

**Quabbin Watershed Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022**  
**6:30 PM**

**Location:** DCR Quabbin Visitor Center, 100 Winsor Dam Road, Belchertown, MA 01007

**Members:** (members in **BOLD** were present)

Massachusetts Council of Sportsmen: **Tom Berube (chairperson)**

Alternate: **Robert Sagan**

Trout Unlimited: Jerry Eves

Alternate: Joe Babineau

Quabbin Fisherman's Association: **Clayton Sydla**

Alternate: Mike Laprade; **Bill Kimball**

Worcester County League of Sportsmen: **Ronald Komar**

Alternate: John Root

North Worcester County Quabbin Anglers Association: **Samantha Robinson**

Alternate: **Tom Barnes**; Mike Polchlopek

Mass Audubon: Tom Lautzenheiser

Alternate:

Swift River Valley Historical Society: James Boyko

Alternate: Jane Peirce

Massachusetts Wildlife Federation: Bill Pula

Alternate:

New England Sierra Club:

Alternate:

Friends of Quabbin, Inc.: **J.R. Greene (vice chairperson)**

Alternate: Gene Theroux

General Public: **Ralph Lapinskas**

Alternate:

**DCR staff present:** Maria Beiter, Dan Clark

**Members of the public present:** Andrew Robinson, Scott Robinson

## **Meeting Start Time: 6:34 PM**

### **Approval of Minutes of Meetings on June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Approving the minutes from the previous meeting were tabled until the next meeting due to there not being a quorum.

### **2022 Cold weather quarantine (CWQ) dates**

The schedule for the 2022 CWQ dates has been finalized. The schedule has been posted at the boat launch areas as well as on Quabbin's fishing web page. The public posting/schedule is also attached at the end of these minutes.

### **Gate 43 road update**

Clayton asked about the possibility of crack sealing the gate 43 road. Dan answered he will discuss the idea with the road crew and see if it possible to get it done between when the fishing season ends this year and opens next year.

Clayton also asked about getting the road repaved and put into the FY24 budget. Dan spoke about the challenges of having a long list of projects that need to be completed within a given fiscal year, but not having a capital budget. Project priority is based on several factors. The major projects budget was discussed, along with the possibility of getting the road repaving added to that list. If another source of money is found, such as a federal grant (American Rescue Plan Act) for infrastructure, it could allow for the repaving to be done sooner.

### **Gate 8 road**

Clayton talked about the condition of the gate 8 road and the issue of people getting flat tires from the sharp rocks on the road. Multiple examples were given. He asked about the possibility of getting the grader over to the road before the season ends. Dan answered that he would ask Paul Lapierre about it, but the roads crews are currently busy getting the roads on Prescott Peninsula ready for the controlled hunt later this year.

### **Camp cook**

Clayton talked about a former camp (Camp Cook) at Pepper Mill Pond. He passed around photos of downed trees scattered in the water along the shoreline. He asked about the possibility of having many of those downed trees pulled out of the water to enhance the fishing experience at the pond. Dan answered that he could review the request and give a definitive answer at the next meeting, if need be. He did mention that he'd be reluctant to pull dead trees out of the pond that got there via natural processes.

### **Member Issues**

J.R. asked for more information about a recent proposal he heard about regarding decommissioning the ranger station on Blue Meadow Road. Dan elaborated that the plan is to vacate the forestry office and ranger station and relocate the staff to the administration building and blue meadow conference center. Dan will keep the committee updated as the project moves forward, it is still in the proposal phase.

Ralph asked about the status of the keystone bridge inside gate 29 that is failing. Dan answered that FOQ came up with some money (\$15,000) and a stone mason from VT was hired and prepared a preliminary report. A subsequent report will outline potential options and costs associated with salvaging the bridge.

Tom Berube announced that he is stepping down as a member and chairperson of the committee. He represents the MA Council of Sportsmen. He served on QWAC for over 35 years; it is much appreciated. It was mentioned that the group will soon be nominating/appointing Bill Pula to replace Tom on the committee.

**Meeting End Time: 7:11 PM**

### **Upcoming QWAC Meetings:**

- Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 6:30 PM – DCR Quabbin Visitor Center, 100 Winsor Dam Road, Belchertown, MA 01007



**Quabbin Boat Seal  
Cold Weather Quarantine (CWQ)  
2022 Schedule**

Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup> - New Salem

Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup> - New Salem

Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> - Belchertown

Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> - Belchertown

Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> - Belchertown

**The Quabbin Visitor Center Will Start Taking CWQ Appointments on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.**

- All boats and motors must meet Quabbin regulations.
- All private boats launched at Quabbin must have an intact Quabbin Boat Seal.
- The Cold Weather Quarantine program is free of charge.
- All boat owners must arrange appointments with the Quabbin Visitor Center.
- DCR is **NOT CLEANING** your boat and trailer. This is an inspection and seal program.
- All surfaces of the trailer, boat, motor, live wells, and bilge that may come in contact with the reservoir water shall be cleaned by the owner prior to inspection.
- There shall be no dirt, grease, oil, leaves, rust, fungi, or other material that may mask the inspection of the trailer and boat.
- There shall be no moisture or standing water in the bilge or live wells. The owner shall dry the interior of the bilge and live wells prior to inspection.
- The motor shall be lifted to full up position either by hand or battery during the inspection so that the underside can be inspected.
- Carpeting is allowed on the trailer bunks and rails only during this winter quarantine program. Freezing temperatures will kill aquatic invasive species.
- Carpeting is not allowed during warm weather decontaminations.

**Call the Quabbin Visitor Center to make an appointment at  
413-323-7221. Press 0 when the recording starts to speak to a staff person, leave a  
voicemail if necessary.**

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS • EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

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