



Franklin Regional Council of Governments

Franklin Regional Planning Board Executive Committee Minutes

February 1, 2016, 2:30 p.m.

*John W. Olver Transit Center, 12 Olive Street
2nd Floor Library, Greenfield*

Attendance

FRPB Executive Committee Members

S. Lovejoy, 1st Vice Chair
T. Miner, 2nd Vice Chair
T. Cady
G. Walker
T. Hutcheson
J. Basford

FRCOG Staff

Peggy Sloan, Director of Planning & Development

Actions

S. Lovejoy called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. The FRPB Executive Committee reviewed the minutes for the previous meeting.

The FRPB Executive Committee reviewed the agenda items for the March and requested a presentation on the MBI Broad Band project if an update will be available on how the State is proceeding with the funding. Other possibilities, if a presentation on the Broadband Project is not possible, include the South River Watershed Project, the former International Paper Mill Feasibility Study prepared for the Town of Erving by Tighe & Bond, or the Renewable Wood Heat Sustainable Supply Study for the Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership Project. Also requested were updates on the proposed Kinder Morgan-TGP pipeline and the Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Facility FERC Relicensing.

With respect to the proposed Kinder Morgan-TGP NED pipeline project, the company submitted an Application to FERC on November 20, 2015. The FRCOG Executive submitted to FERC a request for Intervenor Status on January 4, 2016 and an Evidentiary Hearing on the need for the NED Pipeline on January 15, 2016. In addition, the FRCOG is assisting four towns with procuring a consultant(s) to conduct special studies on road and infrastructure impacts as well as potential effects on drinking water supplies and aquifers from the construction of the pipeline. Related to the NED pipeline project, the MA DPU is holding a Public Hearing on March 30, 2016 related to TGP's request for access to conduct surveys on the properties of 420 private landowners that have refused to allow survey access.

The Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership project is entering the next phase. The Plan has been completed and the Advisory Committee has prepared a Draft Business Plan and Governance Structure. Regional Information sessions have been completed and staff are currently conducting community meetings.

With respect to the relicensing process for the Northfield Pumped Storage facility and the Cabot Station generators, the FRPB's CRSEC is collaborating with State and regional organizations to focus on the 401 Water Quality Permit that the State must issue. The CRWC, FRCOG staff, CRSEC members, towns and other regional organizations met with EOEEA Secretary Beaton in January to present key issues and concerns.

Votes

The minutes of January 4, 2016 were moved by G. Walker. T. Cady seconded the motion. Minutes approved. J. Basford & T. Hutcheson abstained.

G. Walker moved to adjourn. T. Cady seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.