



**SOUTHEAST WATERSHED ALLIANCE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
DRAFT MINUTES**

**Meeting No. 71**

**100 International Drive, Suite 360, Portsmouth, NH 03801**

**March 08, 2017 - 4:00–6:00 p.m.**

**1. Call to Order/Introductions**

Meeting called to order at 4:09 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT -C. Albert, W. Arcieri, D. Cedarholm, S. Frost, D. Peschel, R. Snow, and M. Trainque

GUESTS PRESENT – None

**2. Approve Meeting Minutes**

Minutes of BOD Meeting No. 70 approved unanimously as amended.

**3. Committee Reports**

**3.1 Finance Committee**

R. Snow reported paying \$500 for web hosting. leaving \$4,301.14 for SWA Administration. \$27,301.14 total in SWA's account, with remainder from municipal income. Chester voted to donate \$200 toward SWA's budget. R. Snow personally paid HostRocket for the domain name and hosting fees through 2019.

**4. New Business**

**4.1 Open SWA BOD Position(s)**

Candidates were discussed. Candidates accepting a BOD request will be approved at BOD meeting and ratified at the quarterly meetings.

D. Cedarholm motions to ask Andy Morrill to join BOD; W. Arcieri seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 – 0.

An alternate will be sought for SWA representative of Hampton Falls.

An alternate for SWA representative of Exeter was discussed. Chris Albert will inquire.

Dave Cedarholm is an advocate of a town citizen being a representative for a town.

**4.2 Conflict of Interest – SWA Bylaws**

W. Arcieri distributed *NH Lives on Water's* conflict of interest policy. *NH Lives on Water* (a charitable trust) struggled with it significantly because some BOD members wanted to participate in projects developed by the organization. The resolution was reached by those

BOD members recusing themselves from BOD activities associated with projects they are involved with. SWA's bylaws restricts BOD members from participating in projects financially. R. Snow mentioned that SWA is a body corporate, so that the comparison isn't directly applicable, and he suggested approaching Attorney General about how to address the situation.

W. Arcieri sees SWA's wording as restricting BOD members from all activities associated with possible projects. D. Peschel does not read the "decision or activity" phrase as problematic. M. Trainque suggests composing a letter to the Attorney General's office. D. Cedarholm says we'd need to include a specific example. For example, if one of us was a web master, that would be a conflict. If one of us were to pursue an intermunicipal project, that would not be a conflict unless the BOD member were to participate in choosing the projects.

W. Arcieri offered to draft the letter. D. Peshel asked if the general membership would vote on rewording the conflict of interest language at a quarterly meeting. It was generally thought that would be appropriate. R. Snow stated that, since the statute says that we must approach the AG's office at the time of an intermunicipal agreement, we could ask about the conflict of interest wording when we approach them about the agreement; and could ask for a contact at the AG's Office.

The AG Office representative spoke at a meeting of *NH Lives On Water* about the topic of conflict of interest.

#### **4.3 Next SWA Quarterly Meeting**

To be held at the Lee Safety Complex. Brandon Kernan will present on the drought, and Julie LaBranche will update us on revisions to SWA's Draft Model Stormwater Ordinance. R. Snow noted that any changes that we'd make to a part quoted in EPA's MS4 regulations would be changing EPA regulations! This is useful to communicate to member towns, that EPA has referenced our existing documents.

M. Trainque asked Calle Metzco, research director for PREP to give a summary of PREP's State of the Estuaries report.

#### **4.4 Next BOD Meeting Date**

April 12, 2017

#### **4.5 Other New Business**

The next Seacoast Stormwater Coalition meeting is March 14, 2017. At least one SWA member plans to attend.

### **5. Old/Ongoing Business**

#### **5.1 Web Site**

A new page was added, titled Operations. On the home page, there are links to contacts for individuals that need to be updated. R. Snow set up emails for BOD members in various capacities to be posted to the website. D. Cedarholm will be noted as the webmaster. Deadline for comments on website is two weeks.

#### **5.2 Revisions to SWA Model Stormwater Regulations**

Julie LaChance has made further edits and will discuss them at the March 22, 2017 quarterly SWA meeting. W. Arcieri questioned SWA's recommended removal efficiency in the model ordinance. We could ask J. LaBranche about the basis of the numbers. Dick noted that EPA's

reference of the model ordinance language elevates that language's influence. M. Trainque noted that the documents are 'living', based on feedback from municipalities. W. Arcieri noted that SWA can't be less stringent than EPA in the bullets of its presentation. S. Frost suggested courtesy outreach to the EPA. D. Cedarholm questioned whether the bullets are true to the actual text.

### **5.3 Strategic Plan**

D. Cedarholm critiqued the Strategic Plan, its mission statement, and correlation of the mission with listed goals, urging the BOD to engage the motivated people in the watershed.

D. Peshel advocated an SWA goal of promoting interconnections between drinking water systems to the new MtBE commission, and involving subwatershed committees to participate in building an outline for an adaptive watershed management plan.

One of SWA's goals is to improve the water quality in Great Bay, which hasn't happened. Hard structural measures are needed to improve water quality in Great Bay. If EPA's line in the document distributed by R. Snow required participation in the SWA watershed management committee, that would be powerful in the goal of preparing an outline for an adaptive watershed management plan.

An updated list of members and BOD members on website is needed for the goal of expanding membership.

The goal for the next BOD meeting is to reorganize Section 6 (SWA priorities) of the Strategic Plan.

### **5.4 Next SWA Symposium**

Options include the State of the Watershed – what's happening in our subwatershed committees, what's happening with our Waste Water Treatment Plants, promote Public Drinking Water System interconnections. R. Snow suggested presenting about Stormwater Utilities. M. Trainque suggested that SWA could also take the lead on septic systems.

### **5.5 Other**

M. Trainque noted that two bills in Legislature (one in house, one in senate) to have NH become an administrative state for the CWA. The house bill suggests a study to determine how many people are needed to administer (NHDES indicated that it will take about 20 people). Maine has 11 people, has about the same number of permits, and an administrative cost of \$1.2 M.

M. Trainque suggested crowdfunding for SWA.

D. Peshel motioned for M, Trainque to write a letter of SWA support to use a portion of the MtBE settlement money for the purpose of designing and constructing interconnections between public water supplies in the state. C. Albert seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

## **6. Adjournment**

C. Albert motioned to adjourn, M. Trainque seconded, passed unanimously.