



**CT River Gateway Commission Annual Meeting Minutes – Hybrid Meeting  
Thursday, October 24, 2024, 7:00 PM  
RiverCOG Conference Room and via Zoom**

**Present:** **Chester:** Misha Semënov-Leiva; **Deep River:** Jerry Roberts; **East Haddam:** Debbie Langdon, **Essex:** Jim Hiller (Alternate); **Haddam:** Mike Farina (Secretary), Erin Ortega (Alternate); **Old Lyme:** Suzanne Thompson (Chair), Greg Futoma (Alternate); **Old Saybrook:** William Webb (Vice Chair); **Lyme:** Susan Fox, Lisa Wage (Alternate); **RiverCOG North:** Raul de Brigard; Alan Ponanski (Alternate); **RiverCOG South:** Dr. Clayton Penniman; **Ex Officio:** Melvin Woody.

**Absent:** **Chester:** Tom Brelsford (Alternate); **East Haddam:** Cray Brownell; **Essex:** Peter Fleischer **Fenwick:** Newt Brainard; **CT DEEP:** Kathleen Perzanowski.

**Staff support present:** Susie Beckman (RiverCOG), Sarah Makowicki (Clerk).

### **I. Agenda**

1. Call to Order: Chair Thompson called the meeting to order at 9:17 PM.

2. Approval of Agenda

A **motion** was made by A. Ponanski, seconded by M. Farina, to approve the Annual Meeting Agenda.

**Voting in favor:** M. Semënov-Leiva, J. Roberts, D. Langdon, J. Hiller, M. Farina, S. Fox, S. Thompson, W. Webb, R. de Brigard, C. Penniman; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None. The motion **passed** unanimously, 10-0-0.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

A **motion** was made by A. Ponanski, seconded by C. Penniman, to approve the October 26, 2023 Meeting Minutes.

**Voting in favor:** M. Semënov-Leiva, J. Roberts, D. Langdon, J. Hiller, M. Farina, S. Fox, S. Thompson, W. Webb, R. de Brigard, C. Penniman; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None. The motion **passed** unanimously, 10-0-0.

4. Chairman's Report

Chair Thompson did not give a report.

5. Approval of 2025 Meeting Dates

A **motion** was made by A. Ponanski, seconded by C. Penniman, to approve the 2025 Meeting Dates with the correction of the year 2024 to 2025.

**Voting in favor:** M. Semënov-Leiva, J. Roberts, D. Langdon, J. Hiller, M. Farina, S. Fox, S. Thompson, W. Webb, R. de Brigard, C. Penniman; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None. The motion **passed** unanimously, -10-0-0.

6. Elections

a. Officers

W. Webb nominates Suzanne Thompson for Chairman of the Connecticut River Gateway Commission for the 2025 term. R. de Brigard seconds the nomination. There are no additional nominations, nominations are closed, and a vote is held.

**Voting in favor:** M. Semënov-Leiva, J. Roberts, D. Langdon, J. Hiller, M. Farina, S. Fox, S. Thompson, W. Webb, R. de Brigard, C. Penniman; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None. The motion **passed** unanimously, 10-0-0.

A.Ponanski nominates William Webb for Vice Chairman of the Connecticut River Gateway Commission for the 2025 term. G. Futoma seconds the nomination. There are no additional nominations, nominations are closed, and a vote is held.

**Voting in favor:** M. Semënov-Leiva, J. Roberts, D. Langdon, J. Hiller, M. Farina, S. Fox, S. Thompson, W. Webb, R. de Brigard, C. Penniman; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None. The motion **passed** unanimously, 10-0-0.

J. Hiller nominates Mike Farina for Secretary of the Connecticut River Gateway Commission for the 2025 term. B Webb seconds the nomination. There are no additional nominations, nominations are closed, and a vote is held.

**Voting in favor:** M. Semënov-Leiva, J. Roberts, D. Langdon, J. Hiller, M. Farina, S. Fox, S. Thompson, W. Webb, R. de Brigard, C. Penniman; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None. The motion **passed** unanimously, 10-0-0.

J. Hiller nominates Erin Ortega for Treasurer of the Connecticut River Gateway Commission for the 2025 term. C. Penniman seconds the nomination. There are no additional nominations, nominations are closed, and a vote is held.

**Voting in favor:** M. Semënov-Leiva, J. Roberts, D. Langdon, J. Hiller, M. Farina, S. Fox, S. Thompson, W. Webb, R. de Brigard, C. Penniman; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None. The motion **passed** unanimously, 10-0-0.

#### 7. Conflict of Interest (COI) Statements

Forms were disbursed to all Commission members before the meeting, and should be completed, signed, and sent back to Ms. Beckman.

#### 8. Adjournment

A motion was made by A. Ponanski, seconded by C. Penniman to adjourn the meeting.

**Voting in favor:** M. Semënov-Leiva, J. Roberts, D. Langdon, J. Hiller, M. Farina, S. Fox, S. Thompson, W. Webb, R. de Brigard, C. Penniman; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None. The motion **passed** unanimously, -10-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Makowicki, Clerk

**The next regular meeting of the Gateway Commission is scheduled for Thursday, December 5, 2023, at 7:00 PM.**

Minutes are posted in compliance with Connecticut’s Freedom of Information Act. Please note that edits may be made to these minutes prior to their acceptance by the Commission at its next meeting. Any changes will be included within the next meeting’s minutes