

Minutes
Chautauqua County Water Quality Task Force
Frank Bratt Agricultural Center
June 20, 2019

Call to Order: by David Spann at 10:03 AM.

WQTF Members Present: Greg Hallberg, Rhonda Lindquist, Bill Boria, Bernie Klaich, Claire Quadri, Taylor West, Dave Spann, Cassie Pinkoski, Doug Conroe, Dave McCoy.

Approval of Minutes: None.

Correspondence: None.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Member Comments

1. Chautauqua County Department of Environmental Health – B. Boria asked if the group had any suggestions for the fair display board the WQTF sponsors. Suggestions included: microplastics, source water protection, storm drain labeling programs, stormwater and bathing beaches. B. Boria shared that the beach sampling program has started about a week ago, and interns will come onboard Monday. There is a new County sewer agency, and they are looking at the feasibility of doing a sewer project to encompass Findley Lake, Sherman and Peak-n-Peak. Depending on the results of this study, the mandatory septic inspections around Findley Lake will be put on hold. Regarding the health department's holding tank program (from septic inspections), a landowner can get a permit for three years with the option to renew for an additional three years. It can only be for residences that are seasonal, non-rental properties.
2. Chautauqua County Watershed Coordinator – D. McCoy shared on his attendance at local events such as the Great Lakes Experience festival and the Chautauqua Lake Conference (in lieu of the Chautauqua Lake Rally). The CFA's are now open, so if you need letters of support, contact Dave. Discussion on South County Water District and running water lines from BPU to Mayville through Stow. He shared the Finger Lakes Institute will be having an HAB Symposium on July 31st. The Mobitrac was deployed in July, however weeds are light on the lake right now. There is already planning for the 2020 herbicide application. McCoy will do a visual inspection and track GPS coordinates of areas with target weeds. The "white paper" on weed management for Chautauqua Lake is posted on the County's website.
3. Bear Lake Association – B. Klaich provided an update that at the Spring Bear Lake Association meeting, Courtney Wigdahl-Perry attended to present on the Bear Lake Management Plan. Spann shared that the dredging for Bear Lake is looking to be a late summer/fall project.
4. Chautauqua Lake Association – D. Conroe shared that the summer season for operations has started this week, however they haven't started harvesting yet. Focus is on training harvesters. There may be less to harvest this year, but they are still waiting to see what the North Basin will do in terms of weed growth. Crews just took two truck loads of shoreline weed masses, but more is expected. A potential HAB bloom sample was sent it but came back negative.
5. Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy – C. Quadri shared outreach and education programs are underway this summer. The Conservancy is working on two tributary sampling programs (Lake Erie, Chautauqua Lake); land acquisition programming (the Cassadaga Lakes Nature Park is very close to finalizing). Question on County oversight of petroleum waste sites in the County, but B.

Boria clarified that the purpose of this task force was to look at non-point sources of pollution in the County.

6. Chautauqua Lake and Watershed Management Alliance- T. West shared that he has sent out a survey regarding to improving the Alliance grant process for the upcoming grant RFP.
7. Chautauqua County Soil and Water Conservation District – D. Spann shared the Conewango Watershed Dams in Villenova and Cherry Creek were recently impacted by beaver activity at the inlet of the riser. Work was being coordinated by the County Emergency Services, Public Facilities, SWCD and the Conewango Watershed Dam Commission to clear the pipe to allow the reservoirs draw down to their normal pool elevations. D. Spann also shared that Dan Strickland was telling him about a video series on YouTube about the history of Chautauqua Lake presented by John Luensman in 1996. Here is a link to the first segment:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GOn9AamX_T4.

Public Comments: None.

Next Meeting:

Date: **Thursday July 25, 2019**
Time: **10:00 AM**
Place: **Frank W. Bratt Agricultural Center**

Adjournment: Motion by B. Klaich to adjourn. Seconded. Carried.

C. Pinkoski- Recorder