the motion. Richard Goff explained the reasoning behind his support for the project. Peter Danforth provided further details about the project. James King elaborated on how the practice helps preserve floodplains. Karen Bates provided further details. Motion carried with one recusal by Peter Danforth.

Dean offered that the group might want to consider delaying discussion of project 9041. Doing so would allow further evaluation of cost effectiveness. Discussion of the project was in fact delayed. Brad Holden then moved to approve the CWSP ranking of design projects 9536 and 11358 and fund them. Richard Goff seconded the motion. Motion carried with one abstention by Sarah Hadd and one recusal by Peter Danforth.

10. Schedule for next Call for Application(s)

Richard Goff moved to schedule a second meeting for March 30th, 2023, at 9am. Jed Feffer seconded the motion. The meeting date was set by apparent consent.

Branden Martin indicated preference to connect with Karen Bates and James King regarding phosphorus credits.

11. Updates

This agenda item was skipped for time.

12. Conclusion

Jed Feffer moved to close the meeting. Richard Goff seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.