

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: IN LIGHT OF COVID-19, AND  
PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER 7B, THE TOWN IS  
CONDUCTING THIS MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE ONLY.**

To listen to this meeting, call: 667-776-9044

Please Note:

- ✓ If you call to listen, you will not be heard by the committee members and there will be no live public comment. The public is encouraged to send their comments before or after the meeting to the following email: [jcarpenter@fairfieldct.org](mailto:jcarpenter@fairfieldct.org) with FECB in the subject line.
- ✓ As you would in a public meeting, please include your name and address with your comment.
- ✓ All comments received and verified will be included in the minutes with your name and address. Your email address will be excluded.
- ✓ Agenda/minutes can be found here: <https://www.fairfieldct.org/fecb/minutes>

**FLOOD AND EROSION CONTROL BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING  
Tuesday July 21, 2020  
7:00 pm  
Via Teleconference  
Fairfield, CT 06824**

**DRAFT MINUTES-Approved at 8/18/20 meeting.**

**Attendees:** B. Bunnell, Chair, D. Lamberty, Vice-Chair, R. Dmochowski, Secretary, P. Landino, P. Wiswell

B. Bunnell called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

**ITEM 1 ON CALL:** Approval of 6/16/20 DRAFT Minutes

*R. Dmochowski made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. D. Lamberty seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

**ITEM 2 ON CALL:** Review of FECB master plan: five- year funding plan and updates on Master plan

B. Bunnell said that she didn't get a chance to get specific updates from the town regarding the projects. R. Dmochowski has been communicating with Brian Carey regarding the FEMA response to Penfield. He will have updates at the August FECB meeting. He said he went to a Waste Water Treatment Plant Project meeting under a tent at the job trailer. Everyone was wearing masks. They haven't resolved the driver issues with the piling machine and having the state license someone to operate the machine. They had someone take the test a week before the meeting, but they hadn't heard if he passed. There is still progress in the project. They suspect there could be contaminated soil and are waiting for DEEP to tell them what they need to do. They have added drain lines and are trying to get invoicing done by the end of August to take advantage of grants. Hoping for extension due to COVID. He will have updates at the next meeting in this project also.

**ITEM 3 ON CALL:** Discussion of FECB proposal for a Town Charter revision

R. Dmochowski sent emails out to the board before the meeting and asked everyone to refer to the email. He proposed changes to the actual town charter, along with a cover letter to be sent to the BOS once approved.

**Charter revisions proposal:** The board discussed the suggested changes to amend the town charter to give the FECB maximum authority. P. Wiswell will reach out to the town attorney and ask him about getting whether an ordinance is needed or whether approval from the RTM acts as an ordinance. The board reviewed R. Dmochowski's proposed language changes. B. Bunnell said the statutes 25-84 to 25-94 should be included. R. Dmochowski stated that he wants to solidify the relationship between Public Works and FECB. He would also like to establish a line item in the DPW budget for FECB projects. P. Wiswell stated that FECB members are private citizens, not elected officials, taking on responsibilities that could affect town residents. The town would have to be behind it 100%. B. Bunnell suggested language that would make them a recommending body and not an authoritative body. P. Landino asked the question if the board is advisory or authoritarian. He thinks it is a very significant change in the scope of the board's work and thinks we should propose the changes to the BOS and start the conversation. B. Bunnell asked the board to read section 25-85 of the statute and use that as a back up proposal in the event the BOS does not approve adding the full range of state statutes. *R. Dmochowski made a motion to approve the draft charter with the discussed changes. D. Lamberty seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

**Cover letter proposed:** B. Bunnell suggested changes to the cover letter that R. Dmochowski sent to the board to be submitted with the charter to the BOS. P. Wiswell suggested changes he would make in language to protect the FECB. B. Bunnell stated that the board will approve the language changes in the cover letter, but will not send the letter and the charter until P. Wiswell speaks with the town attorney regarding protections for the FECB in regard to the town insurance, in other words, will the town defend the FECB members for actions taken on behalf of the town? *D. Lamberty made a motion to make changes as discussed to the cover letter and agree to send items to the BOS. R. Dmochowski seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

R. Dmochowski said he will make the changes with B. Bunnell and send it out to the board again before he sends it to the BOS. P. Wiswell will also send B. Bunnell his suggested language changes.

**ITEM 4 ON CALL:** Additional old or new Business as may come before the Board

- Review of proposed amendments to the zoning regulations: sec 2.12-. Flood protection and 32-Flood management.

R. Dmochowski and B. Bunnell had a conversation with Emmeline Harrigan prior to a P&Z meeting regarding the changes that were originally started with FEMA regulations relating to FEMA town flood insurance rating. Residents who have raised homes and have been given a CO may not go back and make a livable room below the elevated area. Inspectors are seeing this on a regular basis. The changes bring everything in line with the current CT building code. They are limiting the enclosed area below a dwelling in an AE zone to 299sq ft. (regular AE zone and not a LMWA zone). They want 40% visibility so the water can flow through. He wants to suggest that there doesn't need to be a limit in an AE non LMWA zone and the 40% visibility is a requirement that is not supported for open construction. B. Bunnell suggested actually including the FEMA regulations for the AE zone and specifically call out the language that they use. The P&Z are asking residents for more than the FEMA regulations. R. Dmochowski will work on the wording in his proposed changes and send to B. Bunnell. The next P&Z meeting is in September, but the FECB has a meeting in August. The board will review and discuss the revised letter at the August meeting.

Having no additional new business, *B. Bunnell made a motion to adjourn. R. Dmochowski seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:43pm.*

Respectfully submitted,

Pru O'Brien  
Recording Secretary