

# Lake Auburn Watershed Protection Commission

## Meeting Minutes

Thursday November 5, 2015

**Location:** Auburn City Hall, Auburn, Maine

**Time:** Meeting began at 3:30 PM

**Commissioners Present:** Joe Grube, Dick Thibodeau, Lee Upton, Dave Jones, John Bonneau, Robert Thompson, Steve French

**Commissioners Absent:** Bethel Shields, Michael Lachance

**Others Present:** Lynne Richard, Michael Broadbent, Sid Hazelton, Kevin Gagne, Heather Hunter and audience

Commissioner Grube called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM

### Agenda Item 1: Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting of Sept 9, 2015

**Vote 1– Motion by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Thompson to accept the minutes of the regular meeting on 9/9/15 and place on file.**

Passed 7 - 0

### Agenda Item 2: Presentation on Lake Auburn Sediment Sampling Project – Steve Norton, University of Maine

Mr. Norton was introduced by Mary Jane Dillingham

Mr. Norton presented a study prepared by Heather Doolittle, a student at the University of Maine. The Study was entitled "The problem with Lake Auburn - What is it, what is the origin and is there a solution." Its focus is on the relationship between Lake Auburn sediments and the release of phosphorus into the water. There were several recommendations based on the findings of the study that were presented to the Commission.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Norton for the presentation and agreed to follow up on some of the recommendations.

### Agenda Item 3: Financial Update- Heather Hunter

Heather presented the financial reports.

Commissioner Thibodeau asked about a line item under Outside Services. He wanted to know if the estimate from Androscoggin Land Trust was final as we have added a few properties. Heather reported that she thought it was final and she also reported that there were public outreach funds that were not needed as part of the 319 Grant which also has a surplus.

**Vote 2 - Motion by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Bonneau to approve the financial report as written.**

Passed 7 - 0

**Agenda Item 4: Presentation of 2016 LAWPC Budget- Heather Hunter**

Heather went over the revised 2016 Budget, going through each line item and explaining any adjustments.

**Vote 3 - Motion by Commissioner Bonneau and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the 2016 Budget as presented.**

Passed 7 - 0

**Agenda Item 5: Water Quality Update & Activity Report- Mary Jane Dillingham**

Mary Jane presented Water Quality Graphs showing Turbidity, Secchi disc readings, phosphorus and algae counts.

Commissioner French asked at what Turbidity level does the Water Quality staff become concerned? Mary Jane reported that when Turbidity goes over 1 NTU the bacteria sampling is increased, and when the turbidity goes over 5 NTUs we have exceeded our MCL.

Commissioner Bonneau asked about the large volume of pine needles that were dropped by the pine trees this year and if that was a concern of ours? MJ reported that the reason the Watershed has cultivated white pines specifically is because pine needles are less of a concern than deciduous trees and leaf drops that can produce tannins and lignins.

Commissioner Thibodeau asked how many turbidity test sites we have? Mary Jane reported that there were 5 sites and that turbidity is only measured at the Intake.

**Agenda Item 6: Education & Outreach Update – Lynne Richard**

Lynne went over the Education and Outreach reports. She reported that it was the beginning of the school year and that she has started going to the high schools.

Lynne went over the Source Water Protection Report that was presented to the Maine Drinking Water Program as part of annual compliance. She did not bring copies for everyone but the document is available on the Commission's website.

Lynne has been working on the lands management plan and she has been working with folks who are interested in using the Commission's land. The two groups she has been working with lately are hunters and snowmobilers. Lynne has prepared two documents for hunters to review that will be available on our website. Lynne has had positive interactions with several hunters who have now been permitted to access Commission properties. Lynne asked for help determining which areas allow access. Commissioner Jones urged Lynne to develop a GIS map and to make a suggestion on areas that staff feels access should be restricted.

Snowmobile Trail Use Permits - Lynne has passed around a Draft Permit Application for folks to complete if they would like to groom snowmobile trails on Commission property. There seemed to be some confusion on what the permit would be for. Lynne suggested changing the title on the permit for clarification.

Lynne will work on clarifying the permit.

Lynne raised a concern that was brought to her by the running communities about the marking of quarter miles on the Spring Road. She would like to install 4 x 6 posts indicating the mile marks. Commissioners urged the mile markers be GIS located once they are placed.

### **Agenda Item 7: Open Session – Public Comments**

Dan Bilodeau provided to Sid Hazelton copies of design drawings of the LACP ice house and club house. He also gave a copy of the last directors' meeting.

Tizz Crowley came to thank the Commission for their support during her term as City Councilor. Tizz's term is up but she promised to remain active as she plans to be a member of the Conservation Commission.

### **Agenda Item 8: Memo to Lead Staff Members and/or Chairpersons of Auburn Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Committees-Sid Hazelton**

Sid prepared a draft letter to send to the Auburn City Council as a response to their memo.

**Vote 3 - Motion by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner French to approve the letter as written.**

**Passed 7 - 0**

### **Agenda Item 9: Schedule 2016 Meeting Dates and Locations-Sid Hazelton**

The following dates were presented to the Commission for 2016 meetings: Feb 10, April 13, June 8, September 14, November 9 and December 7 as needed. The locations were not determined but the Commissioners were fine with the dates.

**Agenda Item 10: North Auburn Erosion Control Project Update-Michael  
Broadbent**

Mike reported to the Commissioners that the Auburn Water District repaired erosion damage that was caused several years ago to the Volock property off North Auburn Road. The erosion was caused when the City of Auburn installed a new cross culvert across North Auburn Road.

**Vote 4 - Motion by Commissioner Bonneau and seconded by Commissioner Jones to adjourn the meeting.**

**Passed 7 - 0**

**The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 PM**

A true record, Attest:



Michael Broadbent,

Secretary of the LAWPC