

January 25, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes

Mr. Walker opened the meeting at 8:05 a.m. and noted that a quorum was present: **Ashford, Brooklyn, Eastford, Killingly, Plainfield, Pomfret, Putnam, Sterling, Thompson, and Woodstock**

The **October, November, and December Meeting Minutes** were approved as presented - motion by Mr. Gray, second by Mr. Sweet.

Additional items added/deleted to agenda: **Value Added Processing/Production Incubator Center for Agriculture** Feasibility Study approved by Ms. Nicholson, second by Mr. Groh.

Deletion of Item #5 Transit Officer Selection and adding Authorizing Resolution approved by Ms. Nicholson, second by Mr. Sweet

Director's Report: John Filchak, Executive Director updated the council on the following: Comprehensive Economic development Strategy; Route 169 Study; Animal Services new Facebook page; Current paramedic program; Homeland Security Region 4 Budget; Regional Performance Incentive Grant Program; HHW and Paramedic RPI; Draft RFP's have been done for license permits and software; Two Legislative meetings are set in February to be held in Sterling and Ashford; and, all selectman are invited to take part in a seminar for students at Nichols College concerning the safety of schools related to the Sandy Hook incident.

Regional Referrals: Approved unanimously motion by Mr. Sweet, second by Ms. Nicholson
Town of Killingly, Planning and Zoning Commission Initiated Zone Text Change – Delete current Town Village Commercial District Regulations and replace with new Village Commercial Regulations/Definitions

NECCOG/NECTD Policy Renewals: Block Vote approved unanimously motion by Mr. Sweet, second by Ms. Nicholson

- NECCOG Title VI and LEP Plan
- NECCOG Public Involvement Policy
- NECCOG Procurement Policy
- NECTD Preventative Maintenance Plan
- NECTD Third Party Contract Requirements Plan
- NECTD Procurement Policy
- NECTD ADA Policy and Grievance Procedures
- NECTD Limited English Proficiency Plan
- NECTD Drug and Alcohol Policy

STIP Amendments: Block Vote approved unanimously motion by Mr. Sweet, second by Ms. Nicholson

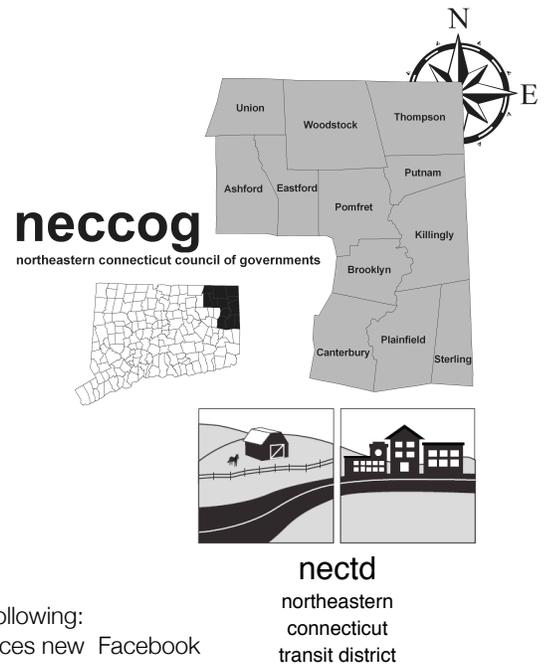
- Project #0115-0116, Putnam - CONSTRUCT ADA-COMPLAINT SIDEWALK RAMPS, Construction (\$84,000 - \$67 State, \$17 Local – MOVE FROM FFY '12 to FFY '13
- Project #0170-3009, Statewide – LED RELAMPING, TRAFFIC SIGNALS (PHASE 2), Construction \$2.3 m – MOVE FROM FFY '12 to FFY '13 & DECR. EST FROM FED. \$3.657M

2013-14 Budget Programs Review: Review of programs and their costs for the 2013-14 fiscal year - Authorizing Resolution was approved unanimously motion by Mr. Place, second by Ms. Nicholson

Citizen's Institute on Rural Design Grant: Putnam is interested in doing this regionally. Approved unanimously motion by Mr. Tanner, second by Mr. Fletcher.

Value Added Processing/Production Incubator Center for Agriculture Feasibility Study – proposal is to proceed with the study as an in-house study and not wait for RPI funding as originally proposed. We will continue to set up a board. Approved unanimously by Ms. Nicholson, second by Mr. Tanner.

Adjourned



Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments

Meeting Minutes

Legislative Meeting

Ashford Town Hall

February 15, 2013 - 7:30 a.m.

Members in attendance: Mr. Fletcher, Mr. Tanner, Mr. Walker, Ms. Nicholson, and Mr. Goodhall

Legislators in Attendance: Representative Rovero

Discussion focused on the Governor's proposed budget and funding to municipalities - with particular focus on the proposed "car tax" change

Also, discussion on possible regionalism changes

Legislative Meeting

Sterling Town Hall

February 19, 2013

Members in attendance: Mr. Fletcher, Mr. Tanner, Mr. Walker, Mr. Sweet, Mr. Gray, Mr. Groh, and Mr. Sear

Legislators in Attendance: Representative Sear, Representative Flexer, Senator Maynard

Discussion focused on the Governor's proposed budget and funding to municipalities - with particular focus on the proposed "car tax" change

Discussion on possible regionalism changes

Brief discussion regarding gun law changes and mental health



NECCOG

March 01, 2013

Special Meeting Minutes

Allan Walker, Chair of NECCOG opened the meeting at 8:05 a.m. and noted a quorum was present (Ashford, Brooklyn, Killingly, Plainfield, Pomfret, Putnam, Sterling, Thompson, and Woodstock)

The January 25th and **Legislative Meeting Minutes** were **approved** as presented by Place, second by Gray.

John Filchak, **Executive Director Report** updated the Council on the following:

Economic Development – CEDS update nearly complete. The final draft will be presented at the Wednesday Northeastern Connecticut Economic Partnership meeting and then will be sent out to the State and EDA. Transportation – Syl, Jim, and Eric will be checking pavement conditions once the snow is gone. The Director noted that NECCOG is working to unite bus lines on Rte 12, Thompson to Webster, MA and further to Southbridge and Worcester to the MBT.A Natural Disaster Mitigation Plan – NECCOG has received projects from most of the towns, but not all. He noted that generators are being made for mitigation funding if anyone has any interest in getting a generator. NECTD ridership is steady, it is hoped that ridership reach 300 riders per day by Spring. Emergency Planning – The Director briefly discussed the proposed change to the Region IV Bylaws - eliminating multiple proxies. Regional Incentive Grant monies are currently on hold. HHW study – NECCOG needs a chair for the program and must start looking for sites. GIS – Eric met with NDDH about doing a pilot with Union for the addition of wells and septs added to the mapping. County Boundaries – A meeting will be held next week about the regional structure of the state.

Regional Referrals: Town of Plainfield, Text Amendment – Application Procedures and Definitions **Approved** as presented by Tanner, second by Fletcher.

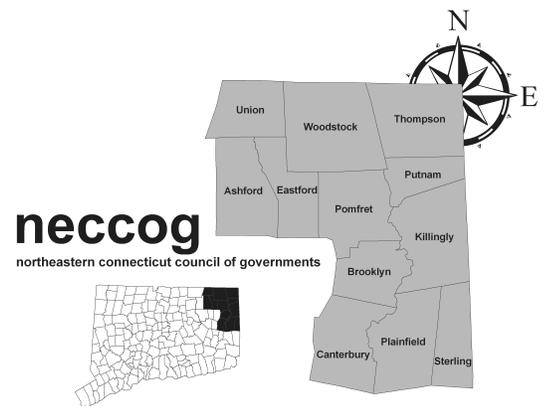
Selection of **Transit Officers** were approved as presented by Groh, second by Nicholson as follows:

- Chair: Larry Groh, Jr. Town of Thompson
- Vice Chair: Bruce Benway, Town of Killingly
- Treasurer: Austin Tanner, Town of Brooklyn
- Secretary: Peter Place, Town of Putnam

Discussion of the **Quinebaug Regional Technology Park** – Mayor Place and Doug Cutler outlined the purpose and progress of the initiative covering 229 acres with 20 developable lots. The Mayor noted that a regional approach would greatly enhance funding from the State (75%) compared to a fifty percent reimbursement if it is just the Town. They also discussed the possible administrative structure of the technology park through some type of regional authority - possibly related to NECCOG. Members thanked Putnam for providing a comprehensive overview and addressing the questions asked. All agreed that the subject will be further discussed at future meetings.

Probate Court Discussions - it was agreed, by consensus, that the Canterbury, Killingly, Plainfield, Sterling Probate Court would move forward with the budget presented by Judge Griffiths and it was agreed that the Northeast Probate Court would move from its current location in Thompson to Brooklyn on or before July 1, 2013 and that the administrative costs for the 2013-14 FY and the remodeling/moving costs related to the new location would be as proposed by Judge Shad. Further, that the Town of Thompson would not be responsible for any remodeling costs related to the Brooklyn site or those related to its move from Thompson. Motion approved with Mr. Groh voting no - stating that he was not in favor of the court changing locations.

Adjourned at 10:20



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March 28, 2013 Special Meeting Minutes

Allan Walker, Chair of NECCOG opened the meeting at 8:10 a.m. and noted a **quorum was present** (Ashford, Brooklyn, Killingly, Pomfret, Sterling, Thompson, and Woodstock)

The **March 1st Special Meeting Minutes approved** as presented - motion by Mr. Tanner, second by Mr. Gray.

Executive Director Report - John Filchak, updated the Council on the following: CEDS update is complete and will be sent out to EDA shortly. NECTD ridership is up. Transportation Enhancement Grant Application will be used to upgrade EastCoast Greenways specifically in Pomfret for approximately fifteen miles of trail and may consider the Thompson Airline Trail. The Rte 169 Plan update group had their first meeting. Eric, Syl, and Jim are in the beginning stages of surveying pavement for qualifying Collector Roads. Representative Sear set up a meeting with David Whitehead of Backus Hospital and they awarded NECCOG with a \$20,000 grant for the paramedic program. The Natural Disaster Mitigation Plan has been submitted to FEMA for review. NECCOG and NECTD continue to wait for the final copy of the annual audit.

STIP Amendments were approved as presented motion by Mr. Tanner, second by Mr. Sear.

- Project #0172-0403, District 2 – Install STC approved Traffic Signals, 2013 \$100,000 – New Project
- Project #0172-0404, District 2 – Install traffic signals, 2013 \$100,000 – New project

Regional Referral was approved as presented motion by Mr. Tanner, second by Mr. Fletcher.

- Town of Willington, Zone Change/Regulation Change – r-80 to Design Commercial

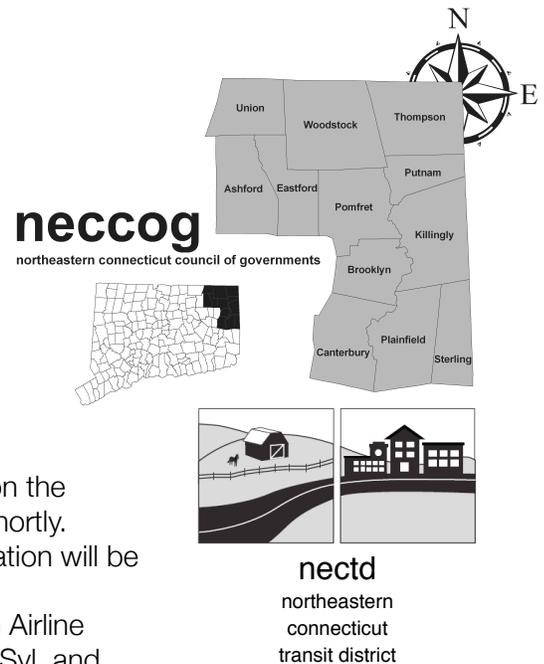
Reauthorization to participate in the Municipal Grant Program providing transportation for the elderly and disabled motion to approve by Mr. Benway, second by Mr. Groh - passed unanimously.

Reauthorization of Memorandum of Agreement between SECOG, WINCOG, and NECCOG for FY 2012 Homeland Security Regional Collaboration Grant approved motion by Mr. Tanner, second by Mr. Fletcher.

A copy of Mr. Walker and Mr. Groh's testimony regarding HB 6629 on regional boundaries was given to all council members along with a map for the MORE Commission.

All council agreed to continue to have meetings on the 4th Friday each month at 8 a.m.

Adjourned at 9:10 a.m. by Mr. Gray, second by Ms. Nicholson.



Meeting Minutes April 26, 2013 – Regular Meeting

Allan Walker opened the meeting at 8:05 a.m. and noted that a quorum was present (Ashford, Canterbury, Killingly, Plainfield, Pomfret, Putnam, Sterling, Thompson, Union, and Woodstock)

The March 28 Special Meeting Minutes were approved as presented – motion by Russell Gray, second by Austin Tanner.

Shawn Johnston from Northeast Utilities went over the CLP Outage Map Enhancement.

Director's Report: John Filchak, Executive Director updated the council about our Annual Audit being delayed once again. He reported that NECTD ridership is doing well – including 362 passengers in one day. – a new record. He further reported that the Natural Disaster Mitigation Plan was submitted to FEMA. Additionally, the three studies (HHW, Value-Added Ag, and Paramedic) are on hold until the end of May. All of the Rural Transportation Regions met with CONNDOT to determine how they will proceed with the federal transportation bill – details should be provided in the next several weeks.

Regional Referrals:

- a. Town of Killingly, New Regulations, Section 580, Agriculture (Borough), Ag Use Table, and Required Town Companion Text Changes
- b. Town of Killingly, Draft Proposed Industrial and Light Industrial Retail Language
- c. Town of Killingly, Zone Text Change (Application 13–1049 of Questar Fueling Co. to amend Section 430.1.2b-Commercial Storage and Sale of Fuel and Bottled Gas and add new section, 430.1.2k to provide for Compressed Natural Gas Fueling Facilities as a Special permit Use.
- d. Town of Putnam, Zone Text Addition and Zone Map Amendment, Creating the Quinebaug Regional Technology Park

Motion to block vote – approved as presented by Mr. Sweet, seconded by Mr. Fletcher.

Statewide Rural STIP Amendments:

- a. Project #0170–3217 – Study for Development of Countermeasures for OFF Ramp Wrong-Way Drivers, 2013 Planning, \$1 million, New Project

Motion to approve as presented by Mr. Sweet, second by Ms. Nicholson.

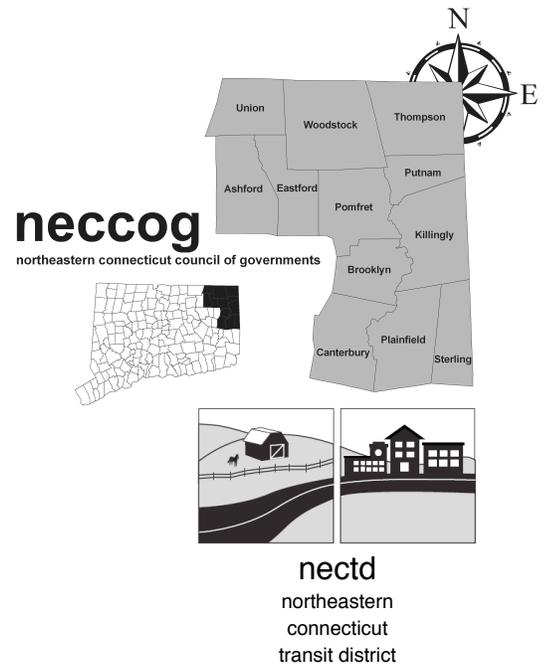
Resolution 01–04–13, Authorizing the Executive Director to enter into a Joint Performance Agreement with the Town of South Windsor for the Purpose of Sharing and Enhancing GIS Resources and Technology. Motion to approve by Brian Sear, second by Ms. Nicholson – approved as presented

Discussion regarding proposed Region IV Bylaw Change for Proxy Voting : Only One Proxy will be allowed.

Transit Policy Updates were tabled until next meeting.

Discussion about MORE Commission Recommendations and HB 6629 – Impact on the NECCOG Region, possible regional configuration going forward. Reporting recommendations late next week.

Adjourned at 9:10 a.m.



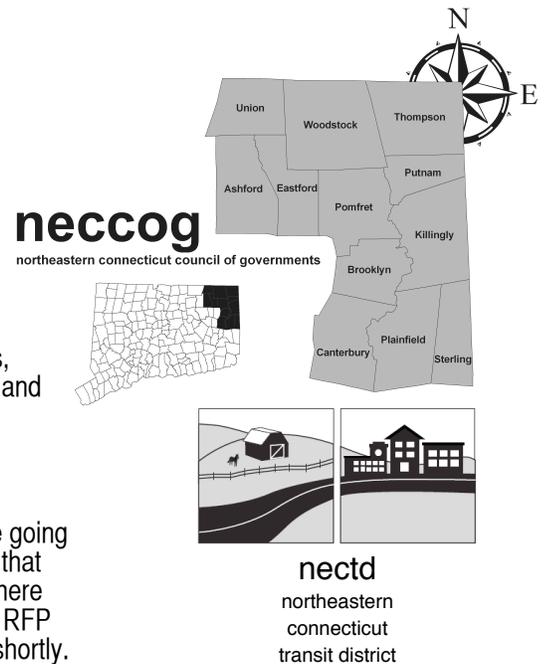
Meeting Minutes

May 24, 2013 – Regular Meeting

Ralph Fletcher opened the meeting at 8:05 a.m. and noted that a quorum was present (Ashford, Brooklyn, Killingly, Plainfield, Pomfret, Putnam, Sterling, Thompson)

Modified the agenda with removal of consideration of previous meeting minutes, removal of drug and alcohol testing program policy, removal of NECCOG audit and added two STIP amendments. Approved as presented – motion by Maureen Nicholson, second by Larry Groh.

Director's Report – John Filchak, Executive Director updated the council on the following: Meeting with FEMA on the Regional Natural Disaster Plan – it will be going back for additional review to the towns before it goes back to FEMA. He noted that the generator grant is still open to all towns. Region 4 had the CEO meeting where they approved the amended budget and did change the proxy vote procedure. RFP for Permits and Licensing is due June 27 and the Paramedic RFQ will be sent shortly.



Regional Referrals:

- a. Town of Sterling, Text Changes (various) to Zoning Regulations
- b. Town of Pomfret, Subdivision Proposal, 589 Brayman Hollow Road

Approved as presented- motion to block vote by Paul Sweet, second by Russell Grey.

Modification to Transit Policies:

- a. Preventive Maintenance Policy
 - b. Procurement and Third Party Contracting
 - c. Public Participation Plan
- Approved as presented – motion to block vote by Bruce Benway, second by Doug Cutler

Annual Audit: NECTD Audit was approved as presented by Bruce Benway, second by Doug Cutler.

Resolution to appoint Paul Sweet of Plainfield to be the alternate representing NECCOG on the Eastern Workforce Investment Board CEO Council was approved as presented by Austin Tanner, second by Maureen Nicholson.

STIP Amendments:

- a. Project 0472–0048, NWCT TD – New Bus Facility FY 12, Move from FFY '12 to FFY '15, Change funds from 5307C to 5307P & increase estimate from Fed. \$8
 - b. Project 0170-TXXX, Statewide, Transit Capital Planning FY 08, Move from FFY '12 to FFY '15 & change funds from 5307C to 5307P
- Approved as a block vote by Paul Sweet, second by Maureen Nicholson

The Council discussed the meeting held on May 23, 2013 with the Windham Region Council of Governments and the possible addition of towns to NECCOG. A motion was made to send letters to all surrounding town to invite them to a special meeting in June to discuss the possible expansion of NECCOG Motion by Paul Sweet, seconded by Austin Tanner – passed unanimously

Selectman Roundtable: all members discussed the budget season and their respective status

Adjourned 8:51 a.m.

June 2013

Regular Meeting Minutes

June 28, 2013

8:00 a.m. - 125 Putnam Pike, Dayville, CT

Mr. Walker, NECCOG Chair opened the meeting at 8:00 and noted there was a quorum present (Ashford, Brooklyn, Canterbury, Killingly, Plainfield, Pomfret, Putnam, Sterling, Union and Woodstock)

The **May 2013 meeting minutes** were approved as presented. Motion by Mr. Tanner, second by Mr. Gray - approved unanimously.

At the request of Ms. Nicholson, Pistol Permits were added as a discussion item.

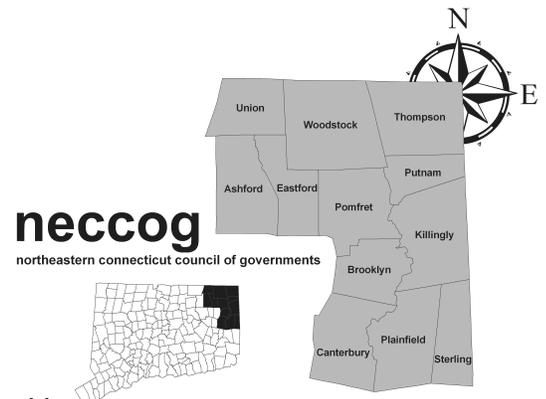
A Regional Referral was added from the Town of Lisbon- regarding a zone change

Director's Report - John Filchak, Executive Director, The Director briefly overviewed the recently enacted Regionalism Bill. The Director noted that there were six respondents to the Permits and Licensing RFP and that various persons from the Region will be invited to review and comment.

Action and Discussion Items

1. **Transit Drug and Alcohol Policy Modification** - The Director explained the proposed changes and on a motion by Mr. Benway, second by Mr. Sear the policy was adopted as presented.
2. **Paramedic Study Committee Status** - Mr. Groh and the Executive Director explained that the Committee had been formed and had held an initial meeting. Additionally, an RFP has been drafted and released seeking a qualified consultant to assist in the study - July 11 is the RFP deadline.
3. **Regional Household Hazardous Waste Collection Site Study Status** - The Director explained that there was still a need for sites to review and to forward any possibilities.
4. **2012-13 Audit Report** - motion by Ms. Nicholson, second by Mr. Fletcher - to accept the audit as presented - approved unanimously
5. **STIP Actions/Amendments:** Motion to block vote by Mr. Sweet, second by Ms. Nicholson - approved unanimously
6. **Renewal/Extension** of (1) Transit Administrative Agreement, (2) Ashford Zoning Regulation Update Agreement, (3) Paramedic Intercept Agreements, (4) Animal Services Agreements motion to approve by Mr. Fletcher, second by Mr. Gray - approved unanimously.
7. **Regional Referral** - Town of Lisbon, Motion to approve with no regional impact Ms. Nicholson, second by Mr. Tanner - approved unanimously
8. **Pistol Permits** were discussed and it was decided to invite Troop D to attend a future meeting to discuss this issue and related security matters

Adjourned at 8:50



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Special Meeting Minutes

June 28, 2013

9:00 a.m. - Allan Walker, NECCOG Chair opened the meeting and spoke to the purpose of the meeting.

Town in attendance: Ashford, Brooklyn, Canterbury, Killingly, Plainfield, Pomfret, Putnam, Sterling, Thompson, Union, Woodstock, Voluntown, Scotland, Hampton, Chaplin, Windham, Mansfield, East Lyme, Sprague, and Willington

Also in attendance: WINCOG Executive Director and SCCOG Executive Director

Mr. Walker stated NECCOG believed a pro-active approach was best in terms of regionalism and more specifically the reconfiguration of the regional boundaries. He made clear that the 14 towns invited to the discussion were all, in the view of NECCOG, logical towns for a new COG in the northeastern corner of Connecticut.

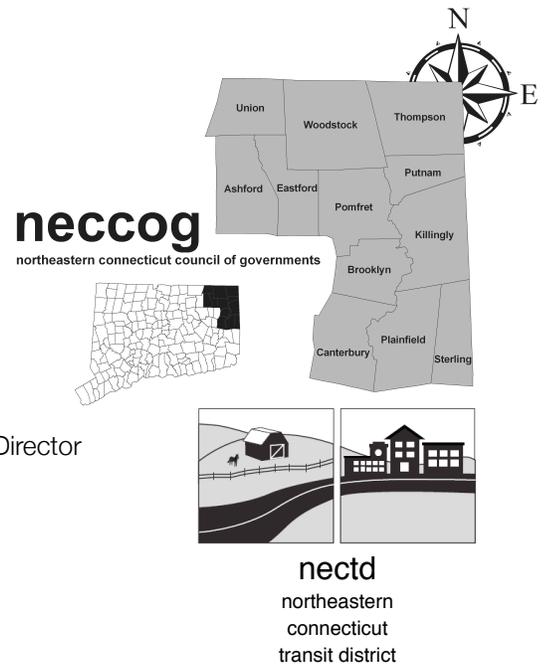
Mr. Walker asked John Filchak to summarize the new regionalism legislation. Mr. Filchak then went through the new law using a handout.

Mr. Sear provided a perspective of a first Selectman and as a legislator - indicating that the members of the General Assembly had become more receptive to being proactive about regionalism. First Selectman Cathy Osten from Sprague (also a State Senator) stated that her sense was that the state wanted five regions and that all should be cautious about any short or long term monies for regionalism and these new regions. Mr. Paquette, WINCOG Executive Director, noted the new reporting requirements that go with the new monies for regions.

Mr. Fletcher spoke to the approach of using the eight counties as the basis for the new regions. Mr. Sweet noted the common goals and struggles of the towns assembled and the towns of the northeast. Mr. Butler (SCCOG Executive Director) stated that their COG was amongst the largest with 20 towns and that such a size was about right. Ms. Osten noted that they are the smallest town in SECOG and feel they are an equal player. Mr. Butler noted that their organization is meeting with WINCOG. Mr. Paquette spoke of the possibility of the three COGs joining and having three distinct service regions and added that its time for the towns to decide where they want to be.

Mr. Walker ended the meeting by stating that NECCOG is open to any and all of the towns assembled to be members and to please contact us if there is interest.

Meeting adjourned - 10:30 a.m.



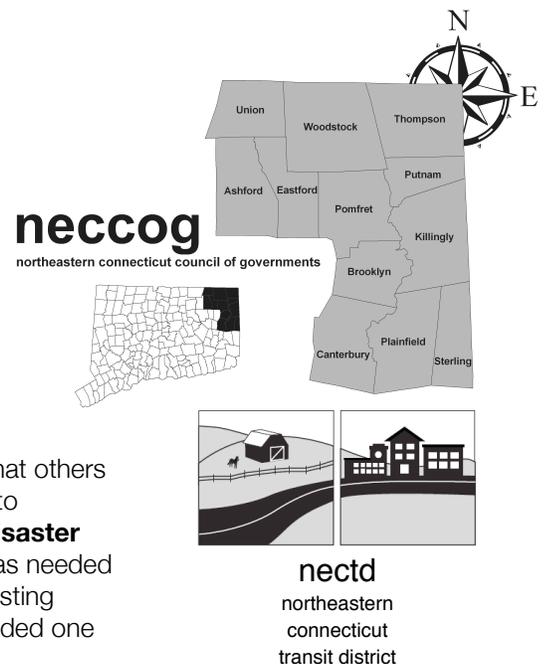
Meeting Minutes

Special Meeting

August 30, 2013

Meeting was **opened at 8:03 a.m.** by the Chairman, Allan Walker. He noted that a quorum was present: Plainfield, Eastford, Brooklyn, Canterbury, Killingly, Sterling, Woodstock, Thompson, and Ashford

John Filchak, NECCOG Executive Director updated the members on the **Paramedic Study** - stating that a consultant had been selected for recommendation; **HHW Study** - had just one site for consideration and that others could be investigated; **Tribal Recognition** - he provided background as to NECCOG's past actions and the need to take further actions; **Natural Disaster Mitigation Plan** - informed the Council that additional public outreach was needed and that this would begin in September/October; **Transit** - would be adjusting schedules to compensate for the new Walmart in Brooklyn and the expanded one in Putnam.



Actions

1. **Paramedic Intercept Study** - motion by Mr. Tanner, second by Mr. Fletcher to accept the proposal from Page Wolfberg and Wirth to assist in the study - motion passed unanimously
2. Motion by Mr. Groh, second by Mr. Gray to have a letter drafted and reviewed/approved by the Executive Committee to the BIA expressing NECCOG's concerns for the draft proposed changes to the **recognition process** - passed unanimously.
3. **Regional Referrals**
 - a. Town of Brooklyn, Inland Wetlands, Text Revision regarding definition of regulated activity - no regional impact, motion by Mr. Sweet, second by Mr. Sear - passed unanimously
4. **STIP Amendments** - block vote, as presented - motion by Mr. Sweet, second by Mr. Groh - passed unanimously
5. **2013-14 Work Plan and Budget** motion by Mr. Sweet, second by Mr. Fletcher to accept the Budget as presented and send the Work Plan to the Executive Committee and action for the September Regular Meeting - passed unanimously

Presentation/Discussion

David LeVasseur, Acting Under Secretary - Office of Policy and Management, Intergovernmental Policy Division presented an overview of the **Regional Boundary Study**. Mr. LeVasseur overviewed the time line and that OPM would only consider, at this time, the merger of entire COGs - not town by town rearrangements. He made clear that at this stage OPM is looking at a recommendation that NECCOG and WINCOG merge. Members expressed that a larger COG was not something they would oppose - so long as it was not on the scale of the Region IV DEMHS. The members also made clear that towns should have the right to determine where they wished to be placed.

Mr. Syme, First Selectman of Scotland, stated that his town was going to town meeting on September 12 to withdraw from WINCOG and start the process to join NECCOG.

meeting **Adjourned** at 9:45 - Motion by Mr. Sear, second by Mr. Groh

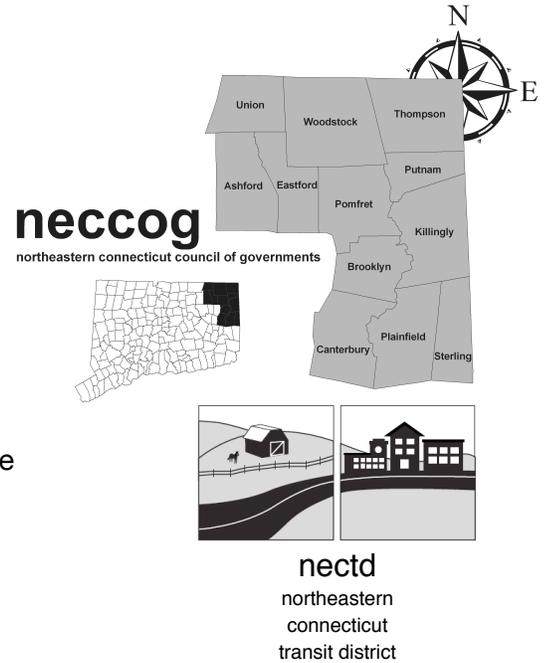
Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2013
Special Meeting

Allan Walker opened the meeting at 2:03 p.m. and noted that a quorum was present (Ashford, Brooklyn, Canterbury, Killingly, Plainfield, Putnam, Sterling, Thompson and Woodstock)

Nancy Wyman, Connecticut's Lieutenant Governor was introduced and then updated the NECCOG membership on State Government activities. The Lieutenant Governor addressed transportation, economic development, education, budget and health care. She notes that over eight hundred business's were approved for the Small Business Express Grant and that more than 40,000 new jobs have been created in the state. She also emphasized that Connecticut is trying to rebuild its education status. Additionally, she noted that the state has a slight and encouraging budget surplus - which will help with paying down the pension plan and restoring monies into the rainy day fund.

The membership asked about potential Pilot Grant cuts, Local Bridge Program, STEAP Awards, Car Tax, ECS and help to get Veteran rides to medical appointments.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15



DRAFT

Meeting Minutes

NECCOG Council and NECTD Board

September 27, 2013

8:00 a.m.

125 Putnam Pike, Dayville, CT

NECCOG chair Allan Walker **opened the meeting** at 8:00 a.m. and noted there was a quorum (Plainfield, Eastford, Brooklyn, Killingly, Sterling, Woodstock, Pomfret, Thompson and Ashford)

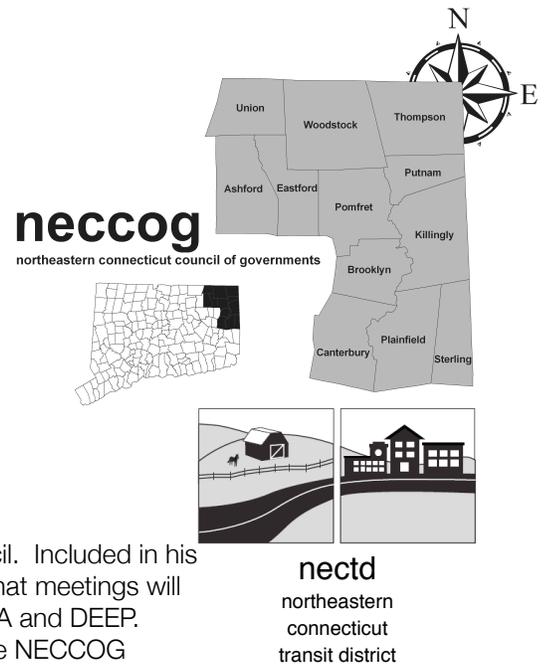
The **previous meeting minutes** were approved as presented. There was no public participation

John Filchak, Executive Director provided his monthly report to the Council. Included in his report was an update on the **Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan** - noting that meetings will be held during the next two months to address deficiencies cited by FEMA and DEEP. **HHW Site Study Update** - the Director noted that no sites other than the NECCOG location have come forward and that NECCOG is moving forward with an evaluation of the site. **BIA Recognition** - a letter was submitted to the BIA stating NECCOG's position and a follow-up letter was sent endorsing the State of Connecticut's position on the matter. **Emergency Management** - reminded the members of the meeting in October of the REPT. **Transit District** - the Director noted that the schedule will be adjusted to cover the new Walmart store in Brooklyn effective November 1. **Auditor Selection** - Director informed the board that the new auditor, after a RFP process, had been selected.

Discussion and Action Items

1. Board approved, as presented, the **NECCOG 2013-14 Work Plan** - motion by Mr. Sweet, second by Mr. Fletcher - voted unanimously
2. Board discussed and was updated on the **OPM Boundary Study**
3. **Paramedic Intercept Program Dispatch Fee** - brief presentations from QVEC and American Ambulance
Greg Allard representing American Ambulance and Jeffery Otto representing QVEC dispatch made brief presentations regarding the prospect of maintaining or eliminating the \$10 dispatch fee. Members engaged in questions and discussion and then voted unanimously to maintain the fee.
4. Resolution to Accept and Approve the **Regional Plan for Sustainable Development for Eastern Connecticut** (July 2013) created by the Eastern Connecticut Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Consortium - motion by Mr. Sweet, second by Ms. Nicholson- voted unanimously
5. **Resolution accepting the Town of Scotland as a member of the Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments**, waiving the annual assessment fee for 2013-14 and support for the OPM designation of Scotland to the NECCOG planning region - motion by Mr. Fletcher, second by Ms. Nicholson - voted unanimously
6. Establishment of the **2013 Nominating Committee**: Mr. Sear, Mr. Gray and Mr. Walker - motion by Mr. Fletcher, second by Ms. Nicholson - voted unanimously
7. **Selectmen's Roundtable** - No issues were discussed.

Adjournment at 8:45 a.m. - motion by Mr. Sweet, second by Ms. Nicholson - voted unanimously



DRAFT

Meeting Minutes

October 2013 Regular Meeting

October 25, 2013

Meeting was opened at 8:00 a.m. by Chairman Walker who noted that a quorum was in place (Ashford, Brooklyn, Canterbury, Killingly, Plainfield, Pomfret, Sterling, Thompson, Union and Woodstock)

September 2013 Meeting Minutes were approved as presented - motion by Mr. Tanner, second by Mr. Sear

Public Participation - Mr. Sarantopoulos of Killingly spoke of the need to have in place a regional (county-like) entity with legal/administrative powers and a funding source to make things happen on a regional or cooperative basis.

The Executive Director (John Filchak) gave his monthly report - reporting that: (1) OPM had made their preliminary recommendations for regional changes, (2) Animal Services continued steady activity despite the fall season when activity normally drops off, (3) The Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan revisions were completed with the exception of the required outreach to the member towns for their comments and additions to specific natural disaster threats, (4) That the GIS staff person had taken a position with another regional entity and that the responsibilities for GIS would now be taken by Jim Larkin, (5) No major changes in terms of emergency management and Region IV, (6) Ashford Zoning Regulations were nearing completion, (6) that the paramedic and HHW studies monies were taken back by OPM as no extensions would be permitted, (7) the BIA has opened preliminary discussions concerning proposed changes that could lead to opening recognition opportunities for CT based groups, and (7) the MORE Commission is focusing on the Nutmeg network completion and has established a new sub-committee addressing special education.

Resolution 10-1-13, accepting the Town of Hampton as a member of the Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments, waiving the annual assessment fee for 2013-14 and support for the OPM designation of Hampton to the NECCOG planning region was passed as presented - motion by Mr. Sweet, Second by Mr. Tanner

Resolution 10-2-13, accepting the Town of Chaplin as a member of the Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments, waiving the annual assessment fee for 2013-14 and support for the OPM designation of Chaplin to the NECCOG planning region was passed as presented - motion by Mr. Sweet, Second by Mr. Tanner

Resolution 10-3-13, urging the Office of Policy and Management to include the towns of Scotland, Hampton and Chaplin as members of the NECCOG Region and to further accept the reconstituted NECCOG region as one of the designated Connecticut Regional Planning Organizations - was passed as presented - motion by Mr. Fletcher, Second by Mr. Tanner

Regional Performance Incentive Program Applications - The Director provided an overview of each potential RPI grant application: Paramedic Intercept/BLS Expanded Study (\$125,000), Paper Records Conversion (\$1 m), Pilot Land Use/ Building Inspection Program (2 years \$450,000), Cattery and Trap, Neuter, Release and Management Program (\$700,000), Hazard Tree Mitigation Program (\$750,000), Value Added Ag Processing Center Feasibility Study (\$75,000), Expanded GIS capacity and Equipment Upgrades (\$200,000), Acquisition of land for NECCOG/NECTD (\$?). After the overview and discussion the consensus was to have the Director develop RPI applications for the following: Paramedic Study, Enhancement of GIS, Electronic Record Keeping, Cattery, Spay Neuter Program for Cats, and a Value Added Ag Study.

Selectmen's Roundtable - Mr. Sweet suggested that NECCOG reach out to Voluntown to determine if they still have an interest in joining NECCOG - all concurred and a letter will be sent by the Chair.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:20 a.m

Annual Meeting Minutes

December 13, 2013

Mr. Walker called the meeting to order at 12:00

Mr. Walker presented the Chair's annual address

Mr. Gray made the Nominating Committee recommendations:

- ▶ **Allan Walker** of the Town of Woodstock to be **Chair** (second term)
- ▶ **Russell Gray** of the Town of Sterling to be **Vice Chair** (first term)
- ▶ **Maureen Nicholson** of the Town of Pomfret to be **Treasurer** (first term)
- ▶ **Daniel Syme** of the Town of Scotland to be **Secretary** (first term)
- ▶ **John Hallbergh** of the Town of Killingly to be **Member-at-Large** (first term)

Motion by Mr. Gray to accept the report as presented, seconded by Mr. Walker - approved unanimously

Presentations of thanks were made to outgoing members: Mr. Place, Mr. Sear, Mr. Tanner, Mr. Groh, Mr. Platt, and Mr. Alemian

Meeting Adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Special Meeting - December 20, 2013

Mr. Walker opened the meeting at 10:30 a.m. and noted that a quorum was present (Woodstock, Scotland, Ashford, Pomfret, Brooklyn, Eastford, Plainfield, Thompson, Killingly)

Resolution 21-1-13 - Endorsing Voluntown to be a member of NECCOG and authorizing the Chair to communicate such to OPM - passed as presented, motion by Mr. Hallbergh and seconded by Mr. Gray.

Presentation by the Connecticut State Police regarding the consolidation of dispatch operations. Lt. Scott Smith - Commanding Officer, Troop D and Lt. Clifford Labbe, Jr. - Commanding Officer, Troop C reviewed and provided information as to how the consolidation was working and ensuring that public safety was not compromised. Two documents were shared with the members of NECCOG: "State Police Consolidation of Troops, C,D, E, and K" and a fact sheet from Troop D outlining what the impacts are of the consolidated dispatching functions.

Members learned that Troop D has the largest number of "walk-ins" in Connecticut and that the Troop would be staffing the barracks during business hours.

Members expressed strong concerns regarding delays in response and the unfamiliarity of dispatchers in the newly consolidated dispatch center with the region. They also expressed concern that the Troop D area was understaffed - especially in light of the large geographic area covered.

Mr. Hallbergh of Killingly stated that the Town Council had passed a resolution in opposition to the consolidation - further urging that the consolidation action be reversed.

The troopers were thanked for their presentation and members expressed that the next action would have to be taken with the members of the General Assembly.

Member were updated on the status of locating a new site for the Northeast Probate Court. According to Judge Shad - no appropriate site has been located. There was discussion regarding the obligations of the towns to the Town of Thompson and it was agreed that the Town should be compensated at \$5 per sq. ft. until such time that a new location is secured.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:47 a.m.

January 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes

Mr. Walker oped the meeting at 10:00 a.m. and noted that a quorum was present (Ashford, Brooklyn, Chaplin, Eastford, Hampton, Killingly, Plainfield, Putnam, Pomfret, Scotland, Sterling, Thompson, Union and Woodstock)

Previous meeting minutes were table until the February Regular meeting

John Sarantopoulos - Expressed his disagreement with towns having the ability to opt in or out of programs - towns, he stated should save money as their priority. He also stated the the rRegion needs 1-384 completed.

Director's Report - The Director (1) updated the members on the activities of the MORE Commission - including CONNDOT's recommendation that the two rural areas be left out of any MPO areas, (2) discussed the need to reshape the Comprehensive Economic development Strategy in light of the new regional configuration, (3) discussed the need to completed local actions on the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, and (4) informed the members that as of January 1 Chaplin was now a member of the Animal Services Program.

Regional Referrals: Motion by Mr. Sweet, Second by Ms Nicholson

- a. Town of Sprague, Proposed Zone Text Amendment concerning interior lots, driveways and non-conforming lots
- b. Town of Plainfield, Proposed Text Amendment to re-word Section 14.13 "Change to Conforming Use
- c. Town of Plainfield, Proposed Text Amendments to Section 7.1a Detached Structures and Section 1.2 Definitions, Section 8.2a and 12 regarding Boarding Houses and Tourist Homes

GIS Presentation - Jim Larkin, NECCOG Associate Director provided the members with an overview and demonstration of the NECCOG GIS system and the services that can be provided. Mr. Sweet made a motion that NECCOG ask towns for \$25,000 (collectively) to cover the basic costs of GIS software/delivery maintenance - second by Mr. Syme - passed unanimously.

Brooklyn Sidewalk Project - Members on a motion from Mr. Sweet and a Second by Ms Nicholson gave full support to the application to utilize Worcester Urban Funds to complete approximately 900' of sidewalk on Route 6 from the terminus of the present sidewalk to the entrance of the new Walmart store.

2014 legislative Issues - Members discussed possible legislative priorities for the 2014 Session and to discuss with the delegation in February. The issues emerged as the primary ones to discuss: Town Employee Appointment Reform, ECEC Renewal. Timely Budget Process, Issuance of Pistol Permits, State Police Dispatch Consolidation, and Town Personnel Appointment Reform.

Northeast Visitor Center - decision to re-open the former study

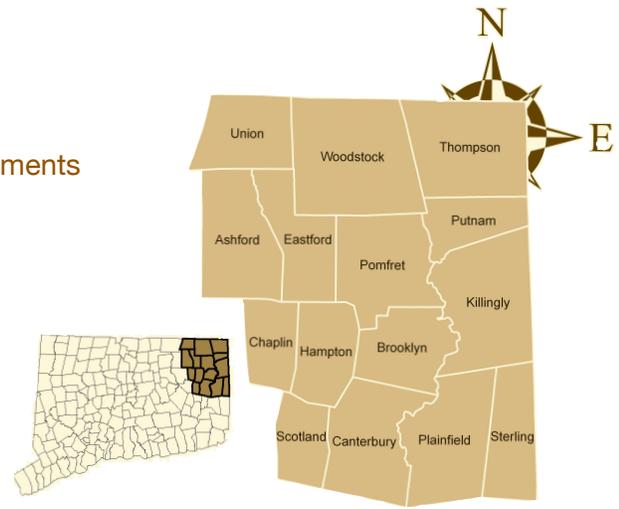
2014-15 NECCOG Budget - Director discussed that with the exception of the Paramedic Program - no increases were anticipated.

Selectmen's Roundtable - Discussion of the State Police consolidation and possible interest in sharing a building official

Adjourn - 11:30 motion by Nicholson, second by Brodeur



northeastern connecticut council of governments



Special Meeting Notice and Agenda

Date: **December 10, 2013**

Time: **9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m**

Location: 125 Putnam Pike, Dayville, CT

Agenda

Welcome and Introductions - Allan Walker, NECCOG Chair

- ▶ Meeting Purpose

Overview of NECCOG - John Filchak, Executive Director

- ▶ What is a council of governments? Recent changes to the COG structure and the MORE Commission
- ▶ How NECCOG operates
- ▶ NECCOG Programs and Projects Overview and Discussion
- ▶ Regional Issues

General Discussion/Questions

Adjourn

NECCOG meetings are conducted in accessible locations and materials can be provided in accessible formats. If you would like special accommodations, such as an interpreter, please contact the NECCOG at: (860)774-1253, or neccogoffices@neccog.org at least 3 days prior to the meeting. The NECCOG fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. The NECCOG does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, English proficiency, income, religious creed, ancestry, disability, age, gender, sexual orientation, military service, or gender identity or expression. Any person who believes himself/herself or any specific class of persons have been subjected to discrimination prohibited by Title VI or related statutes or regulations may, himself/herself or via a representative, file a complaint with the NECCOG.

Annual Meeting Minutes

December 13, 2013

Mr. Walker called the meeting to order at 12:00

Mr. Walker presented the Chair's annual address

Mr. Gray made the Nominating Committee recommendations:

- ▶ **Allan Walker** of the Town of Woodstock to be **Chair** (second term)
- ▶ **Russell Gray** of the Town of Sterling to be **Vice Chair** (first term)
- ▶ **Maureen Nicholson** of the Town of Pomfret to be **Treasurer** (first term)
- ▶ **Daniel Syme** of the Town of Scotland to be **Secretary** (first term)
- ▶ **John Hallbergh** of the Town of Killingly to be **Member-at-Large** (first term)

Motion by Mr. Gray to accept the report as presented, seconded by Mr. Walker - approved unanimously

Presentations of thanks were made to outgoing members: Mr. Place, Mr. Sear, Mr. Tanner, Mr. Groh, Mr. Platt, and Mr. Alemian

Meeting Adjourned at 2:00 p.m.