East Haddam Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Commission
Land Use Office

Regular Meeting Minutes
July 19, 2022

1. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the East Haddam Inland Wetland 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, Mary Augustiny, Daniel Jahne, Jennifer Burton-Reeve
Members Absent: Bryan Goff
Also Present: James Ventres (Land Use Administrator), Dennis Arvai, Ms. Arvai, Dave Wysocki, CT Sportsmen's Association Representative

3. Approval of Minutes

Tabled until the next meeting.

4. Bills

No bills presented.

5. Field Inspection Report

A field inspection was conducted on July 13, 2022, visiting two sites: 21 Triangle Drive and 135 Lakeside Drive. In attendance was Mr. Dill, Ms. Augustiny, Ms. Burton-Reeve, Mr. Jahne and Mr. Ventres.

6. Wetland Permits Review

a. #W22-14 – 135 Lakeside Drive (Bashan). Dennis Arvai (applicant & property owner). Proposed construction of an addition to the dock. Map 058, Lot 081.

Mr. Ventres noted the request is for a 16 x 14 permanent dock and provided pictures. He provided an overview of how the dock will be installed (via machine that drives it in). Mr. Dill asked Mr. Arvai for further information on the construction. Mr. Arvai noted the dock itself will be pressure treated lumber with 2x10 joists. Mr. Dill noted that there is always a concern when pressure treated lumber is used as it requires maintenance. Mr. Arvai noted the existing dock has been in place for 25 years. As this is a permanent dock, the commissioners asked for clarity on how it will be maintained. Mr. Arvai noted that it will be stained and maintained upon the lake draw-down which will eliminate stain from dropping into the water. In addition, he noted that he has put down a tarp to catch any drips and will do so in the

future. Mr. Dill noted that if in the future the dock is removed, the metal pipes that are driven into the ground will need to be removed as well to ensure they do not become a safety hazard. Ms. Augustiny asked for a more comprehensive plan outlining the lake front, with a description on how it will be maintained, when it will be done, what preventative measures will be taken to protect the substrate, etc. Mr. Ventres noted he can provide a GIS map to the applicant, to enable the applicant to provide further information for the future.

Motion by Ms. Augustiny to continue the application #W22-14 – 135 Lakeside Drive (Bashan). Dennis Arvai (applicant & property owner). Proposed construction of an addition to the dock. Map 058, Lot 081. Second by Mr. Jahne and unanimously approved.

b. #W22-07 – Dolbia Hill Road West, Town of East Haddam (applicant & property owner). Proposed replacement of culvert. Map 024, Lot 001.

Mr. Ventres noted that he is waiting for a diagram from the engineer.

Motion by Ms. Augustiny to continue application #W22-07 – Dolbia Hill Road West, Town of East Haddam (applicant & property owner). Proposed replacement of culvert. Map 024, Lot 001. Second by Ms. Burton-Reeve and unanimously approved.

c. W#20-21 – 304 Town Street, Fedus Engineering (applicant), Richard M. Lagace (property owner). Proposed construction of a multi-family dwelling with parking area, septic system, well, underground electric and drainage improvements with infiltration system. Map 018, Lot 043.

Mr. Ventres received an email noting the applicant would like to withdraw the application until the septic system is addressed.

Motion by Mr. Dill to accept the application withdrawal for W#20-21 – 304 Town Street, Fedus Engineering (applicant), Richard M. Lagace (property owner). Proposed construction of a multi-family dwelling with parking area, septic system, well, underground electric and drainage improvements with infiltration system. Map 018, Lot 043. Second by Mr. Jahne and unanimously approved.

d. W#22-13 – 21 Triangle Drive, Ms. Pamela C. Sullivan (property owner & applicant). Proposed construction for a dock. Map 076, Lot 023. Moodus Reservoir

Mr. Ventres noted the applicant has provided a diagram for a dock that is 24 feet out and is 14 feet wide at the end. Mr. Dill noted that as there is no sketch showing where the dock is in relation to the property line, the owner will need to provide pictures or a sketch of that for the file upon completion. Mr. Dill clarified the sketch, the dock is 24 feet long, and the width of this from the shore is 4 feet, with the piece on the end being 6x10 feet (this is an add on). Mr. Dill asked Mr. Ventres to request additional clarification to the sketch so that it is clearer for the record. The dock is aluminum.

Motion by Ms. Burton-Reeve to approve the application W#-22-11 – 21 Triangle Drive, Ms. Pamela C. Sullivan (property owner & applicant). Proposed construction for a dock, with

pictures sent to the Land Use office after the dock has been installed, and with a more complete waterfront in position of the dock be included in the plan submitted. Map 076, Lot 023. Second by Mr. Jahne and unanimously approved.

7. SHOW CAUSE HEARING - #W22-11 – Silas Holmes Road, CT Sportsmen's Association (applicant & property owner). Replace existing piping. Map 019, Lot 031

Dave Wysocki, CT Sportsmen's Association Representative, provided an overview of the need to replace the pipe with a bigger pipe. There is an emergency spillway that the association keeps mowed and clear to keep it in good working order.

Mr. Dill outlined that during the field walk, there was quite a bit of activity which made it hard for the commissioners to understand what work was being addressed. It was not just the pipes being addressed, and the original plan provided to Mr. Ventres had not been followed. Part of the Commission's concern is that there has been no response from the association. In addition, there was machinery out there and it looked like further clearing was being done. Discussion ensued related to the other work that has been done and where the wetlands are on the property.

Mr. Ventres marked out the area so that it was clear what was wetlands and what was not wetlands. Mr. Wysocki noted that the federal government (NISC) provided grants and direction on clearing and opening fields for habitat improvement. The commissioners were concerned that there was more work being completed in the wetlands without IWWC knowledge or approval.
The representative noted the drainage is solved now.

Mr. Ventres has seen the property since the habitat has been put into place. The area being turned back into field has been allowed to grow into pheasant hunting habitat land. The focus is to cut that field in the spring, with the grass allowed to grow up to provide pheasant and other wildlife habitat. Mr. Dill received clarification from Mr. Ventres as to where the wetlands are and the area the field walk covered.

The representative articulated he understood what the IWWC's concern was.
Mr. Ventres noted to make the changes official, the IWWC could approve the modified plans and note that if any additional work occurs it will be reviewed by the Commission.

A motion was made by Mr. Dill to approve the existing work has been completed, with the understanding no further work will be done in the wetlands or with the pipes unless the Association submits and application to IWWC for review and approval. In addition, the Association will provide a photograph of the work that has been completed and provide to the Land Use Office for the official record. Seconded by Ms. Burton-Reeve and unanimously approved.

8. IWWC Enforcement Officer's Report

- Mr. Ventres has not heard anything from proposed sub-division on Lake Hayward.
- Mr. Dill noted that he has reached out to recruit a new IWWC member who lives on Lake Hayward, but since she winters in Texas, she cannot join the commission.

- Mr. Ventres noted that Mr. Curtis is still working on the Dolbia Hill and the reservoir applications. He noted that everyone is swamped and overloaded.

- Ms. Augustiny asked about the sub-division that P&Z just approved to determine if bottom of it has been addressed with The Nature Conservancy. Mr. Ventres noted that it is not a big enough sub-division to require open space to be set aside.

- East Haddam Fish and Game are not focused on the streams right now. The commissioners discussed the best time for a field walk would be in the wintertime.

9. Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Burton-Reeve to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jahne and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon A. Goyette
Recording Secretary