

Minutes of Annual Meeting of the
Edward Farrar Utility District
Wednesday May 13, 2026
held at 28 North Main Street, Waterbury VT 05676

Board of Commissioners: P. Howard Flanders, Chair; Robert Finucane, Cynthia Parks, Natalie Sherman and Rick Weston.

District Staff: Bill Woodruff, Manager; Karen Petrovic, Clerk

Public: Gary Dillon, Kenny Ryan, Tom Gloor, Mark & Vicki Alberghini, Lisa Scagliotti, Alec & Jane Tuscany, Valerie Rogers, Alyssa Johnson, Anne Imhoff, Marie Gervais, Richard Bilodeau

Call to Order: P. Flanders called the 8th Annual Edward Farrar Utility District meeting to order at 7:33pm. P. Flanders opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and the dedication of the annual report to Alec Tuscany.

R. Weston moved to nominate P. Howard Flanders as Moderator, which was seconded by R. Finucane. A vote was held and passed unanimously.

R. Weston moved to dispense with the reading of the warning. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Article 1: K. Ryan made a motion to act on the reports of the officers of the Edward Farrar Utility District. The motion was seconded by A. Tuscany. P. Flanders reviewed the reports of officers with highlights on items related to the Cross-Country water line currently in place for water service from Guptil Road through East Wind Drive. This project will improve water quality to the residence and fire protection in the area. The Marsh House, located at 51 South Main Street, which was sold to Downstreet Housing will open soon. The watershed public use meetings and considerations. There is a Union contract recently signed with the EFUD staff. The study to merge with the Town was not completed, however it is still being considered. T. Gloor would like a commitment to a timeline for this study to be completed. The board has committed to discuss this at their June meeting. Questions were raised due to recent discussions related to hiring a separate manager while the study for merging has not been completed. T. Gloor reiterated his views regarding the Local Options Tax (LOT) the Town is collecting. The majority of sales tax is paid in the village boundaries, yet EFUD is not receiving any portion of the LOT. Discussion about updating the RFP to reflect all the aspects of a merger and not strictly on the economics. All the EFUD operators now have dual certifications to better serve the district. UVM has completed a landscape inventory assessment on the 500-acre EFUD watershed property.

The District managers' report includes the announcement of the award of a Hazard Mitigation Grant which is close to going out to bid.

The Water and Sewer budgets were reviewed. The sale of property revenue in each budget in the amount of \$69,000 is for the sale of 51 South Main Street. Other details of the budget were discussed such as loan proceeds in 2024 in the amount of \$750,000, increased operating costs and inflation.

An overview of the UDAG Revolving Loan fund was provided including the committee members and open meeting laws. It is the responsibility of the Chair of the Loan Fund Review Committee to warn meetings. In the past interest rates on loans have been a manager's recommendation. A review of the loans was provided including terms.

There was a voter request for more details of the UDAG accounts in the years to come including when the loans originated and if they are current. The Ice Center was given relief until September 2027, 5 years following COVID.

A floor vote was held approving the reports of officers.

By consent Article 2 was passed over and Article 3 was considered.

Article 3: R. Finucane made a motion to set the compensation of the District officers for the ensuing year as follows: \$3,000 for the District Clerk/Treasurer, \$2,000 for the Chair, and \$1,500 for each District Commissioner. The motion was seconded by R. Weston; **The motion was passed by floor vote.**

Article 4: R. Weston made a motion that the voters authorize the Commissioners to borrow a sum up to \$200,000 for a period not to exceed 5 years to make improvements to the Water System. C. Parks seconded the motion. A. Imhoff made a friendly amendment to the motion that the amount does not exceed \$200,000. C. Parks seconded the amendment. **A vote was held on the amendment which passed unanimously. A floor vote on the amended motion was held and passed unanimously.** B. Woodruff stated there was consideration being made to borrow for the new roof that is needed on the Water Treatment Plant.

Article 2: To elect by Australian ballot the following officers: Two District Commissioners for a term of one year; and one District Commissioner for a term of three years. With 176 votes cast by Australian ballot, the results of Article 2 are as follows:

For District Commissioner for a term of one year:

Valerie Rogers: 68

Natalie Sherman: 114

Rick Weston: 118

Blank: 0

Write-Ins: 1

For District Commissioner for a term of three years:

Robert Finucane: 129

Blank: 0

Write-Ins: 3

Spoiled ballots: 2

Article 5: T. Gloor asked about software updates to keep up with cyber-attacks which are in place within the Department.

P. Flanders shared slides of wildlife at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

A motion was made to adjourn which was duly seconded.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Petrovic, District Clerk

Approved By: _____

Date: _____