



Franklin Regional Council of Governments

Executive Committee—*MINUTES*

Date & Time:	Thursday, August 9, 2018/ 5:00 p.m.
Location:	FRCOG Offices, 12 Olive Street, Greenfield, MA – Room 218
Facilitator:	Bill Perlman, Outgoing Chair; Jay DiPucchio, Newly Elected Chair

Representatives Present:

- Jay DiPucchio, Regionally Elected
- Bill Perlman, Regionally Elected
- Kevin Fox, Council Appointed
- Jim Basford, FRPB Appointee

Staff Members Present:

- Linda Dunlavy, Executive Director
- Kimberly MacPhee, Natural Resources Planner

1. Reorganize the Executive Committee

Bill P. opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m. with committee reorganization.

Bill explained that the FRCOG Bylaws do not allow Bill to remain Chair for another year.

Jim B. nominated Jay DiPucchio for the office Chair, Kevin F. seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Jim B. nominated Bill Perlman for the office of Vice Chair, Kevin F. seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Jim B. nominated Kevin Fox for the office of Clerk/Secretary, Kevin F. seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Review and adopt 7.12.18 Executive Committee minutes

Bill P. moved adoption of the 7.12.18 minutes. Kevin F. seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Review and Discussion of Connecticut River Conservancy’s Letter requesting additional information and alternative analysis for the Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Facility

Kimberly explained that the CRC has drafted a comprehensive letter recommending an alternatives analysis for the Northfield Pumped Storage Facility including use of a closed loop system, which would alleviate erosion issues. She asked for approval to write a letter supporting the CRC’s request and perhaps expanding with additional points such as the need for additional recreational facilities on the river and accessible access to the river and related facilities. Kimberly noted that there would be time for her to draft the letter and have the Executive Committee approve it in September.

Jim B. made a motion to authorize Kimberly to draft a letter supporting and expanding on the Connecticut River Conservancy's request for an alternatives analysis before relicensing and certification of the Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Facility. Kevin F. seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

4. Discussion of Transit Center lease, possible renegotiation and understanding of financial obligations

Linda reminded members that, after a meeting with the FRTA a few months ago, she was under the impression that once earmarks held by the FRTA were spent out, all future capital costs would be shared between the FRCOG and FRTA in the proportion outlined in the lease. As a result and at the instruction of both the Executive and Finance Committees, Linda asked the FRTA for a long-term capital replacement plan and a summary of annual capital expenditures to date. After the 3rd request, the FRTA informed Linda that the FRCOG was not responsible for future capital improvements – capital improvements would be the responsibility of the building owner. Linda then drafted a memo to the FRTA outlining this understanding and asked the Administrator to sign the memo. The Administrator was unwilling to do that because while that is her understanding, the lease is complicated. Linda and the Administrator discussed renegotiating the lease, which could include changing the relationship between the FRTA and FRCOG or changing the payment structure or jointly hiring an attorney to interpret the existing lease to determine next steps.

Linda discussed these options with Committee members. Committee members agreed that the changing message about the responsibility of future capital costs was confusing and concerning.

The Committee instructed Linda, with Jim B. making a motion and Kevin F. seconding, to hire an attorney with no pre-existing history with either organization or the lease to review and interpret the lease and to figure out the FRCOG's interests and vulnerabilities. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Business Not Reasonably Anticipated 48 Hours in Advance

Jim B. made a motion to adjourn. Kevin F. seconded. Meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Documents Distributed:

- Agenda
- 7.12.18 draft Executive Committee minutes
- Letter to Federal Energy Regulatory Commissioners from the Connecticut River Conservancy Requesting Additional Information and a Northfield Mountain Alternatives Analysis re: the Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Project No. 2485-063; Turners Falls Project No. 1889-081.