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[www.rivercog.org](http://www.rivercog.org)

Chester, Clinton, Cromwell,  
Deep River, Durham, East Haddam,  
East Hampton, Essex, Haddam,  
Killingworth, Lyme, Middlefield,  
Middletown, Old Lyme,  
Old Saybrook, Portland, Westbrook

**Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments  
and Lower Connecticut River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization**

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
MEETING BY CONFERENCE CALL – 3:00 P.M.  
Wednesday, June 27, 2018**

**RiverCOG Members:**

Chester: Lauren Gister  
Clinton: Christine Goupil \*  
Cromwell: Anthony Salvatore \*  
Deep River: Angus McDonald, Jr. \*  
Durham: Laura Francis  
East Haddam: Emmett Lyman  
East Hampton: Michael Maniscalco \*  
Essex: Norm Needleman  
Haddam: Lizz Milardo \*  
Killingworth: Cathy Iino\*  
Lyme: Steve Mattson  
Middlefield: Ed Bailey  
Middletown: Daniel Drew  
Old Lyme: Bonnie Reemsnyder \*  
Old Saybrook: Carl Fortuna \*  
Portland: Susan Bransfield \*  
Westbrook: Noel Bishop \*

**MPO Members:**

Middlesex Chamber of Commerce: Darlene Briggs \*  
Estuary Transit District: Joe Comerford \*  
Middletown Area Transit: Lisa Seymour

**Staff Present:**

Sam Gold  
Robert Haramut  
Eliza LoPresti  
Gabrielle Gelozin  
Nat Bush

**1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL**

Chairwoman Reemsnyder called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. at the Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments Office, 145 Dennison Road, Essex, CT. Executive Director Gold took roll call. All other RiverCOG members denoted as present attended the meeting by phone.

\*Members Present

## 2. PUBLIC SPEAKING

None

## 3. LCRMPO BUSINESS

- a. Approval of Minutes of the May 23, 2018 LCRVCOG and LCRMPO Meeting

*Mr. McDonald moved to approve the minutes of the May 23, 2018 LCRVCOG and LCRMPO meeting; second by Mr. Bishop; motion passed unanimously.*

- b. Transportation Improvement Program

*Mr. Maniscalco made a motion to move agenda item 3b iv. (2018 TIP Amendment #14 – RiverCOG 2018 TIP Appendix F, \$0, Discussion of Anticipated Effect of the TIP Towards Achieving Performance Targets Set by CTDOT) to be item 3b i. Ms. Milardo seconded this motion and it was approved unanimously.*

- i. 2018 TIP Amendment #14 – RiverCOG 2018 TIP Appendix F, \$0, Discussion of Anticipated Effect of the TIP Towards Achieving Performance Targets Set by CTDOT.

*Mr. Bishop moved to approve 2018 TIP Amendment #14; second by Ms. Bransfield. Motion passed unanimously.*

- ii. 2018 TIP Amendment #11 – CT Transit Bus Replacements, 5339, \$20,100,000, Project #0400-XXXX

This project provides movement of prior year funding to the current year to allow for award of the grant.

- iii. 2018 TIP Amendment #12 – ETD Admin Capital, 5307, \$1,072,000, Bus Stop Improvements and Bus Replacements, Project #0478-XXXX

This provides 5307 urbanized area grant funding for Estuary Transit District. This is a three-part amendment that includes funds for purchase of equipment, improvements and repairs to a bus stop in Old Saybrook on town property, and funding for replacement vehicles.

- iv. 2018 TIP Amendment #13 – CT Transit Bus Replacements, 5307, \$10,000,000, Project 0400-XXXX

This will replace busses from 2004, 2005 & 2007 in the Hartford and New Haven districts using 5307 urbanized area funding.

Mr. Bishop and Mr. McDonald spoke in support of the amendments as board members of the 9 Town Transit.

*Mr. Bishop moved to approve TIP Amendments #11, #12 & #13; second by Ms. Iino. Motion passed unanimously. Discussion: Mr. Comerford stated that the bus stop improvements will actually be occurring in Madison. Old Saybrook improvements are planned for next year. Ms. Goupil asked about available funds for possible bus stop improvements along Rt. 81; Mr. Comerford stated that if they find that need in the corridor study, they will add it into the program.*

#### 4. LCRVCOG BUSINESS

- a. Authorization of Executive Director to Enter Into an Agreement with OPM for FY19 Regional Services Grant

Mr. Gold stated that the COGs were appropriated \$4,100,000, but there was a hold back of \$500,000. Of this, RiverCOG will receive \$281,816, which is about what was included in the budget, therefore there will be no budget amendment. The agreement has not yet been received from OPM, but Mr. Gold is seeking authorization from the board for when it is received.

*Mr. Maniscalco moved to authorize Executive Director Sam Gold to enter into an agreement with OPM for FY19 Regional Services Grant. Second by Ms. Iino. Motion passed unanimously. Discussion: Mr. Bishop asked if this is the grant funding that had to be fought out with the other regional COGs and if so, is this money that we will be getting without having to share it with the other COGs. Mr. Gold affirmed that it is this grant, and the way that the holdback occurred (out of the per capita increment rather than the base payment) worked in RiverCOG's favor.*

#### 5. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Authorization of Executive Director to Enter Into an Agreement with DEMHS for 2018 Emergency Management Performance Grant

This is an authorizing resolution for the 2018 Emergency Management Performance Grant that pays for staff time for the RiverCOG to be the fiduciary agent for DEMHS Region 2, which includes 10 RiverCOG towns. RiverCOG draws about \$70,000 from the Homeland Security grant program.

*Ms. Iino moved to authorize the Executive Director to sign the agreement with DEMHS for the 2018 Emergency Management Performance Grant, which will then be certified by Secretary Noel Bishop. Second by Ms. Milardo. Discussion: Although some of the COG towns are not part of the DEMHS 2 region, the members sit on the board for the region so they are allowed to vote on this item. Ms. Bransfield abstained from voting; the rest of the members voted in favor.*

#### 6. ADJOURNMENT

*Upon motion of Mr. Maniscalco, seconded by Ms. Bransfield, it was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 3:27 pm.*

Respectfully submitted,

Eliza LoPresti  
Recording Secretary