



Franklin Regional Council of Governments

Franklin Regional Planning Board Executive Committee Minutes

April 6, 2015, 2:30 p.m.

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

Attendance

FRPB Executive Committee Members

Jerry Lund, Chair

Jim Basford

Ted Cady

T. Miner, 2nd Vice Chair/Clerk

S. Lovejoy, 1st Vice Chair

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 April 2015 Franklin Regional Planning Board meeting and requested presentations on the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, including an update on the Regional Broadband project, and Regional Resources available to Towns for Emergencies from the Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council. Also requested were updates on the proposed Kinder Morgan pipeline and Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Facility FERC Relicensing.

Staff provided updates on the DCR Forestry Project. The Draft Plan has been completed and regional meetings to present the plan are expected to be held early summer.

The FRPB Executive Committee reviewed a Draft letter to the Governor related to the proposed KM/TGP pipeline project and will provide comments to staff. The Draft letter will be sent to L. Dunlavy and the FRCOG Executive Committee after revisions are incorporated for their review. The FRCOG has established a Regional Pipeline Advisory Committee based on town requests for technical assistance related to the pipeline. The purpose of the Committee is to provide information on the FERC process to potentially impacted towns and to facilitate information exchanges. A Draft Scope of Work is being prepared for Regional Pipeline Advisory Committee members and towns to consider for technical assistance from the FRCOG and legal services needed. FRPB Executive Committee members suggested contacting UMASS or Western New England legal programs to see if they may be able to provide free or reduced cost legal services.

T. Miner reported that CRSEC submitted comments to FirstLight regarding deficiencies in the QAPP and the field data collected during the river reconnaissance to determine streambank erosion and stabilization projects needed.

The FRPB Executive Committee discussed C. Olchowski's request to get involved in the FERC relicensing of the Bear Swamp Pumped Storage Project related to recreational facilities. Given the two other FERC processes that staff are working on, the Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Facility and the proposed Kinder Morgan gas pipeline, there is no funding or staff capacity available to work on another project. S. Lovejoy will call C. Olchowski to discuss whether he can spend some time preparing comments.

At the next FRPB Executive Committee meeting a Nominating Committee will need to be appointed for Annual Elections. Suggestions for Nominating Committee members for the 2015-16 Annual FRPB Elections are G. Walker, B. Allen and J. Basford.

Votes

The minutes of March 2, 2015 were moved by J. Basford. S. Lovejoy seconded the motion. Minutes unanimously approved.

T. Cady moved to adjourn. T. Miner seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.