



New Hampshire Council on Resources and Development

DRAFT 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

MEMBERS ABSENT

- Adam Crepeau, Designee, Department of Environmental Services
- Jared Nylund, Designee, Department of Administrative Services

OTHER PARTICIPANTS

- Heather Shank, Department of Business and Economic Affairs, OPD (CORD Staff)
- 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 Grantee, the Department of Agriculture, Markets, and Food, refers the matter to CORD.

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

53
54 Mr. Aslin summarized the DOJ position. He noted that the language of the easement is vague
55 and could be interpreted either strictly to not allow the request, or more generally to be
56 consistent. He stated that CORD would need to determine if the intent of the easement would
57 be upheld in granting the request.

58
59 Mr. Nylund questioned whether the requested use was agriculture. Mr. Aslin noted that the
60 septic is considered agriculture because it is serving an agricultural use. The residential use the
61 system also serves is not expanding.

62
63 Ms. McNaughten asked if the existing system could be left in place to minimize disturbance. Mr.
64 Herrick, representing Herrick Consulting on behalf of the property owner, noted that the same
65 disturbed area was to be used for the new system.

66
67 Ms. Clark asked if anything would be added to the system for treatment. Mr. Herick noted that
68 the sweetwater waste needed to be treated regarding pH to be released back into the ground.

69
70 Mr. Jasper asked fi the area would continue to be hayed. Mr. Herrick noted that grass would
71 continue to grow there. Mr. Jasper also asked about the size of the increase. Mr. Herrick
72 indicated it would be about 2.5 times the size of the existing system.

73
74 Ms. McNaughten asked about the life expectancy of the tanks. Mr. Herrick noted that they were
75 fiberglass and would be very long lasting.

76
77 **MOTION:** *Mr. Hackley made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ruderman, to approve the request by*
78 *Bascom Maple Farms to upgrade the septic and sweetwater system as consistent with the*
79 *terms of the easement.*

80
81 Mr. Doiron asked if there was any discussion.

82
83 **DISCUSSION:** Mr. Nylund questioned whether there was any assurance that the use would be
84 considered agricultural in perpetuity if the buildings which it serves changed to a non-agricultural
85 use. Mr. Aslin noted that there was not, since the buildings are not on the easement land, and
86 their use is not defined or limited in the existing language.

87
88 Mr. Jasper stated that he disagreed with the opinion that the use could be expanded.

89
90 **MOTION:** *Mr. Jasper made a motion to amend the previous motion to include the condition that*
91 *the expansion of the system be used only for agricultural purposes. Ms. McNaughten seconded.*

92
93 **DISCUSSION:** Mr. Aslin noted that the group needed to first vote to amend the motion and could
94 then vote on a new motion.

95
96 The group continued to discuss whether any condition should be added to the motion, since the
97 original document did not prohibit any uses of the buildings. Mr. Aslin clarified that the matter
98 before the group is whether the request is consistent with the easement, not whether the
99 language of the easement is satisfactory as is.

100
101 Ms. Clark had to leave the meeting at 3:50 pm.

102
103 Mr. Nylund suggested a new motion that states CORD’s assumption that the uses would remain
104 agriculture, without making it a condition.

105
106 **MOTION:** *Mr. Nylund made a motion to amend the previous motion. Mr. Jasper seconded. The*
107 *motion passed unanimously.*

108
109 **MOTION:** *Mr. Nylund made a motion to approve the septic and sweetwater system upgrade and*
110 *expansion as proposed by Bascom Maple Farms, with the understanding that the existing non-*
111 *residential buildings remain in agricultural use. Mr. Jasper seconded. The motion passed*
112 *unanimously.*

113
114
115 **OTHER BUSINESS**

116
117 Mr. Doiron announced that the next Regular Meeting is August 8, 2024, from 3 to 4 pm.

118
119 Mr. Doiron announced that the SLR application deadline for the August CORD meeting is July
120 2nd, 2024. He also noted that there must be a representative from the agency to speak about
121 the SLR being presented.

122
123 *Mr. Doiron adjourned the meeting at 3:55 pm.*