



Niantic River Watershed Committee, Inc.

<https://www.nianticriverwatershed.org/>

2025 SEP -3 P 3:05

Cavanahill
TOWN CLERK

Minutes

NRWC Board of Directors Meeting

July 10, 2025, 6 PM

Attendees: Susan Gonzalez, Town of East Lyme; Nate Hermann, Town of Montville; Don Danila, Town of East Lyme; Jamie Vaudrey, NRWC Coordinator; Jim Paganetti, Town of Waterford; Chris Tomichek, Town of Waterford; Amy Cabaniss; Dave Turner, Town of Montville; Don Landers, East Lyme Harbor Management/Shellfish Commission

Excused: Peter Harris, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission

1. **Call to Order:** S. Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.
2. **Seating of Alternates:** Motion by D. Danila to seat A. Cabaniss for the Town of Salem, seconded by D. Landers. Motion passes.
3. **Welcomes and introductions:** None.
4. **Review and Approval of July 10 minutes:** D. Landers moves to approve as written, C. Tomichek seconds. Motion passes.
5. **Treasurer's Report:** D. Danila read the treasurer's report. C. Tomichek moves to approve the report as read, D. Landers seconds. Motion passes.
6. **Coordinator's Report:** J. Vaudrey provided a coordinator's report on the following topics:
 - a. Larry Tytla has been nominated by Rob Rule to be an official member for WELSCO.
 - b. J. Vaudrey has two summer interns attending Celebrate East Lyme for NRWC
 - c. Bacteria Sampling – Looking to do mid- to late-August but want to avoid a no water issue so may move it forward some. Will keep everyone updated when confirmed if anyone wants to join in sampling. Accepting suggestions for access points for sampling, especially in Stonybrook when D. Danila has formerly sampled water quality. Have 10 eDNA kits already and getting 6 more to bring us to 16. Harbor Watch has been contacted for the bacterial kits but can also get from IDEXX if needed. Lastly, need to order water from Hardy Diagnostics.
 - d. Enviroscapes – purchasing some materials from Amazon and will provide some to S. Gonzalez for measurements to identify plans to 3D print.
 - e. Report card – met with Deb Mosier Dunn who did a listening session for Save the River, Save the Hills but wants to do a listening session with the NRWC. Plan to skip a general public listening session as they were represented at Save the River, Save the Hills per J. Paganetti. After session can proceed with the design.
 - f. Hole in the Wall – dates were identified with the towns as being in November.
7. **Town Matters:** None.



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8. **Old Business:** None.

9. **Subcommittee Updates:**

a. **Monitoring Group:** As stated previously in the coordinator's report regarding the progression of bacterial sampling.

b. **Education/Outreach Group:**

- i. **Teacher loan kits for water sampling:** We may not have them anymore as we have not had an interest in some time, but can continue serving as an advertisement to connect with CT Sea Grant or CT NERR who does have those resources.
- ii. **Enviroscape loaning agreement.** URI has a loan agreement which includes a fully refundable deposit, but we do not believe that is going to work for schoolteachers here. If the signed agreement states that they need to give everything back, then they can still be held accountable. Requires an inventory to be provided, which could also state the cost of replacement for each item. Addition to state that no materials outside what is provided in the kit should be substituted. Addition to request the kit be returned clean and dry. Lesson plans have been purchased for different age groups, are filtered down to those relevant to the area and can be shared with teachers when they agree.
- iii. **Hats** are scheduled to arrive next week, hopefully in time to be distributed to Jaime for Celebrate East Lyme. Are getting 11 total.

10. **New Business:** May consider an update to the bylaws to ensure all interested members have a place to join by creating an at-large membership, otherwise may restrict members by having three filled spots from a town.

11. **Public Comments:** None.

12. **Next meeting:** August 7th, 2025, 6 PM downstairs.

13. **Adjourn:** D. Landers moves to adjourn, C. Tomichek seconds. Meeting adjourned at 6:54.

Respectfully submitted,
Nathan Hermann
Town of Montville
Secretary