



Chautauqua County

**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

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Chautauqua County Sewer Agency
Meeting Minutes
Stow Senior Center, 4:00 pm, April 25, 2016

Attendees: V. Horrigan, P. Chagnon, D. Emhardt, T. Carlson, B. Boria, S. Carlson, M. Stow, T. Walsh, S. Carlson, B. Wilson, D. McCoy, D. Himeline, A. Johnson, J. O'Brien

The meeting was opened at 4:00 pm by Chairman Pierre Chagnon.

1. Summary of the 4/1 Stakeholders Meeting

- a. Chairman Chagnon noted that representatives from each sewer district provided an update regarding the status of their projects.
- b. Jenelle Chagnon and Mike Manning from O'Brien & Gere gave a presentation on the United States Department of Agriculture-Rural Development (USDA-RD) grant and loan programs and provided an outline of the necessary steps required to position the three sewer districts for EFC and USDA-RD co-funding opportunities.
- c. OBG suggested that the sewer districts work together on the USDA-RD required Environmental Report. The stakeholders requested that OBG provide a proposal for a joint Environmental Report.
- d. The stakeholders also discussed working together to procure updated aerial photography to support the mapping necessary for final design and the need to retain a Fiscal Advisor for each project.

2. Project Status Reports

- a. Bill Boria noted that the Chautauqua County Department of Health and Human Services (CCDOH) had sent letters to 30 homeowners to notify them of their responsibilities for septic system inspections. The Bear Lake area was selected as a test case because of the manageable number of systems involved. CCDOH will later initiate the septic system inspections on the north side of Chautauqua Lake, where there are an estimated 394 systems within 250' of the lakeshore.
- b. Tom Carlson said that the North Chautauqua Lake Sewer District (NCLSD) had everything ready to submit for the EFC's Engineering Planning Grant and was expecting a proposal for the design of phosphorous upgrades from their consultant for consideration at the District's May meeting. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) expects

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that final design for the \$2.8 million project will be submitted in August. Carlson noted that the upgrades should be completed by January 2019. The stakeholders then discussed the language of the Bonding Resolution to support borrowing for the project. The NCLSD Plant and District Expansion projects are on hold

- c. Tom Walsh informed the group that the NYSDEC will not require the South & Center Chautauqua Lake Sewer District (SCCLSD) to install treatment plant upgrades prior to undertaking District Expansion. The SCCLSD plans to seek grant funding for the first phase of the District Expansion, which will involve increasing the capacity of the Goose Creek Pump Station. Walsh noted that the SCCLSD plant was being challenged by the effluent from the new cheese plant; however, the facility has expansion plans which includes a pretreatment facility. Walsh added that new wastewater facilities at Long Point State Park and are expected to come on-line once the punch-list items have been addressed.
 - d. Don Emhardt updated the group regarding his recent meeting with the Chautauqua Estates stakeholders. The stakeholders are concerned about paying for the forcemain that will convey their sewage flow, and potentially, sewage flows from planned districts on the north side of Chautauqua Lake. Their options are to either reconstruct the existing package plant at an estimated cost of \$1 million or convert the plant into a pump station and construct the forcemain at an estimated cost of \$5.2 million. Emhardt added that the project needs significant grant funding to be viable.
3. Project Funding Options
- a. The application deadline for EFC Water Grants has been extended to June 20 and the NCLSD and SCCLSD are planning to submit.
 - b. Vince Horrigan said that the priority projects list for the USDOC – EDA program are the Comedy Center and North Chautauqua Regional Water System; however, the County can revise the list for 2017, once the outcome of the USDOC-EDA’s 2016 funding cycle is known.
 - c. The group discussed the need for a grant writer to manage the funding effort and prepare grant applications.
 - d. Dave McCoy noted that the opening of next round of New York State Consolidated Funding Applications (CFAs) will soon be announced. Vince Horrigan added that Chautauqua County is coordinating an informational session for those who are interested in the various grant programs that the CFAs offer.
4. The next meeting will be held at the Stow Senior Center on June 27th at 4:00 pm