

Vermont Clean Water Board Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: Thursday, May 21, 2020, 1:30 – 3:00 pm
Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting

Microsoft Teams Meeting, RSVP, and other meeting details available at: <https://dec.vermont.gov/water-investment/cwi/board/meetings>.

Clean Water Board Members/Designees:

Susanne Young, Agency of Administration (AoA) Secretary and Clean Water Board Chair
Chris Cochran on behalf of Ted Brady, Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) Deputy Secretary
Bob Flint, public member
Joe Flynn, Agency of Transportation (VTrans) Secretary
James Giffin, public member
Christopher Louras, public member (absent)
Julie Moore, Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) Secretary
Anson Tebbetts, Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets (AAFM) Secretary
Chad Tyler, public member (absent)

- 1. Welcome** **1:30-1:35 pm**
 - a. Agency of Administration Secretary Susanne Young reviewed the agenda. No action taken.
 - b. Secretary Young entertained separate motions to approve prior meeting minutes for October 22, 2019, February 21, 2020, and May 12, 2020.

Motions to approve minutes passed.

- 2. Public Comments** **1:35-1:55 pm**

Secretary Young welcomed input from the public prior to presenting the proposed budget adjustment. Written public comments will also be accepted until 4:30 pm on Friday, May 22, 2020 [no written public comments received].

 - Comment from Peter Gregory: We appreciate the Board's efforts and encourage you to continue funding tactical basin planning support that goes to partners implementing projects. We would like to ensure that our partners are still viable, strong, and fully engaged throughout these challenging times.
 - Comment from Jill Arace: Thank you to Emily Bird for convening a partner meeting to discuss timing of grant activities as part of budget planning for the upcoming year. Thank you for your transparency with partners while developing a proposal for the Administration. All our grants have been released for SFY20 expect for Watershed Grants funded with Vermont Conservation License Plate funds. What is the status of those grants?

- 3. Review Updated SFY21 Clean Water Fund Revenue Projections** **1:55-2:05 pm**
 - a. Department of Taxes Deputy Commissioner Douglas Farnham reviewed the updated SFY21 Clean Water Fund revenue forecast. May 2020 revenue forecasts a \$4.938 million decrease in SFY21 to the Clean Water Fund. As a result, the SFY21 budget target has decreased by \$5.794 million (28%) to account for projected revenue shortfalls.

- 4. Review and Approve Revised SFY21 Q1 Clean Water Budget** **2:05-2:45 pm**
 - a. Agency of Natural Resources Secretary Julie Moore presented the proposed SFY21 Q1 Clean Water Fund budget reflecting 50% of the SFY20 budget at \$7.4 million.

Motion to approve budget passed.

- b. Secretary Moore presented the SFY21 Q1 Clean Water Fund contingency plan with three revenue monitoring outcomes and recommended actions.

Motion to approve contingency plan passed.

- c. Secretary Moore reviewed the adjusted SFY21 Q2-4 budget process. She explained that the agencies have been reviewing grant programs to understand when to best allocate funding. There is a desire to continue to get projects done because clean water projects also have an economic stimulus effect in addition to water quality benefits. Emily Bird explained that if the Board approves this budget recommendation, the target budget amounts will be used to develop program-level spending plans for SFY21 Q1 and the Board can be provided that information. It is not expected that tactical basin planning support dollars will be affected by revenue shortfalls in SFY21.

Motion to approve budget process passed.

- 5. Review Draft SFY22 Clean Water Budget Process** **2:45-2:55 pm**
Department of Environmental Conservation Clean Water Initiative Program Manager Emily Bird presented the revised timeline for developing the SFY22 budget.

- 6. Determine Next Steps, Closing Remarks** **2:55-3:00 pm**
Secretary Susanne Young welcomed any closing questions or comments. Discussion was held about the status of the selection of Clean Water Service Providers (CWSPs) and participation by Clean Water Board public members on the CWSP proposal review team. Neil Kamman will contact the public members willing and able to participate on the review team after CWSP proposals are received.

Motion to adjourn passed and meeting adjourn at **3:00 pm**

Supporting Materials:

1. May 21, 2020 Clean Water Board Virtual Meeting Ground Rules
2. October 22, 2019 Draft Clean Water Board Meeting Minutes
3. February 21, 2020 Draft Clean Water Board Meeting Minutes
4. May 12, 2020 Draft Clean Water Board Meeting Minutes
5. Updated SFY21 Clean Water Fund Revenue Projections
6. Draft SFY21 Q1 Clean Water Budget
7. Draft SFY21 Q1 Clean Water Fund Contingency Plan
8. Draft Revised SFY21 Clean Water Budget Process (Q1 and Q2-4)
9. Draft SFY22 Clean Water Budget Process