The meeting was called to order by Chair Gordon DeWolf.

Brian Silva said that people have been asking him questions about when the snowmobile will be taken out of Lake Wickaboag. Gordon DeWolf said if they can prove contamination then the Board of Health can tell the owner to get it out. Jim Talvy said they should contact the environmental police.

Gordon DeWolf read the letter from Erik S. Shaffer, USDA with reference to a beaver plan. He will be breaching beaver dams down stream of the Rt 9 bridge, 96 Hunt Road (along the power lines), down stream of the Shea Road Bridge and cleaning the culvert at the town beach. Also he will be conducting maintenance on the flow control devices and the exclusion that were installed in 2010. These areas include down stream of Rt. 67 Bridge and down stream of the Wickaboag Valley Road Bridge, 4 flow controls and one exclusion in all.

Reviewed Forest Cutting Plan: Dave Brooks, 50 Birch Hill Road. Jim Talvy said he knows a farmer that had a plan and now is having problems with the State. He clear cut the area. Gordon explained that the Forester makes a plan and the State Forester comes out and walks the project to verify the plan and then returns to see if they followed the plan. Perhaps the farmer did not follow the plan.

Brian Silva made a motion to approve the minutes of April 6, 2011. Jesse Serrano seconded. Vote 5-0 to approve the minutes as presented. The warrants were sign and the mail read.

Diane Oliver-Jensen, former Conservation Commission member returned this month with written literature that she had downloaded on Massachusetts Endangered Species Act with a summary of regulatory revisions effective October 15, 2010. Diane went over these and Brian Silva turned on the computer to the map showing the endangered species sites in our area. Jim Talvy said he has observed wood turtles on his farm for 24 years and knows the area where they nest. He questioned why this would not be on the map. Diane said because it had never been reported. She said he should document this, take photos and download the forms on line and send in a report.
WEST BROOKFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
P. O. BOX 1171
WEST BROOKFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS 01585

Minutes
May 4, 2011

Brian Silva made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jesse Serrano second. Vote 5-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

The next meeting will be June 1, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine M. Long
Secretary