

**THR FRANKLIN WATERSHED COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Franklin Homestead**  
**October 13, 2011**

**Participants:** Jim Cameron, Sue Clark, Martine Gates, Sue Stanley, Bruce Bushey, Dan Larivee, Ron Paradis, Peter Benevento, Heidi Britch-Valenta, Lucille Rainville, Paul Stanley.

The meeting commenced at 7:03PM.

**Approval of Minutes:** The meeting minutes of Sept. 8, 2011 were reviewed. Bruce Bushey made a motion to accept the minutes. Sue Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Martine Gates gave the Treasurer's Report. Invoices totaling \$1420.04 and \$5290.01 were paid. The checkbook balance is \$1531.87. A letter will be sent to the Town of Franklin soliciting the annual donation of \$1,000.00. A \$300.00 donation will be made by the FWC to the Franklin Homestead. Bruce Bushey made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Peter Benevento seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**President's Report:** Jim Cameron gave the President's report.

- **Septic Feasibility Study:** Jim gave an overview of the ongoing Septic Study of Lake Carmi & the Village of Franklin. The intent of the study is to produce a planning document for potential future septic improvements. A public meeting will be held Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Franklin Homestead to present the results of the septic study to date. A similar meeting will be held late spring/ early summer for the Lake Carmi community.
- **AmeriCorp:** A second potential candidate for the 2011-2012 AmeriCorp Watershed Technician position has withdrawn from consideration. At this time there are no other viable candidates. AmeriCorp will be apprised of the situation and will be asked if a one-quarter slot for a six month term is possible. LCBP will also be notified that the remaining balance of grant funds available to pay administrative costs may not be used.
- **Hammond Shore:** Jim reported on the efforts to remove excessive sediment deposits on the Hammond Shore. Utilizing a trash pump and dewatering bags approximately four cubic yards of sediment was removed. The excessive sediment deposits extend along 500 feet of shoreline and 100 feet out into the lake. Weeds have prevented further progress of the sediment into the lake. The sediment is approximately 8 inches deep. A second work day to remove more silt with the trash pump and dewatering bags is being planned. VT DEC has asked the FWC to estimate the cost of removing the silt but stated there is no money presently available to assist with the removal efforts.
- **Hammond Shore Agreement:** A verbal agreement between Jim Dewing and Ben Gabois to prevent further erosion of silt in the lake was reduced to writing in the form of a Letter of Agreement. The letter was presented for discussion. Sue Clark made a motion that the letter be sent to Jim Dewing and Ben Gabois. Bruce Bushey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**LCCA Weed Comm.** Peter Benevento reported that the Town of Franklin has agreed to be the applicant on a permit to apply the herbicide Renovate to Eurasian Milfoil in Lake Carmi. He also reported that the LCCA approved funds to hire Aquatic Control Technologies, Inc. to prepare the permit. Potential funding to apply the herbicide is being explored.

**Water Sampling:** Peter Benevento reported that Tropical Storm Irene flooded and destroyed the State Laboratory in Waterbury, VT. As a result the Lay Monitoring water sampling program came to a premature end for the season. The last sample collected for the tributaries was August 24<sup>th</sup>. The last in-lake sampling was Sept 5<sup>th</sup>.

**BMP Report:** Paul Stanley gave an update on BMP activities.

- Cover Crops: A total of 169 acres of farmland in the Lake Carmi watershed and a total of 63 acres outside the watershed have been designated for cover crops. Only two farms within the watershed have opted not to use cover crops. Weather has delayed the implementation. Paul has spoken with the state about extending the deadline. They will be extending it on a case by case basis. The group agreed to extend the deadline as well on a case by case basis.
- A CREP proposal for the Fregeau land has been completed and will be reviewed by the landowner.
- Wagner Road Construction: Heidi Britch-Valenta reported that two bids have been received to repair an access road to Chris Wagner's farm. A third bid is currently being solicited.

**Coordinator's Report:** Heidi Britch-Valenta gave the Coordinator's Report.

- Shoreline Buffers: There is \$4000.00 remaining in the budget to improve shoreline buffers. The money must be spent by Dec. 31, 2011 or an extension must be requested. A local contractor has indicated rocks and other material to repair shorelines can be moved over the ice in the winter. Heidi will check on this with Steve Hanna and will request an extension.
- BBR Grant & Tree Planting: The Enosburg Lions Club agreed to fund the planting of trees along the Dewing Shore however the State withdrew funds for a project to improve the shoreline. The trees cannot be planted until the improvement project is completed. The Lions Club will be notified.
- Culverts: Quotes have been received to repair Patton Shore Culvert #43 and the other culvert across from Dick Davis Camp which will be referred to as 43 B. 43 B will not be replaced, just clean out, trees removed and stone will be added to stabilize the area. Bruce Bushey made a motion to repair the culverts. Sue Stanley seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- Board Development Opportunity: A presentation concerning the role of Directors in non-profit organizations will be held in St. Albans at BFA on Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30. A flyer regarding the presentation was circulated and directors were encouraged to attend.
- Dewing Shore Outlet: A Hydraulic Study to determine the best alternative to improve/replace the major outlet on the lake will be requested. The study is free to the Town of Franklin. Once the best fix is determined a State Structure Grant may be requested to fund the project. The State would be responsible for 90% of the project funding with the Town paying the remaining 10%.
- Mill Pond Dam: Sue Clark will contact the State Dam coordinator to determine the history & operation of the Mill Pond Dam. Any changes to the Dewing Shore Outlet will impact greatly on the Dam.
- Route 236 Culverts: The State's intent to evaluate the culverts along Rte 236 (State Park Rd.) has been postponed. The state has requested that pictures of damaged culverts be submitted to them in the interim for consideration.
- LCBP: The grant cycle for the Lake Champlain Basin Program has not opened yet. The LCBP is still awaiting information on the amount of funding they will receive.
- VOR Manure Processing: A second farm to test VOR Manure Processing is being solicited. The process reduces nutrient levels in manure.

- All State Insurance: our website coordinator, Kris Luce, has designated us as his non-profit mini-grant recipient. A \$500.00 grant request from the All State Insurance Co. is pending.
- New Board Member Packets: Packets have not been completed.
- Sec. 319 Grant: The contract for the 2011-2012 sec. 319 Grant has been received and needs to be signed and the budget amended to reduce the amount from \$45,000 to \$35,000.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Peter Benevento, Secretary