

**Exotic Aquatic Weeds and Species Committee  
Meeting of 20 June 2011, LOB 308, 10:30 AM  
Minutes of Proceedings**

Members present: Rep. Richard Drisko,(Chair), Rep. Chris Christensen, Rep. Mike Kappler, Rep. David Russell, Senator Jeb Bradley; Public Members Don Foudriat, Bob Reynolds, and Ken Warren

Excused: Rep. Laurie Pettengill

Guests present: Amy Smagula (DES), Emily Ramlow (DES Intern)

Chairman Drisko opened the meeting at 10:32 a.m. with the following remarks:

"It is with great sadness that I open this meeting so soon after the passing of our colleague, mentor, spirit, friend, and driving force behind the effort to protect the water bodies of our state from the ravages of milfoil and other invasive species. The passing of Jody Connor has taken away from us all that quiet dedicated leadership that was the trademark of his life. As we carry on his work, I'm sure his spirit will walk beside us and his perpetual humility and zeal will help us continue to move the battle forward.'

New members of the Committee (Bradley, Kappler, Reynolds, Warren) were introduced to continuing members (Christensen, Drisko, Foudriat, Russell), as were guests (Smagula, Ramlow).

Rep. Drisko announced that he would be stepping down as Committee Chairman. He then nominated Rep. Christensen as Chairman and Rep. Russell as Vice Chairman. Second by Rep. Kappler. Mr. Foudriat moved that nominations be closed. Second by Russell. Motion passed. The nominated slate of officers was elected by a unanimous vote (7-0). Rep. Christensen then assumed chairmanship of the meeting.

Chairman Christensen explained that the Committee is required to record and post minutes of each meeting within 144 hours. Rep. Russell previously volunteered to record minutes of today's meeting.

Rep. Christensen asked for volunteers to serve as Clerk of the Committee with responsibility to record meeting minutes. Mr. Reynolds volunteered.

Minutes of the 30 March 2010 Committee meeting were introduced into the record. Rep. Drisko moved to approve the minutes, second by Rep. Russell. The vote to approve was 4-0-4 (the four new members of the Committee abstained).

Mr. Reynolds presented the results of a statewide study of monies raised and spent by the state, municipalities, lake associations, and other private organizations to treat milfoil-infested water bodies. The study was sponsored by the Ossipee Lake Alliance and conducted this spring by Bianco, PA. Key findings included:

- A 3-fold increase in expenditures between 2009 and 2010 (totaling \$1 million);
- The State's share of funding dropped from 24% in 2009 to 12% in 2010 despite a 50% increase (from \$60,000 to \$90,000);
- Private funding (donations from citizens, businesses, lake associations, etc.) exceeds State and municipal funding sources; and
- An estimated 50% of known milfoil infestations were not being addressed in 2009 and 2010.

Chairman Christensen opened the floor for general discussion of ideas and activities for the future direction of the Committee. Several ideas were discussed with a major emphasis on methods of communication with, and education of stakeholders, legislators, government agency executives, municipalities, etc. The NH Lakes Association, local lake associations, and the DES newsletter and list of contacts will likely be excellent conduits for communication and venues for education. Rep. Christensen and Ms. Smagula were scheduled to participate in an hour-long NH Public Radio program entitled "The Battle Over Milfoil" on June 21 (the program can be heard online at: <http://www.nhpr.org/battle-over-milfoil>). Other ideas enabling the Committee to reach out to the public were also discussed including making presentations to local and regional radio stations and public access TV stations, and publishing press releases to state, regional, and local newspapers as well as to targeted Internet sites.

The members discussed scheduling of future meetings. It was unanimously agreed that Committee meetings would be scheduled at 10:30 AM on the second Monday of every-other month. Therefore, the next two meetings would be held on August 8 and October 10, 2011 in Room 308 of the Legislative Office Building.

Chairman Christensen polled the members for suggestions on future presentations and field trips during Committee meetings. Rep. Kappler reminded the Committee that RSA 487:30 charges the committee to study all exotic weeds and exotic aquatic species in the waters of New Hampshire – not just milfoil. Ms. Smagula agreed to make a presentation on the status of all invasive species in New Hampshire water bodies during the next meeting on August 8. A future presentation was suggested to provide the members with facts about the toxicity and environmental impacts of the herbicide 2,4-D, often used to treat large infestations of milfoil. Ms. Smagula and Mr. Reynolds agreed to prepare such a presentation. Field trips to observe DASH unit harvesting of milfoil were suggested as being educational for Committee members.

Motion/Russell, Second/Kappler to adjourn at 11:35 a.m. - passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Co-clerks  
Russell, Reynolds

**EXOTIC AQUATIC WEEDS COMMITTEE  
(RSA 487:30 (HB 1132, Ch. 115:1, Laws of 2004)  
2011 ROSTER**

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