

**LITCHFIELD INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday January 14, 2026 – 7:00 p.m.**  
**In Person at Town Hall Annex, 80 Doyle Road, Bantam, CT;**  
**Or by Live Remote Internet Video or Telephone**

**1. Call to Order- Appointment of Alternates.**

Chairman Martin Connor called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Members Present: J. Hamill, M. Connor, S. Clarkin, B. Dooley, K. Kerr, M. LoRusso.

Members Absent: A. Combs, B. Dooley. (Chairman Connor stated A. Combs was possibly attending on the live remote internet video but she was not. To note, no one attended via live internet.)

Appointment of Alternates: None.

**2. Application Considerations**

**a. Richard Crouch on behalf of Pamela Cantor – Blue Swamp Road**

*Utilities trenching alongside existing driveway within regulated area. MBL# 152-078-06A.*

No one was present at the start of the meeting so commission moved on to the next application with the intention of returning/revisiting if a representative arrives. This discussion resumed when agenda item 2c. concluded.

Sidney Crouch, R. Crouch's son, was present on behalf of Pamela Cantor. Chairman Connor gave a brief review from the December minutes. Application is for a utilities trench that will run parallel to the existing farm accessway path/driveway. Driveway bed will not be disturbed and trench does not cross the driveway at any point. Trench is 440' and will be completed pole box to pole box so nothing is left open for any length of time.

**Motion:** J. Hamill moved to approve the application for utility trenching alongside the existing driveway MBL# 152-078-06A with a new address of 300 Blue Swamp Road based on a plan by Berkshire Surveying, LLC titled *Sketch Plan Showing Proposed Utility Trench prepared for Pamela Cantor Blue Swamp Road Litchfield, CT* dated 11/18/2025. S. Clarkin seconded, there was no additional discussion and motion to approved was unanimous.

**b. Timothy Benjamin – 3 Breezy Knoll**

*Raze existing dwelling and construct new dwelling, garage, driveway, and retaining wall. MBL# 171-060-013.*

T. Benjamin was present for the application. A stamped copy of the plans was submitted. Since the previous meeting and at the recommendation of ZBA, the house, garage and driveway location was shifted 9' south. Additionally, the house envelope was shrunk to conform to the building coverage percentage and to eliminate the proposed ZBA variances on the North Shore side of the property. ZBA approval was received on 01/06/26. As requested last month, the temporary soil stockpile and the 200' wetlands offset from the lake are now reflected on the plans. The silt fencing is also shown on the map.

**Motion:** J. Hamill moved to approve the application to raze the current structure and construct a new dwelling, garage, driveway and retaining wall for MBL# 171-060-013 based on the map prepared by Colby Engineering and Consulting, LLC titled *Proposed site plan prepared for Timothy R. Benjamin 3 Breezy Knoll Litchfield, CT* sheet CS-101 dated 11/09/25, revision date 12/30/25. The motion was seconded by S. Clarkin and the approval was unanimously carried. It was noted; Land Use office is to be informed prior to starting the project.

**c. Frank Stack – 58 McBride Road**

*Removal of invasive vegetation, re-grade pond edges, & install beaver deceiver (water leveler).  
MBL #027-016A-034.*

Chris Fields was present and is representing the application while F. Stack is on vacation. Chairman Connor stated proposed activity to remove invasive vegetation, regrade pond edges with an excavator and install a beaver deceiver device to maintain water levels and also includes the creation of a 100’ diameter overflow pond was accepted at the previous meeting. C. Fields stated intention is to preform activity during the dry season for the least disruption to the environment. In December, the Commission requested a plot plan/sketch. On 01/08, C. Fields and F. Stack met with the Land Use Administrator, S. Musselman, and said the sketch was prepared. Unfortunately, S. Musselman is on vacation, sketch is not in the file and C. Fields is not aware of what happened to the copy. S. Musselman also conducted a site walk but no details from site visit are available. Applicant was not intending on performing any work until grass and vegetation starting growing. Since plot plan/sketch has not been submitted, Chairman Connor is tabling the application until the 02/11 meeting.

A representative for application **2a.** is now present and Commission resumed **2a.** before proceeding with the below agenda items.

**3. Application Receptions:** There are no new applications.

**4. Agent Determinations**

- a. Will Walter, P.E. (Benesch) on behalf of Litchfield Housing Authority - 130 Doyle Rd** – Construction of new sidewalk connections between individual unit patios to the existing main sidewalk and associated drainage improvements. MBL# 167-072-93E.

**5. Inland Wetlands Agent Report**

Prior to tonight’s meeting, most Commissioners were unaware of the anticipated departure of Land Use Administrator/Wetlands Agent S. Musselman on 01/16. He is starting employment with another town next week. The Commission thanked S. Musselman for his commendable performance while working for Litchfield and the IWC during the previous three years. He will be missed and they wished him well with all forthcoming endeavors. Both Chairman Connor and Commissioner S. Clarkin stated they are available to review applications until a new administrator is hired.

**6. Approval of Minutes – December 10, 2025.**

S. Clarkin moved to approve the 12/10/25 minutes. M. LoRusso seconded and the motion to approve carried unanimously.

**7. Correspondence**

Two DEEP permit application notifications for the Use of Pesticides in State Waters were received - Dyer Pond and the pond at Litchfield Ponds will be treated.

**8. Adjournment**

J. Hamill moved to adjourn at 7:23 pm, S. Clarkin seconded and the motion to adjourn carried unanimously.

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Martin Connor, Chairman

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Date