

**Town of Blandford
Conservation Commission Minutes
December 12, 2022 6:00 PM**

Commission Members in attendance: Dick Gates, John Piper, and Nate Maynard.

Others in Attendance: Jeff Jourdaine (Consulting Forester)

I. New Business

- a. **Discuss and ratify Emergency Certification for Gibbs Road temporary culvert replacement.**

This project was previously discussed as being included as part of the settlement with the PASS – North Blandford Rd. Solar Site violations. Due to the time sensitive nature of the project, the culvert is being replaced by the town under an Emergency Certification order.

II. Continuing Business

- a. **MA-DOT, 20 Woronoco Road (Rt. 23) RDA for placement of one utility pole.**

No representatives from MA-DOT available for the Request for Determination. Issue is being tabled.

- b. **Forest Management Plan for Shephard Farm property with Jeff Jourdaine**

Discussions continued regarding a Forest Management Plan and potential timber harvesting from the town owned Shephard Farm parcel. J Jourdaine is planning to remark trees on the property in yellow or red to differentiate from the markings made seven years ago. The current management plan is still in effect for three more years. J Piper had questions about the long-term vision for the property and how timber harvesting will impact potential passive recreation and hiking trail development. J Jourdaine discussed various land management strategies and how timber harvesting fits within various models and approaches. Discussions will continue regarding potential timber harvesting plans and the larger vision for the property.

Dick W. Gates
John L. Piper
Nate Maynard