

# New Hampshire Council on Resources and Development

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## **FINAL MINUTES - March 11, 2021**

### **MEMBERS PRESENT (via remote participation)**

Jared Chicoine, Chair, Director, NH Office of Strategic Initiatives (alone)  
Shawn Jasper, Commissioner, Department of Agriculture (alone)  
John Martin, Designee, NH Department of Health and Human Services (alone)  
Stephen McLocklin, Designee, Department of Administrative Services (alone)  
Adam Smith, Designee, NH Department of Transportation (alone)  
Marta Modigliani, Designee, Department of Safety (alone)  
Jack Ruderman, Designee, NH Housing Finance Authority (note alone; shared workspace)  
Christopher Way, Designee, NH Department of Business and Economic Affairs (alone)  
Sarah Stewart, Commissioner, NH Department of Natural & Cultural Resources (alone)

### **OTHER PARTICIPANTS**

Michael Klass, NH Office of Strategic Initiatives  
Clinton Savage, NH Bureau of Trails  
Margaret Machinist, NH Division of Forests and Lands

## **I. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The meeting was opened at 9:31 AM by Chairman Chicoine who began with a right-to-know compliance checklist as this was a virtual meeting. He finished with a roll call for CORD member attendance.

## **II. MINUTES**

### **A. Approval of January 14, 2021 draft minutes**

Mr. Klass noted that he incorporated comments in the January 14, 2021 minutes from Ms. Boisvert clarifying when the trail counters were last used on the Kelsey Notch Trail as well as the spelling of the Cohos trail and its location in Nash Stream in vicinity of the Kelsey Notch Trail.

**MOTION:** On a motion by Commissioner Jasper, seconded by Adam Smith, the January 14, 2021 minutes, as revised, were approved unanimously by the Council, with Christopher Way abstaining (via roll call vote).

### **III. LAND CONSERVATION INVESTMENT PROGRAM (LCIP)**

#### **A. Kelsey Notch Trail – Annual Reporting Discussion**

Commissioner Stewart said the extra time to evaluate the impact and usage of the Kelsey Notch Trail will provide additional time for DNCR to work with stakeholder groups over the next two years to explore alternative routes which would allow connecting North and South trail networks.

Margaret Machinist showed a map of the Cohos Trail (purple line), starting in Nash Stream Forest, south of the Kelsey Notch Trail (green line) and going off into Hedgehog Brook WMA, to the east. The two trails intersect east of Nash Stream, and are 2,200 feet apart at their closest location in Nash Stream Forest.

Clinton Savage clarified that trail counters were not put out during the 2020 Season, but were last put out during the 2019 Season. The intention is to put them out this spring prior to the opening of the OHRV season and to monitor OHRV usage this summer and the summer after that.

Margaret Machinist clarified that the 2019 trail counter data wasn't available for the 2019 Kelsey Notch Trail Annual Report ("Annual Report"), so it was included in the 2020 Annual Report

Chairman Chicoine noted at the January 14, 2021 meeting CORD decided it would discuss the additional items it would like to see included in the Annual Reports during the two-year extension, at today's meeting. Chairman Chicoine suggested memorializing these additional items in a letter from CORD to DNCR. Chairman Chicoine noted items he would like to see added to the Annual Reports going forward: (1) Invasive species identified during monitoring and a plan for treatment of these species. (2) Plan for restoration of trail erosion. (3) Annual trail counts from counters. (4) Adequacy of staffing and budget levels

Chairman Chicoine asked if the MOU states when Annual Reports are due. Margaret Machinist clarified that monitoring is required to be completed by October 15<sup>th</sup>. Chairman Chicoine requested that CORD receive Annual Reports by December 15<sup>th</sup> going forward. Commissioner Stewart said that should work.

Mr. Smith requested the inclusion of opening and closing dates of Kelsey Notch Trail to determine the number of days the trail is open compared to number of users.

Mr. Savage noted that they haven't included opening and closing dates in past Annual Reports, but said that the Kelsey Notch Trail usually opens around May 23<sup>rd</sup> depending on when the trails are dry after mud season and closes on Columbus Day. He said these dates can be included in the Annual Report going forward.

Mr. Klass summarized the six additional items to be included in the Annual Report going forward.

Commissioner Stewart then also suggested adding a requirement of inviting a Fish & Game Fisheries Biologist to attend DNCR's Annual Site Visit of the Trail.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Jasper motioned, which Mr. Way seconded, for the Chair of CORD to send a letter to DNCR for these additional items to be added to the Kelsey Notch Trail Annual Report. The motion was approved unanimously the Council (via roll call vote).

#### **IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Klass noted CORD's next meeting date on May 13<sup>th</sup>.

**MOTION:** With business completed, Commissioner Jasper moved to adjourn the meeting, which Mr. Way seconded. The motion was approved unanimously by the Council (via roll call vote).

Meeting adjourned at 9:58 AM

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#### **Reminder – Tentative 2021 Meeting Dates**

~~January 14~~  
July 8

~~March 11~~  
September 9

May 13  
November 10