



**Executive Board Minutes  
January 9, 2024**

**Location:** Remote meeting via Zoom.

**Members Present:** Gabby Ciuffreda, Chair; Steve Lembke, Bonnie North, Jack Cunningham; Jim Pinkerton, Tim Arsenault,

**Absent:** Ann Golob, Carolyn Partridge, Stephan Chait

**Staff present:** Chris Company, Executive Director; Matt Bachler

**Public/Guests:** none

**Presenter:** none

**Call to Order:** Commissioner Gabby Ciuffreda, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

**Additions/Changes to Agenda:** none

**Secretary's Report:** On a motion by Commissioner Lembke, seconded by Commissioner Cunningham, the November 14, 2023 minutes were approved with one abstention. Chris was asked if there had been any activity with an Act 250 appeal by the Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission that was discussed at the November meeting and Chris said there had been no activity with a related request for the WRC to engage.

**Putney Town Plan Approval and Planning Process Confirmation:** Chair Ciuffreda introduced the Putney Town Plan and the Planning Coordination Committee's recommendation for approval. On a motion by Commissioner Cunningham, seconded by Commissioner Arsenault, the Putney Town Plan was approved by a unanimous vote.

On a motion by Commissioner Arsenault, seconded by Commissioner Cunningham, the Putney planning process was confirmed.

**Executive Director's Report:** Chris explained that he had been asked to testify before Senate and House committees on flooding and transportation infrastructure, and flood hazard and river corridor policy. Commissioner Lembke asked if Chris could let the Executive Board know when he would be testifying in case any member wanted to observe. Chris said he would do so going forward, noting that sometimes he was asked with little notice. He provided an update on the Municipal Technical Assistance Program, explaining that it appeared the range of projects that might qualify for direct funding had expanded.

The director of the Franklin Regional Council of Governments had reached out to him about the exploration of a federal initiative to support flood resilience planning in the four states that contain the Connecticut River Watershed. Chris explained that he ran the concept by the other regional planning commission directors in Vermont and they encouraged him to pursue the concept on their behalf. He also reached out to regional planning commission directors in New Hampshire. Lastly, he noted that NorthStar, the owners of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station, had asked to meet with him next week to discuss a potential project on the site after decommissioning. He confirmed that Commissioners Arsenault and Pinkerton of Vernon had also been contacted by NorthStar and that the company would be meeting with the town on the subject.

**Committee Chair Updates:** None.

**Review of Action Items:** Chris explained that Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation Adam Grinold would be the guest speaker at the January Full Commission meeting.

**Public Comments:** None.

**Adjournment:** On a motion by Commissioner Arsenault, seconded by Commissioner Cunningham, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.