



# Franklin Regional Council of Governments

## Franklin Regional Planning Board Executive Committee Minutes

July 11, 2016

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

### Attendance

#### FRPB Executive Committee Members

J. Lund, Chair  
S. Lovejoy, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair  
T. Miner, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair  
J. Rockwell, Clerk  
J. Basford  
T. Cady  
G. Walker  
T. Hutcheson

#### FRCOG Staff

Peggy Sloan, Director of Planning & Development

### Actions

J. Lund 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 September FRPB meeting and requested presentations on Last Mile Broadband and the Millers River Watershed project. Also requested were updates on the Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Facility FERC Relicensing, Zoning Reform and the FERC permitting process.

The FRPB Executive Committee reviewed a Draft letter that outlines the deficiencies of the FERC process and provided suggested revisions. The letter will next be submitted to the FRCOG Executive Committee for their review and approval.

The FRPB Executive Committee discussed the State Energy Bill and requested staff to prepare a Draft letter identifying positive features in the Energy Bill but opposing any tariff on electric ratepayers to subsidize the construction of a natural gas pipeline.

Community meetings have been completed for the Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership project and Draft State legislation to establish a Special Designation for the 21-town region has been prepared and submitted to our local legislative delegation. All eleven towns in Franklin County have provided letters of support.

With respect to the relicensing process for the Northfield Pumped Storage facility and the Cabot Station generators, T. Miner stated that a meeting with the CRWC and other stakeholders is being planned to discuss the closed loop option, meaning there would be a new lower reservoir created and the Connecticut River would be completely separate from the operation.

The FRPB Executive Committee discussed the FRPB meeting schedule and will consider changes at the next meeting.

**Votes**

The minutes of June 6, 2016 were moved by S. Lovejoy. T. Hutcheson seconded the motion. Minutes approved unanimously.

T. Miner moved to approve the Draft FERC process letter incorporating suggested changes. J. Rockwell seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

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