

**Orford Conservation Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes January 15, 2026**  
**Meeting held in-person in Niles Room at the Town Offices**

**Commissioners Present:** Ted Cooley (Vice-Chair), Chris Gothberg, Alternates: Emily Bryant, Fran Plaisted, John Miller; Kevin Follensbee representing the Selectboard

**Meeting called to order:** 6:59 PM. Fran Plaisted, Emily Bryant and John Miller were seated as Commissioners.

**Minutes:** Bob has not reviewed minutes. Ted motioned we tabled, Chris seconded motion carried.

**Regular Business**

1. High Bridge Road bridge project Warrant Article: 1/27 is the public hearing. 1/28 is the selectboard vote.
2. Full Moon Hike on 2/1/2026: Need volunteers for parking. Meet at 4:30/ 4:45.
3. Stonehouse Mountain. Snowshoe Hike on 2/22/2026 at Sunday at 9 AM.
4. Review Brackett Falls hike on 3/15/2026 at 2 PM
5. Reviewed proposed **Hike Orford!** outings for April to November 2026
6. Discuss how we might participate in the July 2026 AT Torch Relay.
7. Social Media Update: We gained 214 followers up to 329. Reviewed some of our posts and the success.
  - a. Post the Warrant Article on Facebook.
  - b. Use social media to get some volunteers.
8. For the Orford Town Meeting
  - a. Slide show: send nature/conservation photos to Ted.
  - b. Order a table from Esther for the Conservation Commission
9. Discussion of PFAS contamination levels. Supposed to be monitoring the levels and we may want to do the Jacobs Brook.
10. Arsenic water testing In Piermont. We need to look into this a little more often. Located in Piermont, from Four Corners to the Haverhill Town Line
11. Administrative: Change meeting time to first Thursday at 6:30 PM.

Motion: John motioned we move the Commission's monthly meeting date and time. Emily seconded. Motion carried.

12. OCC to share water quality test data from Jacobs Brook w/ the CT. River Joint Commissions.

Adjourn: Motion: John motioned to adjourn. Chris seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 7:42pm.

Minutes taken/prepared by Fran Plaisted and Emily Bryant