

CORNWALL INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, April 7, 2026, 5:30 p.m.
Cornwall Public Library, 30 Pine Street – Cornwall, CT
Hybrid Meeting

1. Call to Order – Appointment of Alternates

Chairman William Hurlburt called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm and took attendance.

Members Present: W. Hurlburt, P. Demy, I. Tyson, J. Morgan, G. Rubio, A. Gracey (A).

Also Present: S. Musselman.

Members Absent: D. Bennett.

Appointment of Alternates: A. Gracey.

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. Special Meeting – March 9, 2026.

P. Demy moved to approve the 3/9/26 special meeting minutes. G. Rubio seconded and the motion to approve carried unanimously.

3. Application Receptions

- a. **IWA #701 – Eliot Johnson on behalf of Kristen & Brian Bedell – 15 Popple Swamp Road** – Construction of 2,000 ft² addition to an existing dwelling. MBL# D06-002-004.

Project manager Eliot Johnson was present on behalf of the applicants and gave an overview of the application to construct an addition at 15 Popple Swamp. The proposed 2,000 ft² addition is within the upland review area of an intermittent watercourse just west of the project site. The entire project site is within existing lawn area, and no cutting of trees is proposed. E. Johnson submitted photos of the dwelling to illustrate where the work will be done in relation to the street and noted that if Commissioners wanted to inspect the property that the addition has been staked out and that everything is visible from the stone wall along the road edge. E. Johnson stated that silt fence and temporary soil stockpiles will be utilized for erosion controls throughout the project duration. An existing septic tank will be pumped and crushed, a new septic tank will be installed behind the existing dwelling. No changes are proposed to the leaching fields. All work has received approval from TAHD.

With no further discussion J. Morgan moved to accept the application. I. Tyson seconded and the motion to accept carried unanimously.

- b. IWA #702 – Ian Branson on behalf of Matte Adams, LLC – 61 Castle Road –** PDR for a timber harvest for pine thinning and salvage of oak / ash affected by invasive spongy moth and emerald ash borer, respectively within the upland review area along with the installation of a temporary stream crossing. MBL# D03-001-003.

As Ian Branson wasn't initially present, G. Rubio moved to table the application until he arrived. I. Tyson seconded and the motion to table carried unanimously. After discussion item #3c concluded, discussion turned back to #3b as I. Branson was now present and arrived at 5:40 pm.

I. Branson was present for the application and gave an overview of the Petition for a Declaratory Ruling for a timber harvest at 61 Castle Road. The impetus of the harvest is to salvage oak and ash trees that have been affected by the spongy moth and emerald ash borer, respectively. During the harvest select white pine will also be thinned out in areas where the stands are too dense to promote growth of the healthier pines. There will be limited cutting within the regulated area of a seasonal watercourse, and a stream crossing will be utilized to access other areas of the forest. The watercourse crossing is existing and was utilized from a prior harvest in the 2000s; typically, the watercourse is dry. I. Branson stated that if the conditions were dry that no crossing infrastructure would be necessary to get the machines across the watercourse, however, if it is flowing corduroy will be installed to prevent erosion. Forrest Turner and John Morris of Maple Ridge Forestry will be doing the harvest, and all work is expected to be finished by 5/15/26. The foresters will utilize the existing skid rows wherever possible, and a harvester and forwarder will be used to conduct the harvest. A log landing was approved by the town on Dudleytown Road as the driveway of 61 Castle is far too narrow to get trucks in and out of. I. Branson stated that the soils around the log landing are well drained glacial gravel and that an anti-tracking pad will be installed to limit egress of debris and mud onto the road. Areas shown in yellow hashes on the site plan are designated as "slash-free areas" and no chipping will be done on site. Commissioners requested that I. Branson contact S. Musselman before work is expected to begin. I. Branson noted that he walked the site with S. Musselman on 4/3/26.

With no further discussion I. Tyson moved to approve the PDR request for a timber harvest for pine thinning and salvage of oak / ash affected by invasive spongy moth and emerald ash borer, respectively within the upland review area along with the installation of a temporary stream crossing at 61 Castle Road. A. Gracey seconded and the motion to approve carried unanimously.

- c. IWA #703 – Joshua Tyson, Frost Excavating, on behalf of April & Sandy Neubauer – 141 Valley Road –** Grading work to restore property from sinkholes resulting from previous storm debris burial. Area to be graded is approx. 50' x 75' requiring 100 yd³ +/- of fill. MBL# D05-001-007.

Josh Tyson was present on behalf of the applicants and gave an overview of the project and the site history that necessitated the proposed work. After the tornado in 1989, part of the property was utilized for a dump for logs and stumps. Since then, the area has settled significantly and can no longer be mowed or even brush hogged. The affected area is approx. 50' x 75' and requires 100 yd³ of fill. W. Hurlburt asked where the fill would come from. J. Tyson responded that clean fill will be brought in from other job sites in Cornwall and they will regrade with a subsoil base before adding topsoil to ensure that the re-graded area compacts properly. The work area is within the regulated area of a stream / beaver meadow network along the edge of Coltsfoot Valley and J. Tyson noted that the area is currently dry as beaver activity has been low in this area in the last couple years. The project site will be flagged in advance of the next meeting so Commissioners can see where the work is proposed.

G. Rubio moved to accept the application. P. Demy seconded and the motion to accept carried unanimously.

4. Application Considerations: None.

5. Agent Determination

- a. **IWA #700 – Thomas Eucalitto – 39 Jewell Street** – Installation of 1000 gallon pump chamber and two (2) 2500 gallon holding tanks with high water alarm for storage of cheese processing waste. MBL# D06-001-015.

S. Musselman reported that he issued an agent determination for the work at 39 Jewell Street and that J. Tyson is the contractor. Work is underway and should be completed soon. Erosion controls have been installed on site.

6. Inland Wetlands Agent Report

Commissioners reviewed and discussed S. Musselman's IWA report dated 4/7/26.

7. Correspondence: None.

8. Adjournment

P. Demy moved to adjourn at 5:59 pm. G. Rubio seconded and the motion to adjourn carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Spencer Musselman
Land Use Administrator
Town of Cornwall, CT