

**Lamprey River Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
March 18, 2025 7:00 P.M.**



Location: Lee Public Safety Complex, 20 George Bennett Road

APPROVED APRIL 15, 2025

representatives attending in person: John Wallace (Barrington); Dick Lord, Dave Steinberg (Durham); Jim Brady (Lee); Grace Levergood (Northwood); Dan David (Nottingham); Therese Thompson (Raymond)

representatives attending by phone: none

staff: Suzanne Petersen
Jim MacCartney attended by phone.

Meeting began at 7:00.

summary of motions passed:

- **David Steinberg made a motion to rescind the expedited funding motion from February 18, 2025. Jim Brady seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dick Lord made a motion to approve the letter to NHDES re: 42 Exeter Road in Epping, AoT. Jim Brady seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Jim Brady made a motion for LRAC to sign a letter forwarded by PREP requesting support for continuing federal funding of the National Estuary Research and Reserve System. David Steinberg seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

approval of minutes from February 18, 2025:

Dick Lord made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. John Wallace seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

financial reports:

- Bank statement, year-to-date budget, and land protection fund reports had expected activity and no concerns were noted.
- After consultations regarding last month's motion to request advance NPS funding in light of recent political maneuvers, it was determined that the request was not advisable. **David Steinberg made a motion to rescind the expedited funding motion from February 18, 2025. Jim Brady seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- Jim MacCartney has compiled a preliminary draft FY 2026 budget (for a new 4.5-year cooperative agreement) based on level funding from FY 2025. He hopes a final draft budget will be ready for approval by LRAC at the April meeting. The current cooperative agreement will end April 30, 2026. All remaining funds under the current budget must be spent by that date.

- From Oct. 1, 2025 to April 30, 2026, we will be working off two budgets... spending down the old, starting the new.
- The York River Stewardship Committee has adjusted its [community grants RFP](#) to include a statement that funds are from NPS through CFDA 15.962 and subject to annual Congressional appropriations. YRSC is also considering adjusting its grant payment schedule (e.g., expediting the final payment), as appropriate. LRAC may want to consider a similar approach.
- Jim Brady made a motion to increase the monthly transfer from the operating budget to the land protection account by \$5,000, so that \$15,000 will be transferred monthly going forward. Dick Lord seconded. Motion passed unanimously; however, the bylaws require at least four Wild and Scenic town reps to vote on matters concerning expenditure of funds. This proposal will be revisited in April for an official vote.

project review:

approval of letter re: 42 Exeter Rd. Epping, AoT

Dick Lord made a motion to approve the letter to NHDES re: 42 Exeter Road in Epping, AoT. Jim Brady seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

request from PREP

Jim Brady made a motion for LRAC to sign a letter forwarded by PREP requesting support for continuing federal funding of the National Estuary Research and Reserve System. David Steinberg seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

summary of conversation with NHDES re: proposed solid waste transfer station along the river

Notes from a phone Q&A meeting with several NHDES technical staff people were shared.

on-line mapper:

- Work is complete. Finalization is imminent, with no additional changes.
- Regarding hosting fee, from SRPC: "There is no ongoing cost at this time. As part of the current contract, we included a \$100 fee that would cover 5 years of "credits" associated with hosting the data online. We are internally looking to switch data hosting providers that would reduce the cost of hosting map data to a negligible amount (that would cost us more to bill than the actual expense). So, count yourselves as covered in perpetuity."

Grants update:

- 2024 bacterial tracking is paid.
- 2025 bacterial tracking first half invoice has been paid.
- Wadleigh Falls kiosk is paid.
- Toad pathogen field work will commence shortly.

management plan update next steps:

The committee was asked whether to put key topic areas in alphabetical order or by importance; importance was chosen.

- 1 water resources
- 2 land protection
- 3 project review
- 4 wildlife & ecology
- 5 recreation
- 6 public engagement & education
- 7 history

The preliminary draft plan will be shared on-line. Following any edits, the coordinator will offer town planning boards and conservation commissions training with the on-line mapper and will solicit comments on the plan. The goal is to finish the project this summer.

other:

- The NH Rivers Management and Protection Program and New Hampshire Rivers Council will present the spring 2025 LAC/LRS Workshop on April 12, 2025 from 8:00 AM to 1:15 PM. Registration closes on April 1, 2025.
- Newmarket warrant articles passed:
 - Raise and appropriate \$5,500,000 for Bay Road Force main replacement and pump station improvements.
 - Raise and appropriate \$100,000 for planning and design efforts for the Bay Road force main replacement
- Epping warrant articles passed:
 - Raise and appropriate \$1.8 million to perform wastewater treatment facility upgrade design phase engineering.
 - Raise and appropriate \$100,000 for the purpose of performing an infiltration and inflow study on the Town's sewer collection system, that will qualify the Town for federal and state funds.
- Nottingham:
 - Residents voted to allot \$1,000 as a follow-up application of aquatic weed herbicide to Pawtuckaway Lake.

next meeting: April 15, 2025

adjournment:

John Wallace made a motion to adjourn. Jim Brady seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:00.