



TOWN OF SCOTLAND INLAND WETLANDS AND WATERCOURSES COMMISSION

Regular Meeting – In Person
Tuesday, January 6, 2026 – 7:00 PM
Scotland Town Hall, First Selectman's Office,
9 Devotion Rd, Scotland, CT

Minutes

1. **Call To Order:** The Chair Alan McLevy called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.
2. **Roll Call / Seating of Alternates:**
Members Present: Alan McLevy (Chair), Michael Wilson (Vice Chair), William Syme.
Members Absent: Chris Demorit
Town Staff: Jonathan Blake (Zoning / Wetlands) and Dana Barrow (First Selectmen)
3. **Additions or Changes to the Agenda:**
Motion by Alan McLevy to add: Annual Organization Meeting / Election of Officer / Bylaw Review and Appointment of Duly Authorized Agent after New Business; Seconded by William Syme – Passes 3-0.
4. **Approval of Minutes**
 - A. July 1, 2025, Regular Meeting – Tabled till next regular meeting.
5. **Citizens' Participation** – None.
6. **Unfinished Business**
 - A. IWWC #2025-006 of Cardinal Engineering Associates, Inc., on behalf of the Town of Scotland, for the replacement of Bridge #123-003 Kemp Road over Kimball Pond Brook.
Presentation made by Gary Giroux, Senior Project Manager, Cardinal Engineering Associates by phone.

The Commission reviewed the particulars regarding the replacement of Bridge #123-003 with a 20' x 9.5' three-sided rigid frame culvert, with a natural bottom (Option #3). A temporary pipe (designed for a two-year storm, low frequency) would be used to allow the continued flow of the brook during construction. The construction process was explained and the approximate duration being about 4 months to complete. The 20' size was selected to put the project into the federal program, meaning the State of Connecticut would inspect every two (2) years. The ideal start time would be April (of any given year).

Mr. Giroux noted that CT DEEP was looking to conduct a site walk later this month (for their permit review) and that Army Corps of Engineers is reviewing the permit currently. Mr. Giroux will be following up with Selectman Barrow to coordinate the site visit with CT DEEP once the date and time is confirmed by CT DEEP.

Motion by William Syme to approve, Michael Wilson seconded – Passes 3-0.
 - B. IWWC #2025-007 of GM2, on behalf of the Town of Scotland, for the replacement of Bridge #04772 Bass Road over Merrick Brook.

Presentation by Daniel Carnein, PE, Project Engineer, GM2 and Michelle Handfield, PE, Senior Hydraulic Engineer; both in person.

Mr. Carnein explained that this was a CT DOT Federal Local Bridge Program Project that was initiated by the Town of Scotland. Mr. Carnein explained that CT DOT was overseeing the design at no cost to the Town of Scotland. After design the project is turned over to the Town of Scotland, at which point the Town is responsible for construction and hiring consultants to oversee that construction.

Mr. Carnein reviewed the history of the existing bridge that was destroyed in September of 2023 following a scouring event, resulting in a road closure. The old bridge was a 21' span bridge and the new proposed bridge is 54' (abutment to abutment). Mr. Carnein reviewed the particulars of the design of the bridge and the bank stabilization that is planned to restore the channel. The low chord of the bridge structure is about 3/10ths of a foot above the 100-year flood elevation. Ms. Handfield explained that the clearance to the roadway from the water surface in a 100-year flood event is 4'.

The abutments are designed for a 200-year scour event and 500-year check storm – simply that even if the stream were to migrate the bridge is designed to maintain standing. In a 500-year storm event there would be 3' from the water level to the roadway. Construction of the bridge would use the existing road closure and detour. A coffer dam will be used during construction to maintain an approximate 6' channel. That will allow the contractor to remove the existing bridge structure, complete the channel restoration work and construct the new bridge abutments.

The mitigation measures that restrict the timeframe of construction and exclusionary fencing were reviewed to protect wildlife. There is a separate permit to CT DEEP to review the impacts to an adjacent State property. The inspection and oversight process was explained by Mr. Carnein.

Motion by Alan McLevy to approve, William Syme seconded – Passes 3-0.

7. New Business

If the application is complete the Commission shall decide if a public hearing and/or site walk should be held on each application and continue further action until next month's meeting. The Commission may also delegate to its duly authorized agent.

- A. IWWC #2025-008 of GM2, on behalf of the Town of Scotland, for the replacement of Bridge #04770 Brook Road over Merrick Brook.

Motion by Alan McLevy to receive the application and schedule for review and possible action at the February 3, 2026, Regular Meeting without a site walk or public hearing, William Syme seconded the motion – Passes 3-0.

- B. IWWC #2025-009 of GM2, on behalf of the Town of Scotland, for the replacement of Bridge #04771 Brook Road over Merrick Brook.

Motion by Alan McLevy to receive the application and schedule for review and possible action at the February 3, 2026, Regular Meeting without a site walk or public hearing, William Syme seconded the motion – Passes 3-0.

- C. IWWC #2025-010 of GM2, on behalf of the Town of Scotland, for the replacement of Bridge #04426 Gager Hill Road over Merrick Brook.

Motion by Alan McLevy to receive the application and schedule for review and possible action at the February 3, 2026, Regular Meeting without a site walk or public hearing, William Syme seconded the motion – Passes 3-0.

8. Annual Organizational Meeting

A. Election of Officers

Motion by Alan McLevy to keep the Officers as is (Alan McLevy – Chair and Michael Wilson – Vice Chair), William Syme seconded – Passes 3-0.

B. Bylaw Review

Motion by Alan McLevy to update Section 9 – Order of Business to match the order format utilized tonight, which is more in line with Robert's Rules, Michael Wilson seconded – Passes 3-0.

9. Appointment of Duly Authorized Agent

Motion by Alan McLevy to appoint Jonathan Blake as the Duly Authorized Agent, Michael Wilson seconded – Passes 3-0.

10. Correspondence to the Commission – None.

11. Staff Report

A. Authorized Agent

Mr. Blake reviewed some housekeeping items relating to the wetland regulations and procedures the Commission would like to see on applications and action of the authorized agent (agricultural buildings, timber harvest notifications, jurisdictional rulings, etc.). Mr. McLevy will be sending over a current copy of the wetland regulations that were updated in recent years. Mr. Blake will be working to update the Town website to remove outdated versions of the regulations and confirm the most current version is available for public review in the Town Clerk's Office.

B. Monthly Zoning / Wetlands Report

Reviewed some recent projects and approvals since September of 2025 by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

12. Commission Open Discussion – None.

13. Adjournment

Adjourned at 8:32 PM. Motion by Alan McLevy, Seconded by Michael Wilson.