



**Meeting Minutes  
Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission  
August 15, 2018**

TIME: 10:10 a.m.  
DATE: August 15, 2018  
PLACE: Prallsville Mills, Stockton, New Jersey

**Attending Commissioners:**

Vice-Chairman John Loos, Commissioner Bruce Stout, Commissioner Mary Leck, Director Oliva Glenn, and Commissioner Julia Allen (by telephone)

**Staff:** Executive Director John Hutchison, Review Officer Joseph Ruggeri, Deputy Attorney General Melissa Abatamarco, Ms. Tammy Romsdahl, Ms. Colleen Christie Maloney

**Guests:** Superintendent Patricia Kallessen; Mr. Michael Sellar, New Jersey Water Supply authority (NJWSA); Mr. Robert von Zumbusch, DRCC Master Plan Advisory Committee; Mr. Robert Barth, D&R Canal Watch

Vice-Chairman Loos announced that this was a regularly scheduled meeting of the Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission and that all provisions of the "Senator Byron M. Baer Open Public Meetings Act" had been met with regard to the scheduling of the meeting.

**Administrative Items**

Vice Chairman Loos confirmed the next month's meeting date, September 12, 2018.

**Minutes**

**July 18, 2018 Meeting Minutes**

Vice-Chairman Loos requested a motion on the minutes of the July 18, 2018 meeting. Commissioner Stout moved to approve the minutes and Commissioner Leck seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

### July 18, 2018 Executive Session Minutes

Vice-Chairman Loos requested a motion on the minutes of the executive session at the July 18, 2018 meeting. Commissioner Leck moved to approve the minutes and Commissioner Stout seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

### Review Zone Projects

#### Zone A Projects

18-5269 Lambertville North Union Street Parklet  
18-4631A 13 Mill Street Deck Addition (Stockton)

Vice-Chairman Loos asked for comments on the Zone A projects. Hearing none, he called for a motion. Commissioner Stout moved to approve the Zone A projects, and Commissioner Leck seconded the motion. The projects were approved unanimously.

#### Zone B Projects

18-2474A Coleman Buick-Cadillac (Lawrence)  
18-5179 Huang Residence (Princeton)  
18-5225A PSE&G Devils Brook Substation (South Brunswick)  
17-4411A Madison Avenue Residential Development (Franklin)  
18-2100B 208 Berkley Avenue Pavilion (Montgomery)  
18-5169 Harborchase at Princeton (South Brunswick)  
18-5232B Peasant Grill Restaurant Patio (Hopewell Borough)

Vice-Chairman Loos asked for comments on any of the Zone B projects. Hearing none, he called for a motion. Commissioner Stout moved to approve the Zone B projects, and Commissioner Leck seconded the motion. The projects were approved unanimously.

### Executive Director's Report

Director Hutchison reported on workload and fee collections for the month of July,

The Commission staff borrowed a floppy reader from DEP/OIRM and began the process of copying the contents of 154 3.5-inch floppy disks containing Commission staff reports and other work product from the 1990s-200s. The 1,793 documents that were not corrupted or stored in unsupported formats were copied onto the DEP shared drive. About 30 of the disks contain engineering reports which fill a gap in the MS Access database, which has many number references to projects for which there are no files. By copying these engineering and staff reports, the director the potential to save money when the Commission's paper files are ultimately scanned.

A total of 276 file boxes have been catalogued by Commission hourly employee Tiffany Bennett. She has completed the removal of all the files from the Commission conference room, which is the room in the Commission's office most vulnerable to flooding. Tiffany is now reviewing about 25 sets of site plans that were stacked on top of file cabinets in the engineer's office and matching them to project files. The director and Tammy Romsdahl are continuing efforts to obtain electronic copies of these plans from applicants and engineering firms.

The director noted that the copy of the 1849 Delaware and Raritan Canal regulations that hung in the director's office was successfully removed from its acidic carboard backing, mounted on acid-free rag and placed in a frame under UV-resistant glass. Mr. Hutchison lauded the work of the paper conservator who did an outstanding job preserving this important historical document.

The director also noted that the update and restoration of the Commission's MS Access project database continues. He also reported on the status of exterior renovations to the Commission office.

Director Hutchison presented a design for the commission seal which was prepared by the DEP graphics shop. Commissioner Stout made a motion to allow Director Hutchison to review and accept the seal design with the condition that the "established" date of the commission (1974) be added. Commissioner Leck seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.

Director Hutchison reported on the concern of a park user who encountered Texas Eastern trucks on the multi-user path north of the U.S./N.J. Route 202 bridge in Lambertville and the resulting contact from State Senator Shirley Turner on the matter.

The director reported on a scoping meeting he attended related to the bridges over the Stony Brook to be replaced by Mercer County and the NJDOT on Alexander Road in the Municipality of Princeton. The director noted that NJDOT has decided to replace the bridge over the Delaware and Raritan Canal at the same time that Mercer County replaces the Alexander Road bridges in an effort to minimize the disruption to the Princeton community that would be caused by the bridge closures and attendant detours.

Director Hutchison distributed a memo about easement signage and placement by different agencies. The commission will discuss this matter as an agenda item at the September meeting.

#### **D & R Canal State Park Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Kalleser reported on park matters, including the Alexander Road bridges projects, tree clean up and removal, and high Delaware River levels. There was discussion related to the proposed A-frame bridge at Moore's Creek in Hopewell Township, its estimated cost and the necessity to redesign the project in order to reduce the estimated cost of construction.

#### **NJ Water Supply Authority (NJWSA) Report**

Mr. Sellar reported on the status of the Griggstown Waste Gate rehabilitation project, the Landing Lane/Raritan River bank repair to be undertaken in the area near the spillway of the canal at the Raritan River, the status of the NJWSA maintenance dredging project at reaches 1, 2, and 4), the status of the hydrilla management program and its proposed duration for 2018, continued progress made by the NJWSA in removing fallen trees from the canal from the spring storms, and a request for proposals for the Six-Mile Run

culvert.

**Old Business /New Business**

Director Hutchison reported on a meeting that he and Vice-Chairman Loos attended at DEP with Assistant Commissioner for Natural and Historic Resources Bukowski and Director Glenn. The director related the discussion at that meeting of the proposed Easton Avenue pedestrian bridge.

DEP recommended that an amendment be made to the Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park Master Plan be made to support endorsement of the bridge. The director also related issues pertaining to the approximately \$600,000 in funding necessary to construct the bridge, as well as issues related to parking at the site, traffic patterns at and near the Freda Marden Preserve property. The director also stressed that the Commission's current staffing and funding levels do not allow for a wholesale revision of the 1989 Second Edition of the Master Plan, although a complete revision remains a long-term goal of the staff.

Mr. Barth recommended that the Commission approach the Canal Society of New Jersey to help obtain partial funding for the Easton Avenue pedestrian bridge. Vice-Chairman Loos asked Director Hutchison to begin the process of convening the Master Plan Advisory Committee to start the master plan amendment.

Vice Chairman Loos discussed commissioner appointments and engineer pay rates.

DAG Abatamarco reported that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) denied the Commission's request for a rehearing of their decision to issue a certificate of public need and necessity for the Penn East Pipeline project. Commissioner Stout made a motion to authorize the Office of the Attorney General to file an appeal of the finding by FERC and Commissioner Leck seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Public Forum**

There was no public comment.

**Adjournment**

Vice-Chairman Loos called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Stout moved to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Leck seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



John Hutchison  
Executive Director