

Attendance: Please see attachment

**Connecticut River Valley Council of Elected Officials
Minutes
September 27, 2006**

I. Chairman Phil Miller called the meeting to order at noon in the clubhouse of the Lyman Orchards Golf Club. Chairman Miller called for round table introductions.

II. Guest

Chairman Miller introduced Bob Wall of Smart Power who presented various ways to achieve the goal of using 20% Clean Energy by 2010. Wind, solar and hydro is the basic alternatives.

Incentives are being offered to towns to join the program. If, in addition to using Clean Energy for a percentage of the municipal power source, 100 local customers join the program, the town can receive a free solar PV. The PV is a 1 KW Photo Voltaic system and is usually installed at a school. It provides that much additional free electricity. Towns in a regional school system can pool their efforts and be credited for each 100 private accounts in the combined towns.

Wind, solar and hydro installations are all eligible for the program. A town, business or individual can also simply sign with their power company and pay a surcharge for the inclusion of clean energy sources in the on line transmissions.

Bob Wall mentioned that it only cost Essex an additional \$200 for 19 megawatts.

Mr. Wall responded to a question on adequate wind for wind turbines by referencing the web site True Wind-Camelot on Google.

Tim Griswold noted that a business can receive tax credits that are not available to homeowners. Individuals can sell excess power.

Tony Bondi expressed skepticism that the program would be embraced unless the individuals received an immediate monetary incentive.

Bob Wall mentioned concern for the survival of our descendants and noted that the cost of fossil fuel and renewable energy is getting closer. The goal for Connecticut is 7% by 2010. Regional efforts are encouraged.

A meeting will be held soon in Essex.. Details will be announced.

III. Minutes

The minutes of the July 2006 meeting were approved by consensus.

IV. Business

A. Legislative Report

Representative Kalinowski said that he found the meeting of particular interest since he is part of the Energy Committee in the House of Representatives. He noted that the Legislature is faced with deciding what to do with the present surplus and the \$212,000,000 surplus projected for next year.

V. Old Business

There was no old business.

VI. New Business

A. Next Meeting

Chairman Miller announced that the October meeting will be held in Durham. The topic will be Connecticut Historic Preservation Grants.

B. Future meetings

Chairman Miller announced that Water Partnerships will be discussed in November. Selectman Bondi offered to host the meeting if he can find a suitable caterer.

C. Linda Krause reminded members that this week is the deadline for designating a Regional Planning Agency to Administer the Emergency Management account for the town. Each town that designates an RPA to administer the account on their behalf will receive a bonus of \$2,000 in additional funding.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Bergren, Secretary