

NOTE: These Minutes are subject to Agency approval at next regular meeting.

Chester Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency

Regular Meeting, August 7, 2017

Page 1 of 6

1. Call to Order

The Chester Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency held its regular meeting on Monday, August 7, 2017, at the Chester Town Hall, 203 Middlesex Avenue, Chester, Connecticut. In attendance were Al Bisacky, Sally Sanders, Eric Davison, Bob Blair and Kris Seifert. Chairman Bisacky called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2. Minutes – July 10, 2017

Motion by Sanders, second by Blair, to approve July 10, 2017 Minutes as written. Approved with Blair and Seifert abstaining.

3. Audience of Citizens – none.

4. Continued Show Cause Hearing – Chester Airport, 61 Winthrop Road – unpermitted activity within review area

Amber Sarno from Shipman Goodwin introduced herself along with Jodi Chase, Roger Nemergut and Charlie Greeney. She submitted a copy of the status report. It was noted the upper plateau has been completed and is in good shape. It has been stabilized and planted and has no exposed soils.

Amber Sarno noted they began the lower excavation work and have excavated as much as possible for right now. Rich Snarski has looked at it. They have gotten down to the wetlands soils. They removed excavated materials from a very large level area at the base of the slope and stopped at that area. The wetland soils narrow down in that area and get very vegetated. They are ready to seed and mulch that area. They replaced all erosion controls lower down. New hay bales were put in where the old silt fence was. The straw waddles have been taken out because they have deteriorated. Those were replaced with hay bales. All erosion controls are in good shape. Water flowing from the area is very clear. They monitor after every rain event. They are ready to seed but wanted to run this by the Agency before doing that final step. Several photos were reviewed.

Amber Sarno noted with the seeding and mulching of the lower plateau, they felt they were in compliance with the original Order and have done all the tasks they were asked to do.

NOTE: These Minutes are subject to Agency approval at next regular meeting.

Chester Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency

Regular Meeting, August 7, 2017

Page 2 of 6

Chairman Bisacky reviewed the original Order and the 7 conditions.

Sally Sanders asked what kind of seeding will be used. It was noted they used New England Wetland Plants for the first batch of seeding. The plant list was reviewed. Jodi Chase noted they changed the seeds for the lower plateau to Ernest Seeds using a shade mix.

Chairman Bisacky asked if all that was left to do was the planting. Jodi Chase replied yes, seeding and mulching. Chairman Bisacky asked if the shrubs, etc. were planted in the upper area. Jodi Chase replied yes. They are doing well.

Photos 3, 4 and 5 of the lower outlet stream were reviewed.

Chairman Bisacky noted the only item not satisfied with the Order is the permanent drainage plan for the runway slope. Jodi Chase noted the next step is to seed.

Chairman Bisacky suggested not modifying the Order at this time. The property owner will come to the October meeting which would allow more time to get vegetation up.

5. Chester Airport, 61 Winthrop Road – unpermitted activity within review area
Roger Nemergut reviewed the plan for the south end of the runway. The shaded areas with the exception of the hill slope are the wetland areas identified by Rich Snarski and located by Dick Gates. The limits of the upland review zone were also shown on the plan. He reviewed the upland review area relating to the slope and redoing the service road. The shaded area of about 230' is where they will use the easy roll pavers. The balance of the service road would be processed aggregate and not paved. The road will be cross pitched to the west. It will not be a typical crown road that sheets from the center line in both directions. All of the flow on the road will be directed to the west into the runway area. The reason for this is that they are proposing a surface swale parallel to the service road about 10' off the service road into the west. This will collect the runoff from the sloped service road which pitches to the west as well as any runoff from the fill embankment for the runway. All of this is directed into an existing riprap lined sediment basin that has been there for about 10-15 years. It has been cleaned out and refurbished. It has an outlet that discharges across the service road which is readily accessible for clean out.

NOTE: These Minutes are subject to Agency approval at next regular meeting.

Chester Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency

Regular Meeting, August 7, 2017

Page 3 of 6

Roger Nemergut reviewed proposed grading noting there will be a 15' snow shelf at the top of the fill where the runway is. The top of the slope will be no less than 15' off the edge of the runway. The current snow shelf is essentially larger in some areas. Some of the areas of the top of the slope will be pushed closer to the runway. That is important because as the top moves to the west so does the toe. The toe needs to be as far from the wetland as possible. By doing that and removing that material at the top, that will pull the toe of the fill material substantially to the west from where it is now.

Roger Nemergut noted when the bulk of the fill slope is regraded it will be a 2 on 1 stable slope that will be topsoiled and seeded with an erosion control blanket to stabilize the seeding. He reviewed the 2 areas that would be steeper than a 2 on 1 slope.

Various symbols on the plan were reviewed. Mr. Nemergut also noted essentially in terms of the plan, they are going to take the existing toe and move it away from the wetland area west toward the runway and regrade the site in terms of something more stable than what it is now.

Chairman Bisacky asked if there were any environmental concerns. Amber Sarno noted 14 test pits were done last week. There were no surprises. They found similar material as what was on top (tree stumps, small debris, stone, soil, concrete). No bulk waste or C&D waste, nothing to be worried about. The next phase is to do the soil borings on the top portion. They need a special drill for that which was not going to be available until next week. Once the samples are sent out and received back, they will get a sense of whether or not there is any environmental issue to be concerned with based on the testing. DEEP is more concerned about whether there is anything in there that needs to be removed.

The issue of gravel pavers was reviewed. Roger Nemergut noted that has been part of the plan. The plan up until now has been preliminary waiting to hear what DEEP had to say. At this point, they consider the plan final. There is a detail on the back of the plan showing the easy roll pavers which is the service road within the upland review area.

NOTE: These Minutes are subject to Agency approval at next regular meeting.

Chester Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency

Regular Meeting, August 7, 2017

Page 4 of 6

Eric Davison noted he was concerned the pipe in the basin was not going to be changed. Roger Nemergut noted that has been in place a long time and there haven't been any issues. Mr. Davison noted there is no outlet protection on it. Mr. Nemergut noted he will take a look at that.

It was noted there has been no further response from any Deep River neighbors or the Deep River Wetlands Officer.

Agency members were polled regarding the plan. Seifert, Davison, Sanders and Bisacky were all in favor of the plan, dated 5/25/17 and that plan should be incorporated into the record as response to the Notice of Violation.

Amber Sarno noted they will return at the October meeting at which time hopefully everything will be complied with and have a response from DEEP.

Chairman Bisacky noted they can do the work discussed above without any further approvals from the Agency. Anna Sweeney should review the site prior to the meeting.

Chairman Bisacky did note, however, that if DEEP's response causes the plan to be modified, they will have to come back to the Agency.

It is noted for the record Bob Blair returned for the balance of the meeting.

6. #17-09 Town of Chester, 9 Parkers Point – Drainage Project

Jeff Jacobson, Town Engineer, was present. He distributed copies of the plan, noting copies of the application had been left in his office. He will see they are delivered to town hall tomorrow. Mr. Jacobson gave a brief overview of the project pointing out its location on Parker's Point Road. This is the area where the northern part of Goose Hill Road sloping down toward the Vet's and Eagle Landing all comes down across Route 154 and down Parker's Point Road. It then discharges on the south side of the Valley Railroad bed heading in a westerly direction for a short distance through an old stone arch culvert under a driveway that goes to the Moore property. This is actually a right-of-way through the Straub property.

Mr. Jacobson reviewed the pond and footbridge area on the Straub property. He also

NOTE: These Minutes are subject to Agency approval at next regular meeting.

Chester Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency

Regular Meeting, August 7, 2017

Page 5 of 6

reviewed and summarized 8 photos.

Mr. Jacobson noted the channel ranges from about 3' to 42" in width to about 2' deep. The banks are undercutting. The property owner cut down a tree because it was undermined and they were afraid it would come down near the house. Public Works would like to stabilize a portion of the channel which is 80' long with riprap and install a 24" diameter culvert across the wetlands.

Mr. Jacobson noted Rich Snarski was on site but was not able to flag it until today. He indicated the grass lawn area was wetland soil types. The channel is an intermittent watercourse. The predominant source of water is storm related.

Chairman Bisacky asked what the problem was that needed to be solved. Mr. Jacobson noted it was the undermining and undercutting of the banks and the close proximity to the house. Laura Straub has been complaining for years about the discharge and undercutting. There is a fair amount of sediment load in the pond. The Town periodically cleans that out.

Mr. Jacobson explained how the water traverses through this area. He also reviewed the area where the Moore's driveway goes through the Straub property.

There was further discussion on how the project would be done. Eric Davison asked if there was any way to do this without putting in 60' of pipe in the wetland. Mr. Jacobson noted Public Works Dept. had looked at the channel and felt a pipe would be easier to maintain. The Tree Warden also looked at the site and indicated the roots of the trees would have to be cut. Chairman Bisacky felt the velocity coming out of the pipe would be faster than it would be in the channel and there may be erosion issues at the outlet of the pipe. Eric Davison asked if the stream channel could be stabilized with riprap and remove the trees that would be a hazard. Chairman Bisacky asked if it could be a swale. Mr. Jacobson noted Public Works didn't want to do a swale, they want a pipe.

There was some discussion as to possible alternatives. Mr. Jacobson noted he would go back to the Town and indicate the Agency would like to see alternatives to the plan.

NOTE: These Minutes are subject to Agency approval at next regular meeting.

Chester Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency
Regular Meeting, August 7, 2017
Page 6 of 6

It was suggested a site walk would be beneficial. A site walk was scheduled for August 23rd at 6 PM. Mr. Jacobson also noted he would meet with Public Works to go over some of this discussion.

7. Regulations and Map Modifications – nothing new to report.

8. Wetland Compliance Officer's Report – none.

9. Correspondence – none.

10. Receipt of Applications After Posting of Agenda – none.

11. Any Other Business – none.

12. Adjournment

Motion by Seifert, second by Bisacky, to adjourn at 8:10 PM. Unanimously Approved.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judith R. Brown". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the text "Respectfully submitted,".

Judith R. Brown, Recording Secretary