



TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD Inland Wetlands Board

APPROVED/REVISED MINUTES

June 24, 2021

Members present: Patricia Sesto: Chair, Susan Baker: Vice Chair, Tim Bishop, Tracey Miller, Alan Pilch, Kory Salomone: Secretary (joined at 7:08PM), David Tatge

Also present: Andrew P. Hally: Inland Wetlands Agent, Aarti Paranjape: Office Administrator; Donna Culbert, Mr. Varrone, Robert Jewell

I: Call to order

Ms. Sesto called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

II: Applications for Discussion:

1. **IW-21-27, 21 Bryon Avenue**, Summary Ruling Application and after-the-fact Permit Need determination for a corrective action for a violation within upland review area of wetlands. *Owner: Jennifer Kubick. Applicant: Matthew Mason.*

The application was continued to the next scheduled meeting.

III: Applications for Submission:

1. **IW-21-28, 80 Old South Salem**, Summary Ruling Application for extension of a deck in the upland review area of wetlands. *Owner/Applicant: Joseph Msays.*
<https://ridgefieldct.viewpointcloud.com/records/82235>
2. **IW-21-29, 34 Bailey Avenue**, Summary Ruling application for remediation in the upland review area of the wetlands and construction of new building and parking area. *Owner: Bailey Rail and Granary LLC. Applicant: Robert R. Jewell, Esq.*
<https://ridgefieldct.viewpointcloud.com/records/82306>

Ms. Baker motioned to receive IW-21-28 and IW-21-29. Mr. Tatge seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously 6-0-0.

A special site walk meeting is scheduled for the two applications on June 27, 2021.



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IV: Administrative Approvals:

None

V. Ongoing Enforcement by Agent:

1. Cease and Correct Order – 33 Beaver Brook Road - Show Cause Hearing

Mr. Caramadre informed the office the soil scientist he hired is still not available and he is not inclined to change the soil scientist.

Ms. Sesto laid out three options which the Board members can pursue:

- Turn the matter to Board Counsel
- Give the applicant 2 weeks' time to submit an application.
- Mr. Hally will contact Mr. Caramadre, who needs to contact Mr. McManus to resolve between the soil scientist and him and get the possible date.

The Board concluded they will wait until the next meeting to take any action. Mr. Hally will attempt to get a final date from Mr. Caramadre.

2. 136 Limekiln Road

Mr. Hally stated the applicant has submitted an application, but the documents provided are not sufficient to call it a complete application.

Ms. Culbert informed that she has scheduled to meet a landscape architect in the next week. Assuming the landscape architect is hired, she will report back with a date to submit the application as per the expectations of Board.

Board acknowledged the efforts of Ms. Culbert and the willingness to cooperate and meet the expectations of Board.

Ms. Sesto advised Mr. Hally there are statutory timeline requirements from when an application is submitted that must be observed regardless of whether or not the application consists of all of the application requirements.

3. Haviland and Limekiln intersection:

Mr. Hally informed about the potential violation. The homeowner removed dead trees and could have done some work in upland review area. He will follow up with the written request to allow the site visit to access the situation and violation.



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VI: Other Business:

1. NRCS Natural Reserves Conversation services is disbanding the Dam # 2.

Mr. Bishop informed the Board he was able to review the archives from Conservation Commission. It is classified as Hazard Class A and if this dam failed, it could impact 180 residences and roads.

Ms. Sesto inquired if the Board should be concerned about the dam removal. Mr. Bishop replied no.

Mr. Pilch expressed concerns that once the dam is removed the area should be stabilized.

2. 148 Ledges Road planting plan:

Ms. Sesto said she and Mr. Hally reviewed the submitted planting plan and determined it meets language of the conditions of approval.

Mr. Varrone asked what the next steps are for the homeowner. He expressed concerns that it will cost a lot to the homeowner and the area where the planting is proposed will take up all of his backyard and requested the terms of the permit be modified. He was informed the Board does not have the statutory capacity to reopen a permit decision.

Ms. Sesto and Mr. Hally said the applicant is good to go and the building application will be signed off by wetlands.

Mr. Varrone asked if the planting requirement could be eliminated if the under-deck drainage was eliminated.

Mr. Sesto replied the Board should not take this question up without advanced notice, so they can properly consider the reasoning behind the permit conditions. Mr. Varrone was advised to submit a proposal for the next meeting.

3. IWRF-21-2, Referral Notice from Town of Redding.

Ms. Sesto said the site is in flood plain.



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Mr. Hally will check when the Town of Redding will be holding the discussion. He will collect more information from the Redding Environmental Commission and update the Board.

4. Legislative Session Updates

Ms. Sesto briefed the Board on the new legislative updates:

- The ability to hold remote meetings is extended until April 2022. The Board can discuss going forward what kind of format the Board will assume.
- The Town will have to provide access to the public requesting a remote meeting device, if public gives 24-hour written notice to the office.
- The Inland Wetlands applications expirations. The applications submitted after 2014 are valid for 14 years. New permits will become effective on the date a P&Z approval is granted, if applicable.
- Legal Notices will be published in newspaper.

VII: Approval of Minutes:

Inland Wetlands Meeting – June 10, 2021

**Mr. Bishop motioned, and Mr. Pilch seconded to approve the minutes as submitted.
Motion carried 7-0-0**

VIII. Adjourn

Hearing no further discussion, Ms. Sesto adjourned the meeting at 7:37 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by,

Aarti Paranjape
Recording Secretary