



TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD INLAND WETLANDS BOARD
Web Based Meeting Hosted on Zoom

DRAFT MINUTES
Thursday, May 28, 2026

These minutes are a general summary of the meeting and are not a verbatim transcription.

Members present: Susan Baker, Chair; Alan Pilch, Recording Secretary; Keith Carlson; Noah Berkowicz

Members Absent: Tim Bishop; Vice Chair; David Smith; Carson Fincham

Also present: Caleb Johnson, Inland Wetlands Agent

I. Call to order:

Ms. Baker, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. A quorum was present.

II: Discussion

- 1. IW-26-16; 238 Mimosa Circle;** Summary Ruling application to correct a wetlands violation of site work within the upland review area of wetlands and watercourses. Owner: 238 Mimosa Circle LLC. Applicant: Dainius Virbickas. <https://ridgefieldct.portal.opengov.com/records/105656>

Mr. Johnson gave an overview of the wetlands violation. The applicant had an application in front of the IWB but expanded the project to include work that was not part of the approval. The wetlands agent was notified of this project by a neighbor complaint. Ms. Morris-Micoli and Mr. Kristofferson were present to discuss the application. Discussion ensued by the IWB. Mr. Pilch asked about the infiltration rate. Ms. Baker asked about the catch basin outlet in the northwest. Mr. Carlson inquired about the location of the septic. Ms. Baker asked about the trees on the property. Mr. Carlson asked about the swale on the side of the property. Mr. Pilch asked if the neighbors were aware of and in support of the planting plans on the property boundary.

Special Conditions:

- *The catch basin in the driveway will be modified with an impervious cover and the water will be directed into the swale.*
- *All plantings shall be at least 2 feet from the property boundary and not on the neighboring property.*
- *The plantings must be installed by June 30, 2026.*

Motion made by Mr. Pilch to approve the application with General Conditions and Special Conditions. Seconded by Mr. Carlson. Motion passes 4-0. Publication date of June 4, 2026 and effective date of June 5, 2026.

III: Application(s) for Receipt:

No applications for receipt.

IV: List of Ongoing Enforcement by Agent:

No additional ongoing enforcement discussion.

V: Other Business:

1. Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Regulations discussion

Attorney Beecher responded with comments. Mr. Fincham responded via email prior to the meeting that he approved all of the comments. Mr. Johnson scrolled through the edited draft document on the screen while the IWB discussed the comments he had added.

Ms. Baker said there was one question that remained outstanding in section 10.7 and would like to get Mr. Beecher's response before approving. Mr. Pilch asked if the Mamasasco Lake Association had updated their document from 2007. Mr. Johnson has not been able to get in contact with anyone.

Mr. Pilch discusses The Ridgefield Press as a publication and if we should directly reference it.

Ms. Baker would like to have one more conversation with Mr. Beecher and thinks it can be on the agenda for the next meeting for discussion and hopefully to wrap and tidy it up. Ms. Baker would like to have this buttoned up before the end of August.

The IWB discussed how to regulate "decorum and courtesy." Mr. Beecher would like to remove the word "buffer" from the regulations. Mr. Pilch suggested alternate language such as "adjacent to the wetlands boundary" or "upland review area". Ms. Baker suggested maybe defining the word buffer.

Mr. Pilch discussed the language and comment from Mr. Beecher on the definition of wetland.

Mr. Beecher thinks the language in 13.3.1 should remain regarding the cease & desist.

Mr. Pilch discussed Section 11.9. There is a new Connecticut Guideline for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control. The publication date is 2024.

Ms. Baker stated that she needs to research where the Norwalk River begins. She believes the inquiry was either from the Conservation Commission or the Norwalk River Watershed Association.

VI: Approval of Minutes

- **Inland Wetlands Meeting:** May 14, 2026

Motion made by Mr. Carlson to approve the above minutes as is. Mr. Berkowicz seconded. Motion carried 3-0-1. Mr. Pilch abstained.

- **Inland Wetlands Special Meeting:** May 21, 2026

Motion made by Mr. Carlson to approve the above minutes as is. Mr. Pilch seconded. Motion carried 3-0-1. Mr. Berkowicz abstained.

VII: Adjourn

Hearing no further business, Ms. Baker adjourned the meeting at 7:55 PM.

Submitted by

Beth Peyser, Recording Secretary via Zoom Recording

Note: The Zoom recording for this meeting can be accessed at the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/play/NiV0bRZHffUqrg5p9Qad5fS9iAUutOsA1WEjBVIF-7BKDndRLrXgdRyV-a6iKhz8vM8cUVod7OQDMur1.q2sc5Lx3rPj60iAe>