



New Hampshire Council on Resources and Development

MINUTES – June 13, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT

Joseph Doiron, Designee, Department of Business and Economic Affairs, Chair
John Martin, Designee, Department of Health and Human Services
Shawn Jasper, Designee, Department of Agriculture
Patrick Hackley, Designee, Department of Natural and Cultural Resources
Amy Clark, Designee, Department of Education
Jared Nylund, Designee, Department of Administrative Services
Stephen LaBonte, Designee, Department of Transportation
Betsey McNaughten, Designee, NH Fish & Game
Jack Ruderman, New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority

MEMBERS ABSENT

Adam Crepeau, Designee, Department of Environmental Services
Mark E. Doyle, Designee, Department of Safety

OTHER PARTICIPANTS

Heather Shank, Department of Business and Economic Affairs, OPD (CORD Staff)
Allen Brooks, CORD Attorney, Attorney General’s Office, Department of Justice
Steve Walker, NH Conservation Land Stewardship Program
Allen Wyman, Department of Agriculture
Chris Aslin, Attorney General’s Office, Department of Justice
Crystal Bascom, Bascom Maple Farms
Greg Bascom, Bascom Maple Farms
Mike Carleton, Water Industries
James Herrick, Herrick Consulting

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was opened at 3 pm by Chair Doiron.

MINUTES

Approval of May 9, 2024 meeting minutes.

May 9th, 2024 minutes were reviewed, no changes were made.

MOTION: *On a motion by Mr. Jasper, seconded by Mr. Martin, the May 9th, 2024 minutes were approved as presented, unanimously.*

LAND CONSERVATION INVESTMENT PROGRAM (LCIP)

Bascom Maple Farm, LLC in Acworth, NH requests an amendment to their conservation easement to allow a wastewater system to be placed within the easement area. The

51 **assigned agency, the Department of Agriculture, Markets, and Food, refers the matter to**
52 **CORD.**

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54 Mr. Bascom summarized his request and explained that this is an updated system, to be placed
55 in the same location as the previous system but will be expanded.
56

57 Mr. Aslin summarized the DOJ position. He noted that the language of the easement is vague
58 and could be interpreted either strictly to not allow the request, or more generally to be
59 consistent. He stated that CORD would need to determine if the intent of the easement would
60 be upheld in granting the request.

61
62 Mr. Nylund questioned whether the requested use was agriculture. Mr. Aslin noted that the
63 septic is considered agriculture because it is serving an agricultural use. The residential use the
64 system also serves is not expanding.

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66 Ms. McNaughten asked if the existing system could be left in place to minimize disturbance. Mr.
67 Herrick, representing Herrick Consulting on behalf of the property owner, noted that the same
68 disturbed area was to be used for the new system.

69
70 Ms. Clark asked if anything would be added to the system for treatment. Mr. Herick noted that
71 the sweetwater waste needed to be treated regarding pH to be released back into the ground.

72
73 Mr. Jasper asked if the area would continue to be hayed. Mr. Herrick noted that grass would
74 continue to grow there. Mr. Jasper also asked about the size of the increase. Mr. Herrick
75 indicated it would be about 2.5 times the size of the existing system.

76
77 Ms. McNaughten asked about the life expectancy of the tanks. Mr. Herrick noted that they were
78 fiberglass and would be very long lasting.

79
80 **MOTION:** *Mr. Hackley made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ruderman, to approve the request by*
81 *Bascom Maple Farms to upgrade the septic and sweetwater system as consistent with the*
82 *terms of the easement.*

83
84 Mr. Doiron asked if there was any discussion.

85
86 **DISCUSSION:** Mr. Nylund questioned whether there was any assurance that the use would be
87 considered agricultural in perpetuity if the buildings which it serves changed to a non-agricultural
88 use. Mr. Aslin noted that there was not, since the buildings are not on the easement land, and
89 their use is not defined or limited in the existing language.

90
91 Mr. Jasper stated that he disagreed with the opinion that the use could be expanded.

92
93 **MOTION:** *Mr. Jasper made a motion to amend the previous motion to include the condition that*
94 *the expansion of the system be used only for agricultural purposes. Ms. McNaughten seconded.*

95
96 **DISCUSSION:** Mr. Aslin noted that the group needed to first vote to amend the motion and could
97 then vote on a new motion.

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99 The group continued to discuss whether any condition should be added to the motion, since the
100 original document did not prohibit any uses of the buildings. Mr. Aslin clarified that the matter

101 before the group is whether the request is consistent with the easement, not whether the
102 language of the easement is satisfactory as is.

103
104 Ms. Clark had to leave the meeting at 3:50 pm.

105
106 Mr. Nylund suggested a new motion that states CORD's assumption that the uses would remain
107 agriculture, without making it a condition.

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109 **MOTION:** *Mr. Nylund made a motion to amend the previous motion. Mr. Jasper seconded. The*
110 *motion passed unanimously.*

111
112 **MOTION:** *Mr. Nylund made a motion to approve the septic and sweetwater system upgrade and*
113 *expansion as proposed by Bascom Maple Farms, with the understanding that the existing non-*
114 *residential buildings remain in agricultural use. Mr. Jasper seconded. The motion passed*
115 *unanimously.*

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117
118 **OTHER BUSINESS**

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120 Mr. Doiron announced that the next Regular Meeting is August 8, 2024, from 3 to 4 pm.

121
122 Mr. Doiron announced that the SLR application deadline for the August CORD meeting is July
123 2nd, 2024. He also noted that there must be a representative from the agency to speak about
124 the SLR being presented.

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126 *Mr. Doiron adjourned the meeting at 3:55 pm.*