



**Meeting Minutes**  
9:00 AM Monday, October 16, 2017  
Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory  
Portland, NY 14769

**Attendees:** G. Borrello, D. McCoy, J. Galati, D. Richmond, B. Bankoski, M. Bills, C. Brower, L. Ehrhardt, Z. Olow, C. Quadri, B. Boria

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 9:04 by Chairman George Borrello. Claire Quadri from the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy was introduced to the group.

**Approval of Minutes:** Chairman Borrello called for a motion to approve the minutes for the October meeting. The motion was made by Bob Bankoski and seconded by Martha Bills. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Public Expression:** None

**Chairman's Comments:**

- Chairman Borrello said that the LEMC will need to find a new Chairperson in January. He encouraged those who have an interest in serving as Chair to make it known to the Commission.
- Lance Earhardt nominated Dave McCoy. McCoy thanked him for the nomination but explained that he was an Ex-Officio member of the Board and unable to hold office.
- Chairman Borrello said he would continue to look for a qualified candidate.

**Coordinator's Comments:**

- Dave McCoy noted that the 2% Occupancy Tax Lakes & Waterways Grant Program has advertised for Requests for Assistance (RFAs) that are due January 1 for the 2019 grant cycle.
- Treasurer's Report – There is an unobligated balance of \$50,907 with an additional \$25,000 Agency Allocation from the Occupancy Tax Program coming in 2018.
- McCoy said that although the 2017 agreement for NEXUS had been depleted, they have continued to work with the County on federal funding opportunities. Borrello added that NEXUS had played a significant role in securing \$2.1 million for Barcelona and Dunkirk Harbor maintenance dredging. A Resolution to contribute \$5,000 from LEMC for NEXUS in 2018 was discussed and approved. (See Summary of Actions Taken for details)



## Committee Reports

- Education Sub-Committee :
  - Dave McCoy provided copies of the new Plastics & Microplastics Brochure to the group. Zen Olow suggested that the LEMC also develop a brochure on pharmaceuticals. McCoy said that he would put that on the list.
  - McCoy said the Sewer Systems effort was stalled due to a lack of original photos, but there was a NYSDEC brochure for PCI systems and Chautauqua County DOH information that was available for use by the LEMC at events.
  - Claire Quadri summarized the cooperative (LEMC, CWC, PED) Yard Waste Management Campaign and noted that the Public Service Announcements had been broadcast on WKBX – Chadwick Bay Broadcasting and the YouTube videos/Facebook boost was in progress.
  - McCoy suggested that the LEMC undertake a similar cooperative Campaign for Riparian Buffers in the spring. A Resolution to contribute \$1,500 from LEMC for a Riparian Buffers Campaign in 2018 was discussed and approved. (See Summary of Actions Taken for details)

## Member/Partner Reports

- Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance - None
- Bill Boria said water quality at the Lake Erie Beaches was generally good this summer and he will bring the statistics to the next meeting.
- Cassie Brower said the Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District's projects on Slippery Rock and Walnut Creeks were nearly complete. Brower also noted that the District was working to fund a stormwater project at a Dunkirk beach with CFA funding. LEWPA funds were also being used for a feasibility study by EcoStrategies to support the effort.
- Sportfishing – Zen Olow said there was a lack of 10lb fish at recent walleye tournaments; however, there is an abundance of 15-20" fish that suggests the fishing will continue to be good for the next few years. Olow also said the VIP Fishing Day was very successful with the largest number of participants ever. He added that the Conservation Club was planning to construct a pavilion to host similar events.
- Claire Quadri from the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy summarized her work with the Yard Waste Management Campaign and her work reviewing the Plastics and Riparian Buffers brochures.



## **Old Business**

- The group discussed the Local Watershed Redevelopment Plan and indicated their desire to play a role in the LWRP process by forwarding a LEMC policy statement and stating the organization's support for water quality, regional water and wastewater projects. Dave McCoy will draft the document.
- Dave McCoy said that City of Dunkirk has selected LaBerge as the prime consultant for the Comprehensive Plan update.
- McCoy said the CFA Application for funding the Economic Impact Analysis of North County Harbors was still pending.
- Martha Bills said the Barcelona Harbor Dredging was complete with the USACE ultimately removing 36,000 cubic yards of sediment from the harbor.
- George Borrello noted that the Dunkirk Harbor Dredging project should begin this spring. There are additional opportunities for stakeholders such as the Conservation Club if they choose to pursue permits and "piggy back" on the USACE contract.
- Broadening the role of the LEMC (similar to OLEC role in Ohio) – No further discussion.

## **New Business**

- Zen Olow nominated Land Earhardt to become a LEMC board member. There was a brief discussion on the nomination and it was decided to ask Clerk of the Legislature Cathy Tampio about the process to install Earhardt as a board member. Dave McCoy agreed to contact Tampio regarding the nomination.
- Chairman Borrello said that the extra \$500 slip fee for New York commercial charters docking at the New York State Office of Parks Cattaraugus Creek Marina was unfair and he was working with Assemblyman Andy Goodell to get the fee lifted.

## **Summary of Actions Taken**

- Chairman Borrello called for a resolution to contribute \$5,000 from the LEMC for the NEXUS contract with Chautauqua County. The motion was made by Martha Bills, seconded by Bob Bankoski and approved unanimously by the group.
- Chairman Borrello called for a resolution to contribute \$1,500 from the LEMC to support a Riparian Buffers Campaign. The motion was made by Bankoski, seconded by Zen Olow and approved unanimously by the group.

## **Schedule Next Meeting**

- December 18<sup>th</sup> (3rd Monday) would be the next meeting date at the Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory, Portland, NY

**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 am.