

Executive Directors Report – January 24, 2025

1) Animal Control

- The major case in Eastford, about 20 animals, has been settled and all the animals have been placed elsewhere. We have concluded the court case for the large Woodstock case, we are awaiting the judge's decision any day. The newest Woodstock case we are proceeding through the courts. We are currently caring for about 140 animals. Director Hutchins and her team have done a great job with these extraordinary cases.
- The facility in Killingly needs updating and expansion is long overdue, especially now that we provide services for many more Towns. After reviewing various past expansion plans, we are now focused on a new facility centrally located in the service area. Our internal Engineer Syl will be helping with site design work to get this project moving towards a funding request.

2) Transit District

- We met with WRTD in December to review how their operation runs, it was very enlightening. I spoke with the facility resource at DOT in December and the building assessment is still underway, but we have not seen the contractors on site as of this writing. We had a no-fee holiday season for rides, the ridership jumped by about 30% over last December. Could it be the fees or the promotions or continued recovery from Covid?

3) <u>Regional Town Administrator</u>

- We are reviewing over 20 applicants, there are several that seem qualified for the position. Expecting interviews to take place in late January and early February.

4) Regional Revaluation

- After slight adjustments to the contract, it is ready for approval and signing, on this month's agenda. Reminder: There is two payments due July 1, 2025, for Towns that participated in the last contract and this one, due to the pull forward of the State.

5) <u>Outreach</u>

- Monthly appearances continued on WINY on October 9th, 2024. My regular time will be first Fridays at 9am.
- I have started to meet with all of you individually, thank you all for the time, I know you are all very busy. I am hoping to develop common themes as to what is important or not for NECCOG to focus on going forward.

6) Annual Meeting

- Thanks to Victoria for making all the arrangements, it was perfect! Black Dog has great food, and the room was very comfortable and festive. Thanks to the LTG for attending and Chairwoman Nicholson for inviting her to speak to us. We have already reserved next year's meeting in the same room, the Friday before Xmas.