



145 Dennison Road
Essex, CT 06426
(860) 581-8554
(860) 581-8543 (FAX)
www.rivercog.org

Chester, Clinton, Cromwell,
Deep River, Durham, East Haddam,
East Hampton, Essex, Haddam, Kill-
ingworth, Lyme, Middlefield, Mid-
dletown, Old Lyme,
Old Saybrook, Portland, Westbrook

LOWER CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL AGRICULTURE COUNCIL

February 20, 2025

Members:

Chester: Cindy Pope
Clinton: Richard Martin
Cromwell: _____
Deep River
Durham: Warren Herzig
East Haddam: Aaron Taylor
East Hampton:
Essex: Connor Barnes
Haddam: John Halfinger
Killingworth: Walter Adametz
Lyme: _____
Middlefield: _____
Middletown: Rebecca Isaacson
Old Lyme:
Old Saybrook:
Portland:
Westbrook: Lisa LeMontangue

Staff:

Janice EhleMeyer

Guests:

Guy Crosby
John Hall

Meeting

The meeting was on Zoom and in person.

1. Approval of Minutes

The meeting started at 7:05 by Chairman John Halfinger. A motion was made by John Halfinger to approve November 21, 2024, December 19, 2024 and January 16, 2025

minutes. The motion was made by Warren Herzig and seconded by Richard Martin. The motion was approved unanimously.

2) Public Comments/Presentations

Guy Crosby joined the meeting to talk about his project of recycling bale wrap. Guy has a grant for \$20,000. Guy spoke about who he has worked with, and that EFS Plastics in Hazelton, PA is interested in getting the bale wrap in truck loads (18 to 20 tons in bales). EFS pays between \$16 and \$120/ton depending on how clean the wrap is. Problems are trying to collect the wrap from farms, store the wrap, make it into bales, store the bales and transport the bales. Bales 4x4x6.

A discussion followed.

3) RAC Board Members Needed

East Hampton
Middlefield
Old Lyme
Portland
Deep River - Alternate

4) Website – Traffic overview/ Featured Farmer

Site sessions – down 22%
Unique visitors – down 34%
Page views – down 26%

5) Election of Officers

The 2025 officers for RAC will be:

Chairman – John Halfinger
Co-Chairman – Warren Herzig
Secretary – Janice Ehlemeyer
Co Co-secretary – Rebecca Isaacson
Cindy Pope

A motion was made by Walter Adametz to accept the officers for 2025. Cindy Pope seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

6) Meeting Dates

The meeting dates for 2025 are proposed as:

February 20th
March 20th
April 17th
May 15th
June 19th
July 17th
No August meeting
September 18th

October 16th

November 20th

December 18th

A motion was made by Walter Adametz and seconded by Warren Herzig. Motion passed unanimously.

7) Town Reports – data base

Janice received Durham and Westbrook reports.

Janice will send out the database again.

8) Old Business

No old business.

9) New Business

Janice brought up two proposed bills,

#64 – Reporting of biomass fertilizers distributed to farmers in Eastern CT

72 – Requiring legislative approval of DEEP eviction of farmers conducting farming on state-owned property.

The Board decided not to respond to either of these proposals.

Walter Adametz will be sending a list of legislative alerts for agriculture.

10) Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 pm with a motion by Walter Adametz and seconded by Richard Martin. Motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting will be on March 20th at 7:00 pm at the RiverCOG office.
Jonathan McGee will be coming to talk about his kelp farm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Ehle/Meyer