

**Town of Blandford
Conservation Commission Minutes
May 8, 2023 6:00 PM**

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

Others in Attendance: Nicole Sanford and Lauren Perry (Springfield Water and Sewer).

I. New Business

- a. Springfield Water and Sewer Commission – RDA: Julius Hall Rd. Maintenance**
L Perry and N Sanford discussed the Request for Determination for maintenance of Julius Hall Road.

- Adding gravel and stone to access rd.
- No culvert replacement needed.
- C Doyle inquired about limits of work and erosion controls. Straw bales will be installed and other erosion controls as needed. Limits of work will be flagged.
- Work is being done internally by SWS and will not be contracted out.
- Falls under exemption for access and maintenance.

D Gates made a motion of negative determination for RDA. J Piper seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.

II. Continuing Business

- a. Update: Mass DOT Request for COC – Mass Turnpike Culvert Project (File # 111-0055)**

Follow up: Julia Fiske provided emails that were sent to ConCom regarding the project. ConCom responded with a green light to proceed, but there was no final COC included. Dick will follow up with MA DOT to resolve the issues and move forward.

- b. Update: Vernal Pools**

Follow up visit for documentation. Ideally capture photos in the summer when dry.

- c. Continue review of Belle Fleur Marijuana Facility modifications received 2/8/23 (File # 111-0060) and findings from site visit on 4/13/23.**

C Doyle and D Gates visited site on 4/13 to observe wetland delineation performed by S Taylor and to conduct tree flagging for tree removal near the greenhouses.

- New tree cutting was observed in the NorthEast corner riverfront area and only one location was flagged to delineate the resource area (blue flagging from S Taylor). When addressing the new trees being cut, R Romelus stated that someone must have trespassed and cut them down.

- D Gates stated that the trees flagged for removal would not be reviewed until the flagging and other issues that have been raised by the Con Comm multiple times have been addressed as requested.
- R Romelus became argumentative and the site inspection was terminated.

III. Other

a. Shepard Farm CR and SWS

Discussed Shepard Farm property with N Sanford and L Perry to update them on potential future plans and collaboration with Shepard Farm. Questions regarding Eastern boundary along Watson Brook and SSW signs posted along the access road from the gate on Rt. 23. SSW will be looking into both issues.

Callen Doyle 5/22/23
John R. Perry 5/22/23
Michael W. Gate 5/22/23