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**Community Advisory Council to the  
Environmental Management Commission  
Building 5221  
Camp Edwards, Massachusetts  
May 15, 2019  
5:30 p.m.**

**Meeting Minutes**

**CAC Members:**

<b><u>CAC Members:</u></b>	<b><u>Organization:</u></b>	<b><u>Telephone:</u></b>	<b><u>E-Mail:</u></b>
Mimi McConnell	CAC	508-428-9573	Mmcmcconnell934@comcast.net
Ernest Virgilio	CAC	508-776-5102	clerk@capecod.net
Ann Canedy	CAC	508-362-4561	acaned@comcast.net
CAPT Michael Hudson	CG Base Cape Cod	508-968-6641	Michael.a.hudson@uscg.mil
Andrew Campbell	CAC	508-759-3723	Cmc.capecod@comcast.net
Robert Prophett	CAC	508-563-2294	Bourneh20@aol.com
Jim Cummings	BCSO	508-3644302	jcummings@sheriff.net
Virginia Valiela	CAC	508-563-9028	valiela@hotmail.com
Col. Virginia Gaglio	102 IW	508-968-4667	Virginia.gaglio@ang.af.mil
Mark Harding	Wampanoag Tribe	508-965-0452	mark@wampworx.com

**EMC Staff:**

<b><u>EMC Staff:</u></b>	<b><u>Organization:</u></b>	<b><u>Telephone:</u></b>	<b><u>E-Mail:</u></b>
Len Pinaud	EMC Environmental Officer	508-946-2871	Leonard.pinaud@mass.gov

**Attendees:**

<b><u>Attendees:</u></b>	<b><u>Organization:</u></b>	<b><u>Telephone:</u></b>	<b><u>E-Mail:</u></b>
MAJ Alexander McDonough	MA ARNG	774-286-1373	Alexander.v.mcdonough.mil@mail.mil
Paul Rendon	JBCC Exec. Dir. Office	774-327-0643	Paul.e.rendon2.nfg@mail.mil
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Mike Howard	Epsilon	978-897-7100	mhoward@episolonassociates.com
Jeremy Pettengill	Eversource	207-754-2416	Jeremy.pettengill@eversource.com
John Zicho	Eversource	781-441-8617	John.zicho@eversource.com
Denise Bertone	Eversource	781-441-8174	Denise.ertone@eversource.com
Megan Aconfora	Eversource	203-499-9245	Meghan.aconfora@eversource.com

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## **Handouts Distributed at Meeting:**

1. Community Advisory Council Meeting Minutes for May 25, 2017
2. Community Advisory Council Meeting Minutes for October 25, 2017
3. Community Advisory Council Meeting Minutes for May 2, 2018
4. Community Advisory Council Meeting Minutes for October 4, 2018
5. Community Advisory Council Meeting Minutes for March 14, 2019
6. Environmental Officer Update
7. Upper Cape Regional Water Supply Co-Operative Well Network
8. Massachusetts National Guard Environmental and Readiness Center Update
9. Natural Resources Update
10. Combined Arms Exercise 2019 Update

### **Agenda Item #1. Welcome**

Community Advisory Council (CAC) Chair, Mr. Harding, welcomed everyone. Mr. Harding noted that he had a conversation with Mr. Dishner and will be unable to attend the meeting and his service will be coming to an end soon, he said. Mr. Harding thanked Mr. Dishner for all his service on the CAC and at Joint Base Cape Cod (JBCC).

### **Agenda Item #2: Review of CAC Meeting Minutes and Approval**

The May 25, 2017, October 25, 2017 and May 2, 2018, and October 4, 2018 and March 14, 2019 CAC meeting minutes were reviewed and Ms. Valiela moved to approve the May 25, 2017 meeting minutes and Col. Gaglio second the motion and the minutes were approved with Ms. Canedy abstaining. Ms. Valiela moved to approve the October 25, 2017 and Col. Gaglio second the motion and the minutes were approved with Ms. Canedy and Mr. Virgilio abstaining. CAPT Hudson moved to approve the May 2, 2018 meeting minutes and Col. Gaglio seconded the motion and the minutes were approved with Ms. Valiela and Mr. Virgilio abstaining. CAPT Hudson moved to approve the October 4, 2018 meeting minutes and Col. Gaglio seconded the motion and the minutes were approved with Ms. Canedy, Mr. Virgilio, Ms. Valiela, Mr. Campbell, and Mr. Prophett abstaining. Ms. Valiela moved to approve the March 14, 2019 meeting minutes and Col. Gaglio seconded the motion and the minutes were approved with Ms. Canedy and Mr. Virgilio abstaining.

### **Agenda Item #3: Eversource Switching Station Update – Michael Howard, Epsilon Associates, Inc.**

Mr. Howard stated he is from Epsilon Associates, Inc., a consulting and engineering firm in Natick. He introduced Eversource Team Staff John Zicho, Director of Substations Engineering, Denise Bertone, Environmental Project Coordinator, Jeremy Pettengill, Project Manager, and Meghan Aconfora, Outreach Lead.

Mr. Howard displayed a map of the Eversource Switching Station location in the northwest corner of JBCC; there is an existing switching station that the project proposes to replace. He noted that the existing station has been in service for over 60 years. The new switching station will replace it.

Mr. Howard explained that the process to site the switching station started in 2016. After discussion with the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP), the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife and the Massachusetts National Guard, Site 6 was identified as the appropriate site for the switching station. In order to obtain the land for Site 6, an Article 97 process was required. The easement swap and modifications proposed by Division of Fisheries and Wildlife for NHESP resulted in protection of over 6 acres of higher quality habitat and state water protection in exchange of 3.5 acres: a 1.7 to 1 protection

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ratio. The mitigation package includes demolition of the existing station and restoration of the area to a more natural state of habitat.

Mr. Howard stated that 85,000 yards of soil will need to be removed. The soil has been sampled; suitable soil will be repurposed and disposed of on site or off site

Mr. Howard stated the construction schedule is anticipated to begin in 2020 Q-1 and the replacement switching station scheduled for 2021-Q4. The underground utility lines will be moved in 2023-Q4. Currently, there is coordination with the Massachusetts Army National Guard and the EMC to provide comments on the MEPA review.

Mr. Virgilio asked if the project has anything to do with coordination with Falmouth and the transmission project off of Martha's Vineyard with lines being brought in. Mr. Zicho replied the new switching station project will help with reliability of power. He noted that the interconnect transmission project for Martha's Vineyard has nothing to do with the switching station project.

#### **Agenda Item #4. Election of CAC Chair/Vice Chair – *CAC Chair/CAC Members***

Mr. Pinaud asked if Mr. Harding was interested in running again for Chair. Mr. Harding replied that he chooses not to be Chair but could be Vice Chair. Mr. Pinaud said there is a vacancy for Chair and asked if Mr. Harding was nominating himself for Vice Chair. Mr. Harding won't nominate himself.

Mr. Pinaud asked for nominations from the floor for Chair. Ms. Valiela nominated Ms. McConnell for Chair; Ms. Canedy seconded the nomination. Ms. McConnell accepted the nomination.

Mr. Cummings nominated Mr. Harding for Vice Chair, and Ms. Valiela seconded the nomination. Mr. Harding accepted the nomination.

Mr. Pinaud asked if there are any other nominations for Chair or Vice Chair. Mr. Cummings asked for both nominations to be closed and Ms. Valiela seconded and all were in favor.

Mr. Pinaud stated that Ms. McConnell is the Chair, and Mr. Harding is the Vice Chair; all in favor of the vote say "I" and the CAC members said "I." Mr. Pinaud asked if anyone was opposed or if there were abstentions, and there were none.

#### **Agenda Item #5: EMC By-Laws and General Update – *Mr. Len Pinaud, EMC EO***

Mr. Pinaud said that the most recent changes to the By-Laws were presented to the Science Advisory Council (SAC) at their meeting in April. He would like to review the changes and ask the Chair or Vice Chair to poll the group, and if in agreement, he will bring the By-Laws to the EMC for a vote.

Mr. Pinaud stated on page 3 of the By-Laws, CAC and SAC membership, he noted that alternates cannot be used for a meeting. The language was changed to reflect that: "no alternates are accepted for appointed members for either the SAC or CAC."

Mr. Pinaud stated that the CAC and SAC may make a recommendation for member appointments to the Governor's Office through the EMC chairperson. The EMC chairperson would communicate those to the Governor's office.

The SAC reviewed the section pertaining to advisory council member absences and thought the requirement for a certificate from a physician was too overbearing and that was stricken. Ms. Canedy

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asked what is appropriate documentation? Mr. Pinaud replied according to the SAC discussion, that would be at the Chair's discretion. Col. Gaglio stated that if a member is going to be absent couldn't they email Mr. Pinaud or the Chair. Ms. Canedy said that would be appropriate documentation. Mr. Pinaud asked if there were any objections with the members and there were none.

Mr. Pinaud stated that on page 6, the top of the page, there is an addition to the remote participation from the Open Meeting Law and most of the language is verbatim. There was a question when the Chair is setting the meeting up and making a special accommodation for someone who would like to participate remotely there has to be some kind of notice. The paragraph was written so that members will notify the Chair and that has been reviewed by legal staff. The SAC thought that the Environmental Officer should also be notified.

Col. Gaglio asked if the quorum was changed. Mr. Pinaud said that the quorum is now a simple majority of 8 members. For remote participation there has to be a quorum of at least 8 members in the room to have the meeting.

Col. Gaglio moved to support the By-Laws with changes and Ms. Valiela seconded and all were in agreement.

**Agenda Item #6: Camp Edwards Update – Dr. Mike Ciaranca, E&RC, MA ARNG**

Dr. Ciaranca reported that MAJ Alex McDonough is now Plans and Training Officer. Warrant Officer 1 (WO1) Christopher Corbett is the new Range Control Officer.

Dr. Ciaranca stated that there is a MassDOT proposal to work the Canal Area Improvement Project with the Army Corps of Engineers. He pointed out on the slides Rte. 6 relocating exit 1 from the bridge area down to the easement along Rte. 6. There are no impacts to the side where the Reserve can be but construction can change and there are trespassing concerns.

Dr. Ciaranca stated that the trespassing signage is being made and a contract has been bid out to install the signs in the Reserve. Mr. Pinaud stated that the signs and cameras have been delivered and waiting on the contract for installation; signs will be placed every 100 feet on trees.

Dr. Ciaranca reported that the draft SOP and map are ready for review for the Reserve/Training Area Refueling EPS 15.3.3 update. The draft EPS language has been developed. In Fall 2019, the EPS change will be proposed to the SAC, CAC and EMC.

Dr. Ciaranca stated that there are 25,000 rounds of lead ammunition remaining in Camp Edwards' inventory; in 2019/2020 Camp Edwards will be using copper ammunition only. Lead-based pistol ammunition will be in use at Echo Range only. He said that Echo Range was used on April 6 by Rhode Island Special Forces. They suggested adding two targets at each end of the range on their own lanes for corrective actions. The range should be opening by summer 2019.

Dr. Ciaranca said that the STAPP systems on Juliet and Kilo ranges will be dismantled upon availability of funding. There is the potential to retain one range for outside agency use. Dr. Ciaranca stated that Tango Range STAPP has been removed. The design for rebuilding it as a copper zeroing range is at more than 30%. The range size will double from 15 to 32 lanes.

Dr. Ciaranca stated that the Multi-Purpose Machine Gun Range (MPMG) is a Military Construction (MILCON) project for 2020. The design is at 35% and the Environmental Performance Standards (EPSs) are being incorporated. The NEPA/MEPA is being developed and coordination with NHESP is ongoing.

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**Agenda Item #7: Natural Resources Update** – Mr. Jacob McCumber, Natural Resources Manager, MA ARNG

Mr. McCumber said that he started planning how to mitigate the MPMG focusing on development, fire breaks, and habitat management. Mass Wildlife is part of the mitigation, he noted.

Mr. McCumber said there was a meeting regarding mitigation with Mass Wildlife, BG Faux, LTC Porter, and others to create a joint mitigation bank for Air and Army National Guard working together as partners.

Mr. McCumber stated that the Solar Project planned for the landfill is on hold and land transfers for supporting that project (130 acres) were transferred and 150 acres from the Volpe Center site in the middle of the Cantonment area are in process of transfer.

Mr. McCumber stated that he spoke with Mass Wildlife about renegotiating for a potential solar project in the future with a much better deal based on partnerships and management plans to tie in with all the projects. He will be working jointly across the Air and Army Guard and looking holistically at all the different partnerships and would be able to create a long term mitigation bank that makes each of the projects achievable through mitigation. He noted that he has developed an eight-year Natural Resource budget that is approximately 300k to 500k a year with Mass Wildlife over the last five months. There have been monthly meetings developing with the Army installation that is a huge partnership and conservation benefit that is only possible because of some of the range projects, he said.

Mr. McCumber stated that there is a draft Conservation Management Plan in process with Mass Wildlife that should be finalized in the next 6 months. The permit is specifically for the MPMG but will be established for the overall mitigation bank.

Mr. McCumber stated that the Clam Shrimp Mitigation permitting has been completed and Clam Shrimp puddle relocation was started in the spring. He displayed a photo on Herbert Road and noted that it was impassable for one of the most used training areas on the base. The puddle was drained with sediment samples taken to collect the Clam Shrimp eggs and move them to the other site. He noted that Roads and Grounds have already fixed the road, which is passable for training. Mr. McCumber said that on CAT Road in the Northern part of Training site and in June/July adult Clam Shrimp will be scooped up in buckets to be transported to other puddles to make the road more passable.

Mr. McCumber stated that there was one of the best yearly springs for burning in 2019 for prescribed fire; 524 acres were burned.

Mr. McCumber stated the Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan is ten years old and the update will be contracted out. The primary goal is to be much more specific on the objectives with partnerships over the next five years.

Ms. Valiela asked that she has heard that the Barnstable County Fire Training Area is being closed and the proposal is to bring it to the base and can it be in this area of Reserve at all. Dr. Ciaranca replied that the Barnstable County Fire Training would have to be in the Cantonment area.

Ms. Valiela asked if the Landfill has been transferred. Col. Gaglio replied no, the Landfill is still on the 102<sup>nd</sup> Property Books. Col. Gaglio stated that the Parcel K the 150 acres of where the Volpe Center resides on was transferred back to the Commonwealth and is still waiting on the Governor's signature and will be used for future projects. Mr. McCumber stated that Parcel K is partial grassland and other portions are being converted. He said that the area will be cleared and grass seeded. Col. Gaglio pointed out a black area that has already been transferred back to the Commonwealth through the Special Military

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Resource Commission (SMRC) in approximately 2012. There were separate parcels of land and now Mr. McCumber has made one that is a bank for all of the Massachusetts National Guard.

Mr. McCumber stated that was 130 acres that was owned by the SMRC and last month there was approval from the SMRC to transfer the additional 120 acres to Mass Wildlife. There was license that expires this year and will be put into mitigation bank, he noted.

**Agenda Item #8: Combined Arms Exercise – Request for the Use of Training Simulators – MAJ Alexander McDonough, MA ARNG Camp Edwards/Dr. Michael Ciaranca, E&RC, MA ARNG**

MAJ McDonough said the Combined Arms Exercise (CAX) will be held 27 July – 10 August 2019. It is an exercise for units getting evaluated and assessed on readiness at Camp Edwards. There will be approximately 900 soldiers and staff attending. The primary units are Combat Service Support and Infantry, Engineers, Military Police, Chemical Signal, Cyber Aviation, Intelligence, Close Air Support, Brigade Support Battalion, Explosive Ordnance Disposal, Transportation, and DoD units. The main goal of the exercise is to bring units into a tactical setting so they can be evaluated against any threat.

MAJ McDonough stated that the primary areas of operations are Demo 2, BA-6, TTB Kelley and Dig Site 3. There will be Non-Standard Training Requests for tactical fueling, Sierra Range non-standard use, use of CS (Tear Gas) outside the former NBC chambers, and for use of training simulators.

MAJ McDonough said the MAARNG would like to test the following simulators in the 2019 Combined Arms Exercise: Smoke Grenades (M18), Star Clusters, Parachute Flares and Smoke (M158A1 and M127A1), Ground Burst (Artillery) Simulators (M115A2).

MAJ McDonough stated that the objective is to provide data regarding potassium perchlorate residue from simulators in a military field training setting and to determine whether or not the simulators are appropriate for use at Camp Edwards during the 2019 CAX.

Dr. Ciaranca stated that the constituent of concern is Potassium Perchlorate, which can inhibit thyroid function. Dr. Ciaranca stated that the regulatory standards are Massachusetts Drinking Water Standard of 2 parts per billion (ppb), 1ppb-sensitive populations. The Massachusetts Soil Standard is 100ppb.

Dr. Ciaranca stated that the M115A2 (artillery or ground burst simulator) has the greatest concentration of potassium perchlorate as compared to the other proposed devices. Dr. Ciaranca stated that the tests done in 2009 showed: in sand 3 to 78ppb (0.15-26ppb/device). The dunnage was 2,840ppb.

Dr. Ciaranca stated that the devices to be tested are smoke grenades and the ground burst simulator. The initial field test will be conducted at TTB Kelley. The results will be provided to the SAC.

Dr. Ciaranca stated that the results will be provided, evaluated, and discussed with the EMC to determine if use of the simulators is acceptable in terms of environmental protection and compatible military training.

**Agenda Item #9: Public Comment Period – Mark Harding, CAC Chair**

There was no public comment.

**Agenda Item #10. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.