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East Haddam Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Commission
Land Use Office

Regular Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2026

1. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the East Haddam Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Commission was called to order by Mr. Dill at 7:30 PM at the Municipal Office Complex.

2. Attendance

Members Present: Randolph Dill, David Walls, Toni Dumaine
Members Absent: Mary Augustiny, Daniel Jahne, Jennifer Burton-Reeve, Bryan Goff
Also Present: John Paul Garcia, Gary Rogers, Todd Gelston, Bernie Gillis, Robert Lewis, Jim Matschulat, Pat Young

Mr. Dill appointed Ms. Dumaine as a voting member to fill in for the other absent voting members.

3. Approval of Minutes

Remove the sentence that Ms. Dumaine was appointed as a voting member for Mr. Goff.

A motion by Mr. Walls to approve the January 20, 2026, minutes as amended. Seconded by Ms. Dumaine and unanimously approved.

4. Bills

No bills.

5. Field Inspection Report

No field walk held due to the snow.

6. Wetlands Permit Review

a. Application #25 – 21 Millington Road, Map 70, Lot 01, East Haddam Fish and Game, restoration of cold-water habitat in the Eightmile River.

Mr. Garcia provided an update on the items added to the plans. He also provided an update on the organizations that he reached out to and received additional information on. Mr. Matschulat provided an overview of the packet provided and which pools will be worked on during this section of the stream. Additional stream safeguards and construction precautions were also added to disturb as little as possible. Mr. Dill thanked him for the additional information and asked for clarification on the map on the more open wider stretches. They

provided additional information on the plan. Work will start just below Duck Pond and will move from upstream to downstream. The goal is to end each day with the upstream section of river fully completed. The work will be in the stream, with machinery in the steam which will be steam cleaned prior to the work beginning and well maintained, and type 3 turbidity curtains added. No woody material in the streams will be pulled out, as it is excellent habitat. Mr. Dill noted this is a new process and will only cover a portion of the river. Mr. Dill asked that if they want to do more work in the future, that they invite the Commission to see the both the work in progress now and also to see the results of the work. The goal is to create a cold water habitat in a river that has been disturbed over the past 300 years and requires a lot of that damage to be undone. Mr. Garcia noted that they would welcome the Commission to see the work in progress and also the results.
Mr. Matschulat noted that they were inclined to use turbidity curtains instead of coffer dams. Mr. Lewis noted there are ways to pulse the flow of changes to keep the turbidity at a minimum, which will be employed as needed.
Mr. Walls asked about the Army Corps of Engineering permitting. Mr. Garcia noted that if IWWC approves, then he and Mr. Ventres can work through the Army Corps of Engineering permitting process.
Mr. Dill asked Mr. Lewis about the protection of macro invertebrates that are disturbed and trout. Mr. Lewis noted he will be in the stream overseeing the work, and he is very, very sensitive to any disturbance to native plants and animals.

Motion by Mr. Dill to approve the Application #25 – 21 Millington Road, Map 70, Lot 01, East Haddam Fish and Game, restoration of cold-water habitat in the Eightmile River, work to be conducted in the dry period, with the conditions outlined during the discussions, the IWWC being on site at some point to see the work, with an email after every 1" rain occurrence to outline to the Land Use Office an update on the site. Seconded by Mr. Walls and unanimously approved.

b. Application #25 – 23 44 WM F Palmer Rd, Map 65, lot 138, East Haddam Fire Department, construction for new firehouse and demolition of existing.

Mr. Ventres informed the architect and engineer that due to the lack of an opportunity to conduct a field walk, the application will need to be continued. Mr. Dill asked about the first and last date; Mr. Ventres noted it would be a good idea for them to request an extension.

Motion by Mr. Dill to continue to the next meeting until a field walk can be scheduled for the Application #25-23 44 WM F Palmer Rd, Map Map 65, lot 138, East Haddam Fire Department, construction for new firehouse and demolition of existing. Seconded by Ms. Dumaine and unanimously approved.

c. Application #26-1 121 Hayward Road, Map 23, Lot 1 Donald Donner, construction of a pool in the upland review area.

Mr. Ventres noted this is an upland review and an A-2 survey available.

d. Motion by Mr. Dill to continue and schedule a field walk for Application #26-1 121 Hayward Road, Map 23, Lot 1 Donald Donner, construction of a pool in the upland review area. Seconded by Mr. Walls and unanimously approved.

7. Discussion

a. 26 Leesville Road (property location), Charles & Cathy Grillo (property owners). Map 052, Lot 032. Drainage issue

No new update to provide at this point, per Mr. Ventres.

b. Request of a permit extension. Estate of Wilson Brownell. Application #W19-01 194 EH Colchester Turnpike construction of a covered porch. Assessor's Map 66, Lot 417.

Mr. Ventres noted that this application was granted, and now is requesting an extension. The owners did not build the porch in the 5 years since it has been granted.

Motion by Mr. Dill to grant an extension of an additional 5 years to the granted permit for Application #W19-01 194 EH Colchester Turnpike construction of a covered porch. Seconded by Ms. Dumaine and unanimously approved.

8. IWWC Enforcement Officer's Report

a. Beebe Road – Molley Brook

The survey has been provided to Public Works but they have not had an opportunity to review and address yet. Mr. Dill asked if anyone has looked at the beaver deceivers, which have not yet.

b. Proposed forestry regulations

Nothing new to report.

9. Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Walls to adjourn the meeting at 8:03pm. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dumaine and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon A. Goyette
Recording Secretary