



# Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments

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## Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments & Lower Connecticut River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization

### DRAFT MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

December 20, 2024 – 9:30 am

#### **RiverCOG Members;**

Chester: Cindy Lignar \*  
Clinton: Michelle Benivegna  
Cromwell: Anthony Salvatore \*  
Deep River: Carol Jones \*  
Durham: Brendan Rea \*  
East Haddam: Irene Haines \*  
East Hampton: David Cox  
Essex: Carey Duques  
Haddam: Bob McGarry  
Killingworth: Eric Couture \*  
Lyme: David Lahm \*  
Middlefield: Bob Yarmartino  
Middletown: Ben Florsheim  
Old Lyme: Martha Shoemaker \*  
Old Saybrook: Carl Fortuna \*  
Portland: Ryan Curley  
Westbrook: John Hall \*

#### **MPO Members:**

Middlesex Chamber of Commerce: Darlene Briggs  
Estuary & Middletown Area Transit Districts: Joe Comerford

\*present

#### **Others Present:**

Brian Hawes, Henry Raymond & Thompson  
Martin Henry, Henry Raymond & Thompson

#### **Staff Present:**

Sam Gold, Megan Jouflas, Paula Fernald, Eliza LoPresti, Elizabeth Rolison, Rob Haramut, Kevin Armstrong

#### **1. Call to Order, Roll Call**

Chairman Salvatore called the meeting to order at 9:35 A.M. The meeting was conducted via Zoom

#### **2. Public Speaking**

None

# RiverCOG

### 3. **Presentation of the Fiscal Year 2024 Audit by Henry, Raymond & Thompson (motion)**

Mr. Hawes, Senior Accountant at Henry Raymond & Thompson, presented the audit of the RiverCOG financial statement for FY24. RiverCOG is a healthy entity, with \$2,250,892.00 million in assets and \$445,472.00 in liabilities with a very strong total net position of \$1,834,434.00 which is an increase of \$202,233.00 compared to the prior year. The audit opinion is unmodified (good), there were no unusual risks identified, there are no deficiencies in internal controls and the audit was clean, both state and federal.

#### a. **Approval of Fiscal Year 2024 Audit**

*Ms. Haines moved to approve the FY24 audit, seconded by Mr. Fortuna. Vote was unanimously approved.*

*Discussion: Mr. Salvatore commended Paula Fernald, Financial Administrator, for an outstanding report and complimented Mr. Gold and staff. Mr. Gold thanked Ms. Fernald for the A+ and all the work she does for RiverCOG.*

### 4. **Other**

None

### 5. **Adjournment**

*Mr. Fortuna moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:49 a.m. Seconded by Ms. Jones; vote was unanimous in favor.*

Respectfully submitted,  
Elizabeth Rolison