

Minutes
Chautauqua County Water Quality Task Force
Frank W. Bratt Agricultural Center
July 17, 2014

Call to order: by Chairman David Spann at 10:01 am

WQTF Members Present: Dave Spann, Peter George, Jacqueline Chiarot, Rhonda Lindquist, Cassandra Pinkoski, John Jablonski, Bernie Klaich, Tom Erlandson, Mike Wilson, Joe Galati, Jonathon Mayr, Peter Beeson, Jan Bowman and Dave McCoy.

Approval of Minutes: Two amendments to June's minutes: K. Sherwood corrected that under Item 6 Issues from the Floor that the water chestnut pull was at Jamestown Audubon, not Conewango Creek. R. Lindquist also wanted to clarify that under Item 2 from New Business, that the 3 projects mentioned are in Chautauqua County, and that there are 6 projects between Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Counties. Motion by D. McCoy to approve the June 19, 2014 minutes. Seconded. Carried.

Correspondence: K. Sherwood requested that the WQTF was aware of the Healthy Landscapes, Healthy Waters workshop that would be taking place on the evening of 7/17. K. Sherwood also shared news from Joanne Miller, the Jamestown Audubon Water Chestnut Coordinator, on the status of water chestnut nutlets at the Audubon.

Old Business:

1. Monitoring Committee for the Chautauqua Lake Phosphorus TMDL- D. Spann reported that the County Legislature's request for a WQTF report on phosphorus is on track to be completed by July, 2014. There are deficiencies in the ditching and de-icing comments. When finalized, a copy will be sent out to all members.
2. 2% Bed Tax Grant Applications for 2015- D. McCoy reported that 11 applications were ranked by the 2% Grant sub-committee. This ranking will be presented to the legislature in the next couple weeks, after which the awarded projects can be announced.

New Business:

1. Goose Creek Project- D. Spann shared the proposed in stream restoration of 8,500 linear feet of stream along Goose Creek. This project is receiving funding from the federal government through the NRCS totaling \$298,000. Additionally, the Sheldon Foundation had agreed to contribute \$80,000 and the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy \$10,000. This would leave the project at a deficit of \$50,000, which will be presented to the legislature for potential funding via unspent 2% Bed Tax funds. The resolution was approved unanimously by the PED and Audit Control Committees, and not awaits County Legislature approval.

Current Water Quality Concerns & Issues from the Floor:

1. D. Spann inquired about the FEMA Declaration and its impact on potential funds for Chautauqua County. J. Chiarot will look into it further and report back.
2. D. McCoy informed that there will be a Chautauqua Lake Rally held tentatively August 23rd at the Bemus Point Casino. This will be a breakfast reception where organization involved with Chautauqua Lake, or other lakes located in the County, will display the efforts to maintain water quality and function. D. McCoy also hopes to have the draft macrophyte study available at this event.

3. D. McCoy reported on the progress of dredging in harbors on Lake Erie. Barcelona Harbor started dredging on 7/17. Dunkirk Harbor has submitted its permit renewal request, and is on track to get approval. Hanover has application notice waiting publish for review, but is also on track to start before the end of the season. J. Chiarot added that the article published in local newspapers about Hanover dredging was not a good indicator of the status of the project. Rep. Tom Reed's office is behind the project and is working with the Army Corp of Engineers to figure out the remaining requirements before the project can move forward.
4. P. Beeson shared that Judge Gerace is spearheading an effort to bring a dragonboat fundraiser to Chautauqua Lake. For more information on dragonboat races, you can visit <http://www.panamdragonboat.com/>. Beeson requests that anyone interested in participating or to head bringing this event to the Lake to contact him.
5. Tom Erlandson was approached by a landowner who resides on Dutch Hollow Creek. He was shown pictures of problems affecting these landowners and requests that this system is on the radar for potential aid.
6. D. McCoy reported on the Integrated Sewer Management Study currently being conducted. Data collection and site visits have been concluded, and the process is moving on to the analysis phase.
7. P. Beeson inquired about audits of past 2% Bed Tax Grant funded projects. D. McCoy informed the group that around Labor Day, tentatively, there will be time to conduct field visits to projects that have previously been awarded grants to assess what is working and also to discuss potential improvements to the scoring formula.
8. J. Jablonski informed that the special guest at the Annual Meeting of the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy will be David Owen Brown, a producer, videographer, photographer and lecturer, specializing in water-related subjects worldwide. His work has aired on NBC, CBS, ABC, CNN, Discovery Channel and National Geographic television. This event will be held at Webb's Captain's Table Restaurant on August 3rd at 4:30 PM.

Next Meeting:

Date: **Tuesday August 19, 2014**
Time: **10:00am**
Place: **Frank W. Bratt Agricultural Center**

Adjournment: Motion J. Jablonski to adjourn. Seconded. Carried at 10:58 AM.

C. Pinkoski – Recorder