



BASIN WATER QUALITY COUNCIL

APRIL 30, 2026, 3:00 PM

MEETING DETAILS

Virtual: [Microsoft Teams](#), ID: 28945081456069, Pass: pK7gE2cG

In-Person: RRPC, 16 Evelyn Street, Second Floor, Rutland, VT 05701

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Members: Erin Rodgers, Adam Lougee, Andrew L'Roe, Paul Donaldson, Sarah Pelkey, Katy Crumley, Shayne Jaquith, Dan Redondo, and Rob Terry.

Other: Devon Neary (RRPC), Vicki Pattison-Willits (PMNRCD), Hilary Solomon (PMNRCD), and Chris Rottler (DEC).

Public Present: Jeremy Jones (Lake St Catherine Association/subgrantee on the Lochlea Lane application), Glora Weber (LSCA, Lochlea Lane Property Owner), Mark Shea (LSCA, Lochlea Lane Property Owner), Katie Stiles (RNRC/Austin Pond Property Owner), Jordan Duffy (FEA/Austin Pond Engineer), Eric Hagan (Arrowwood/Mettowee Community School Consultant)

MEETING MINUTES

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order by Chair Rodgers at 3:05 PM.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 30, 2026, AGENDA

Motion to approve the April 30, 2026, agenda by Jaquith, with a change of project order for scheduling purposes. Seconded by Rodgers. Approved by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 29, 2026, MINUTES

Motion to table the approval of January 29, 2025, minutes by Jaquith with the addition of the project name in the minutes. Seconded by Lougee. Approved by voice vote. The approval of the September 2025 minutes was also tabled until next meeting.

Approval was previously postponed as several members noted the minutes had not been circulated in advance. As the minutes were again unavailable prior to this meeting, approval was deferred to the next meeting to allow time for review. Members were reminded that meeting materials are available online; however, it was requested that meeting minutes be distributed by email ahead of the next meeting for review.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

No public comment at this time.

REVIEW OF NEW PROJECTS

Mettawee Community School Wetland Restoration Implementation – Solomon introduced the wetland restoration project with partners Merk Forest and Farmland, Mettawee Community School, and consultant Arrowwood Environmental. The project type is riparian/wetland planting with no-mow zones with a total project area of 7.84 acres at a project cost of \$83,632.20 with a phosphorus reduction of 3.687 kg per year. The projects total score was 67.5. Arrowwood staff Eric Hagan provided an overview of the project including the project map and details on the prospective plant species and combatting invasives.

Motion by Jaquith to accept the Mettawee Community School Wetland Restoration Project as presented. Seconded by Redondo. Approved by voice vote.

Lochlea Lane Stormwater Implementation – Solomon introduced the stormwater project with private landowner partners Gloria Weber and Mark Shea present to support the project. The project type is stormwater through biofiltration and drainage stabilization with a project cost of \$58,000 to reduce phosphorus at 1.58 kg per year. The project total score was 67. Weber and Shea both spoke in favor of the project and highlighted some of the ongoing stormwater impacts to the properties. Jaquith questioned the Council's ability to weigh in on policy considerations, such as project eligibility. Jaquith questioned why this project was eligible as a stormwater project given the developed lands aspect, but the Butler Gully project was not eligible. Rottler responded that this project was stormwater versus gully, which is typically not eligible unless its part of development lands, and further explained the distinction in VTDEC policy. Jaquith also asked about how the project will be maintained on private property and Solomon explained the on-going Operations and Maintenance agreements that are connected to these projects. **Motion by Lougee to accept the Lochlea Land Stormwater Implementation project as presented. Seconded by Redondo. Approved by voice vote.**

Austin Pond River Planting/Wetland Restoration – Solomon introduced the river planting/wetland restoration project. The project type is a river planting with partners The Nature Conservancy, Fitzgerald Environmental, DEC, and private landowners. The project cost is \$226,834 for an average phosphorus reduction of 17.7 kg per year. The project total score was 84.5. Solomon discussed the project implementation strategy that will include planting over several planting seasons as the pond is drained and soil is solidified for planting. Duffy provided an overview of the map and design and mentioned that the challenge will be combatting invasive knotweed and beavers. The Council discussed the implementation schedule and costs, considering this is a multi-year project. Stiles, an adjoining landowner and owner of the dam to be removed, spoke in favor of the project. Solomon disclosed that

there is a portion of the project, formerly the pond, that is currently “unowned”. Jaquith mentioned that TNC attorneys researched the issue and found that it would not be an issue. The surrounding landowners have been contacted and are in favor of the project. Neary mentioned that the CWSP is willing to take on the risk. **Motion by Redondo to accept the Austin Pond River Planting/Wetland Restoration project as presented. Seconded by Rodgers. Approved by voice vote with Crumley and Jaquith abstaining.**

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 4:29 PM.