

Jefferson Conservation Commission  
Minutes  
21 January 2025

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM, and a quorum of Nancy Decourcey, Charles Muller, and David Govatski were present. Jamie Savage was unable to attend. David Passios of Jefferson, Leah Hart of Lancaster, Luke Hurley of Epsom, Judy Dearborn, and Ed Clark of Carroll attended the meeting.
2. The November Minutes were approved. (No December meeting due to the holidays).
3. Luke Hurley, Wetland Scientist from Hurley Environmental in Epsom, NH, delivered a presentation on an after-the-fact wetlands permit for a culvert installation to access a field along the Israel River Road. The permit application was complete, and the commission raised no issues.
4. Israel River – Carter Cut Bridge issue. David Passios provided an update on his meetings with Kelly Eggleston of the Natural Resource Conservation Service about advising what to do with the build-up of gravel by the Carter Cut Bridge. David Passios contacted the Connecticut River Conservancy, which is looking into solutions. The JCC asked to be notified of any reports or site visits so we could have a representative present. Ed Clark mentioned that John Field, a fluvial geomorphologist, will have an information meeting on a similar situation on the Ammonoosuc River in May.
5. We discussed the new municipal solar installation and the status of two grant applications. The town is still paying for electricity but at a much lower cost than before the panels were installed. We believe that the late start of electrical production in 2024 is why we don't have a surplus of energy credits, but this will likely change in 2025 when we have the advantage of full production from long spring and summer days.
6. Kristina von Dohrmann of Jefferson is possibly interested in joining the board and will attend the February meeting.
7. We submitted the 2024 annual report for the Town Annual Report.
8. Commission members discussed the need to update the sightings of all amphibians and reptiles for the Natural Resource Inventory and the NHFG RAARP program.
9. Leah Hart from the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests made a presentation on the work of SPNHF in the North Country. Leah lives in Lancaster and works with forest stewardship and landowner educational programs.
10. There was no other new business.
11. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.
12. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 18 February 2025.

David Govatski drafted these minutes on 22 January 2025