

**TOWN OF BOZRAH
INLAND WETLANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
ZOOM Recorded. BOZRAH, CT 06334**

January 6, 2022

The January regular meeting of the Bozrah Inland Wetlands and Conservation Commission was called to order by Chairperson Charlene Lathrop at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

Members present: Scott Taylor, Chuck Mandel, Evelyn Brown, Steve Brunetti, Charlene Lathrop. Quorum was established. Members absent: James Sipperly, Jessica Carson.

Others present: Sam Alexander (AICP- SCCOG/Town Planner), Glenn Pianka (Board of Selectmen), Bob Russo (WEO), Steve Seder (P&Z)

1. Minutes: *Review & Approve Minutes of 12/2/21 **Motion to approve (Mandel/Taylor) 3 Yes, 2 Abstain, Motion passes.**
2. Report from Wetlands Enforcement Officer (WEO): 1) 350 Fitchville Rd- Letter was sent to owner outlining need to submit an application for any additional work/ soil disturbance. Owner indicated that he has no current plans for new work. He has installed a continuous wood chip berm on the top of the bank. Site is stable & owner understands the need to come to IWCC for any soil disturbance activity. Chuck questioned the spring soil stability if there is still bare earth & WEO agreed that situation merits a look in the spring & probably should get something planted for stabilization. 2) 211 Bashon Hill- Sam and WEO inspected twice in Dec. By the 3rd week in Dec, all E&S controls were in place and functioning correctly to move forward for phase 1. The bond is in place, Mylars are signed & they are legal to proceed. 3) 166 Bishop Rd- Steve Seder & WEO walked the area the application covers & reported no activity in those phased areas. Rock stockpiles are still near the entrance lot, no problems were noted with E&S at the sites of past logging & rock activity. Eastern side was not checked. The commission requested that the WEO look at that portion as well as a baseline and that the owner complete the flagging of past activity & wetlands in that previously disturbed area. Bob will write the owners a letter as WEO to specify the need to survey including flags for the wetland areas and to quantify the areas of work/disturbance both in and out of wetland areas. Sam will forward previous the previous WEO violation files to update Bob. P&Z permits are in place. Bob signed off at the close of his report.
3. Correspondence related to agenda- none.
4. 2022 Regulations Update: Memo & Middletown documents were forwarded to members from Sam & Jim. Sam has also conducted a review of area towns. Discussion of whether to conduct a full overhaul or just check & update using guidance from DEEP (Darcy Werther) who is currently preparing a DEEP update that runs up through 20/21. When asked, Sam shared that he felt our current ordinances & regulations were in pretty up to date shape. Discussion resulted in the following areas of concern or focus: Full overhaul not needed, fee ordinances & regulations need clarification & strengthening in relation to permit granting and portion that applicants are responsible for, conditions of approval for

as-builts, bonding for E&S removals, maintenance bonds. As a side note: the E&S fence on Rt. 82 is still there. Sam will talk to the WEO about addressing that.

5. Old business: Land Use/Fee Ordinance Subcommittee- Discussion of composition of committee, tasks, topics in conjunction with P&Z. Sam will prepare a package about fee ordinances from other towns and put forward several dates for an initial meeting in 5:30/6PM start timeframe. A regular formalized meeting schedule will be set by the subcommittee. With input from the P&Z chair to be also formalized at his next meeting, **motion was made to establish a Fee Ordinance Subcommittee made up of 2 members from IWCC, 2 members from P&Z and one member from Board of Selectmen with Chuck Mandel and James Sipperly as the appointees from IWCC. (Brown/ Brunetti) Unanimous.**
6. Rt 2 Polly Brook Update: Sam gave an overview of the state slideshow that will be presented at a virtual public hearing on Jan. 24. 2022. They are downsizing the 84” culvert pipe to a 72” slip-line pipe, filled with joint compound. Written comment from IWCC will be presented. Sam will run a draft letter by Charlene. Topics brought up included: a) timing- why a spring start when water is typically higher? b) corrugated vs smooth surface of new pipe since sedimentation is desirable for fish/amphibians, c) what are they doing for a sediment trap at the out end? Disturbance when they flush the current debris? d) how are they diverting water when they install? e) sealant impact? f) will they be documenting downstream organisms & conditions to note/monitor any changes before & after the project? g) since removal of the dam, has the species of interest in the NDDB taken up residence in this work area?
7. General Correspondence: none.
8. Such other Business?: Update on OSWA grant application? Sam reported that it typically takes about 6 months to hear status.
9. Public Comment: Steve Seder gave some comment on 166 Bishop walk- rocks stacked neatly at entrance, amazing lack of invasives on property, timbering debris- would recommend a chipper. Chuck added that our logging regulations could also stand review & improvement to include best practices and that Bob Russo as WEO and Sam as SECCOG rep were to be commended for the great job they’re doing to aid this commission.

10. Motion to adjourn (Brunetti/Taylor) Unanimous.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:03pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Evelyn Brown, Commission member.