

**MINUTES OF THE
CAPE COD WATER PROTECTION COLLABORATIVE
Governing Board Committee
July 12, 2017**

A meeting of the Cape Cod Water Protection Collaborative was held on July 12, 2017 in the Cape Cod Commission Large Conference Room, 3225 Main Street, Barnstable, MA.

Members:

Barnstable	Paul Hebert	Present (arrived at 9:10 a.m.)
Bourne	Terri Guarino	Absent
Brewster	Ryan Bennett	Present
Chatham	Florence Seldin	Absent
Dennis	Wayne Bergeron	Absent
Eastham	Jane Crowley	Present
Falmouth	Ray Jack	Present
Harwich	Larry Ballantine	Present
Mashpee	Tom Fudala	Present
Orleans	Sims McGrath	Present
Provincetown	Vacant	Vacant
Sandwich	Dave Sampson	Absent
Truro	Patricia Pajaron	Absent
Wellfleet	Curt Felix	Present (arrived at 9:12 a.m.)
Yarmouth	Jeffrey Colby	Absent
County Appointee	Zenas Crocker	Present
County Appointee	Ron Beaty, Alternate	Present
Ex-officio member	George Heufelder	Absent
Ex-officio member	Paul Niedzwiecki	Present

Staff Present:

Erin Perry	Cape Cod Commission
Kristy Senatori	Cape Cod Commission
Gail Hanley	Cape Cod Commission
Andrew Gottlieb	Association to Preserve Cape Cod

1. Call to Order

Chair Sims McGrath called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

2. Welcome and Introduction of any New Members or Participants

Chair Sims McGrath congratulated Andrew Gottlieb on his appointment as Director of the Association to Preserve Cape Cod.

3. Presentation by Richard Delaney and Amy Costa of the Center for Coastal Studies regarding the current water quality monitoring contract and activities.

Richard Delaney, President of the Center for Coastal Studies (CCS), said the function of the CCS is to conduct scientific research on marine mammals, marine habitats and resources and conduct educational activities and provide educational

resources. He introduced Amy Costa, Director of the Cape Cod Bay Monitoring Program, and Pat Hughes, Public Policy Coordinator for the Marine Policy Program.

Amy Costa, with the use of PowerPoint slides, provided an overview of the Coastal Water Quality Monitoring Program for Cape Cod Bay, Buzzards Bay and Nantucket Sound and said it's a collaborative effort with the Buzzards Bay Coalition. She noted the monitoring stations by organization as the CCS, Buzzards Bay Coalition (BBC), Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (WBNERR), the Town of Harwich, Three Bays Preservation (TBP), Jones River Watershed Association (JRW), and CCS Citizen Scientists. She explained the hydrographic data and parameters; referred to graphs of Sentinel Stations in the towns of Chatham, Harwich, Yarmouth, Barnstable, Mashpee and Falmouth showing the average total nitrogen and total maximum concentrations from July-August; and graphs showing the health index by embayment for Buzzards Bay and health index by embayment for Cape Cod and Nantucket. She said they take a subset of nitrogen to come up with a score, more areas are declining rather than improving, the most significant declines are in the nearshore waters and all the data is available on the CCS website. She explained how the station locations were chosen and said historically they are sampled as part of a state-funded water quality monitoring program, sampling is done from May to October with one winter sampling event, it corresponds with a majority of other long-term water quality programs and it captures seasonal variability. Ms. Costa said the CCS and BBC operate under the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) approved QAPPs, the methods used by the analytical laboratories (Marine Biological Laboratory and CCS) are approved by the DEP and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the methods are similar to those used for the Massachusetts Estuaries Project (MEP).

Governing Board members discussed data available in their towns and said they could provide Ms. Costa with their municipal data; they inquired about samples being collected and whether more should be collected; they questioned whether enough is being done and is enough being captured by what is being sampled; they said more is better with consistency in order to have good data; data and data collection is changing quickly; and perhaps the County needs to partner with advance technologies.

Richard Delaney said the program has evolved over the past 15 years. He said they have been looking at this, they are open to other advance technologies and they have been asking these same questions. He said it's a complicated system and they need to keep it balanced and consistent. He said he believes it's a scientifically balanced and cost effective system. Mr. Delaney said all the information is available on the CCS website at www.capecodbay-monitoring.org

Jane Crowley said this was all considered during the RFP process; they questioned whether they are doing enough and whether some areas should be dropped. Paul Niedzwiecki said the CCWPC needs to establish a concise history for data and what the CCWPC can do going forward is to establish an information sharing protocol. He said the monitoring program is key to the success of the Section 208 program. Curt Felix said he has concerns about sample collections in Wellfleet. Mr. Niedzwiecki said they need to look at a concise history and make adjustments to the criteria and noted that additional monitoring stations are easier to add than drop. Paul Hebert said a tremendous amount of great work has been done, they need to continue the effort, make more adjustments and keep expanding their outreach with others.

Richard Delaney said he endorses the efforts of collaboration and partnering and the CCS had been thinking about this before Section 208 started. Commissioner Ron Beaty referred to working with the Barnstable County Lab and asked if that had been done. Mr. Delaney said that will be done later in the year.

4. Report from Paul Niedzwiecki, Executive Director of the Cape Cod Commission

Paul Niedzwiecki said the Annual OneCape Summit was very successful, there were over 400 participants and what he heard from Brad Campbell of the Conservation Law Foundation was a sense of urgency moving forward. He said the

Commission has the 208 Plan Implementation Report that he will make available to the Collaborative. He said the focus going forward will be on financing and the monitoring program to include freshwater monitoring and to look at permitting for dredging.

5. Reports from Governing Board Member Towns and Organizations on Water Resource Issues

- **Town of Harwich** – Larry Ballantine: Town Meeting approved \$9 million for a collection system for a sewer plant and the consultants for the collection system are CDM Smith; they also funded a project using the Cold Brook System; monitoring continues; and two weeks ago Harwich signed an IMA with Chatham.
- **Town of Wellfleet** – Curt Felix: Wellfleet had a joint meeting with the Water Advisory Committee and the Board of Selectmen to talk about on-going monitoring; the Herring River project continues to move forward; and Mr. Felix noted that he is a member of the dredge task force.
- **County Appointee** – Zenas Crocker: The Barnstable Clean Water Coalition met with Secretary Matthew Beaton, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, and Gary Moran, Department of Environmental Protection, regarding the lower Marstons Mills River watershed project.
- **Town of Falmouth** – Ray Jack: Falmouth put out an RFP for a wastewater management study for upper Cape towns that will be funded through a \$135,000 grant; it's conducive for upper Cape towns to work together and explore what regional opportunities and benefits there might be; a big benefit will be to have an MOU or IMA.
- **Town of Barnstable** – Paul Hebert: The Barnstable Town Council supports moving forward with a monitoring program; the Town of Barnstable will provide the CCWPC with a report; they are on target moving forward.
- **County Appointee** – Ron Beaty: Had nothing to report.
- **Town of Brewster** – Ryan Bennett: The town has been working to implement alternative technology septic systems and they will come back to the CCWPC to amend some of the work with a revised scope of work; they are looking at alternative financing and they are working with George Heufelder from the Barnstable County Health Department on a grant; they have shifted a bit but still have the momentum; they are experiencing some challenges regarding financing.
- **Town of Mashpee** – Thomas Fudala: The last town project that was funded for the collection system project has been completed.
- **Town of Eastham** – Jane Crowley: Eastham's water system is still in development in the mandatory hook-up area and is almost complete with only seven households remaining to hook-up; a wastewater effort was funded through the CCWPC on the Salt Pond watershed; they are looking at a permeable reactive barrier; they have been talking to the Cape Cod National Seashore and have been working with GHD; they are training volunteers on sampling.
- **Town of Orleans** – Sims McGrath: They received a scope of work from A.E. COM to do comprehensive investigative work in town and they continue with their permeable reactive barrier at the Middle School. Chair Sims McGrath said regarding sharing information it's essential that every town knows what other towns are doing and towns should provide CCWPC with their information.

6. Public Comment: No public comment was given.

7. Annual Reorganization of Cape Cod Water Protection Collaborative Officers

Chair Sims McGrath called for nominations to elect a Governing Board Chair, Vice-Chair and Governing Board Representative to the CCWPC Steering Committee.

Tom Fudala moved to nominate and elect Sims McGrath to serve as Chair. The motion was seconded and with 10 members voting the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Tom Fudala moved to nominate and elect Jane Crowley to serve as Vice-Chair. The motion was seconded and with 10 members voting the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Jane Crowley moved to nominate and elect Larry Ballantine to serve as the Governing Board Representative to the CCWPC Steering Committee. The motion was seconded and with 10 members voting the motion passed with 9 votes in favor and one abstention (Larry Ballantine).

8. Items for Future Agendas

- Paul Niedzwiecki said he has recommendations for meeting topics that he will provide.
- Chair Sims McGrath said someone from Preserve Our Cape Cod would like to make a presentation to the Collaborative.
- Ryan Bennett said she will be bringing Brewster's revised scope of work back to the Collaborative.
- Larry Ballantine suggested inviting someone from the UMass Dartmouth School for Marine Science and Technology (SMST) to speak at a Collaborative meeting.
- Curt Felix suggested an agenda item regarding re-constituting the Technical Advisory Committee to work with the Center for Coastal Studies.

9. Next Meeting: Chair Sims McGrath said the next meeting of the CCWPC is August 9, 2017.

10. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

MATERIALS USED/PRESENTED AT THE JULY 12, 2017 CCWPC MEETING:

- July 12, 2017 CCWPC Meeting Agenda
- PowerPoint Slide presentation by Amy Costa, Center for Coastal Studies
- Barnstable County Proposed Ordinance 17-08 Establishing the Cape Cod Water Protection Collaborative