

Minutes
Chautauqua County Water Quality Task Force
Frank W. Bratt Agricultural Center
March 19, 2015

Call to Order: by Chairman David Spann at 10:02 AM

WQTF Members Present: David Spann, Cassandra Pinkoski, Dave McCoy, Tom Erlandson, Kim Sherwood, Rhonda Lindquist, Peter Beeson, John Jablonski, Craig Butler, Joe Galati, Peter George, Jan Bowman, Greg Hallberg, Tom Pilling, Rob Halbohm, and Jonathon Mayr.

Approval of Minutes: Wording changed from “2% Bed Tax Clean Waterways” in Old Business, Part 1 to “2% Bed Tax Clean Lakes and Waterways.” Motion by C. Butler to approve the amended February 12, 2015 minutes. Seconded. Carried.

Correspondence: None

Watershed Coordinator: See attached.

Old Business:

1. Changes to the 2% Bed Tax Clean Waterways Application – D. McCoy shared that the 2% Clean Waterways Review Committee met prior to this meeting, and will continue to meet to discuss changes to the application process for funding 2% Clean Waterways projects. No finalized changes have been made as of yet.
2. Brine Report to Chautauqua County Legislature – The finalized brine report has not reached any legislative committees’ agendas, as of this meeting. The report will be resent to chair of the public facilities committee.
3. Stormwater Letter to the Chautauqua County Legislature – D. Spann shared that members of the legislature’s environmental subcommittee along with himself and D. Emhardt (Supervisor, Town of Chautauqua) met to discuss their concerns over stormwater regulations and enforcement in the County. This meeting was more of a brainstorming effort on solutions, not specifically what was recommended by the Task Force in the letter. The result was to make an effort to sit down with the NYS DEC and discuss our concerns and where to go for the future.
4. Goose Creek EQIP Update – D. Spann reported an update on the status of the NRCS project on Goose Creek. He has spoken with Angela Perkins, District Conservationist for Chautauqua County NRCS. She is looking for commitment letters from the stakeholders who agreed to provide funding for the project. The design work should be done this summer, and once that is finalized it will be submitted for permit review with NYSDEC and US ACOE. The estimated construction start is 2016, and an extension can be made for the contract.

New Business:

1. NYS Agricultural Non-Point Source Grants, Round 21 – R. Halbohm reported that Chautauqua County Soil and Water Conservation District will be submitting three applications for NYS Agricultural Non-Point Source Grants for Round 21. These applications represent five farms in the Sherman, Cassadaga and Ripley areas.

Current Water Quality Concerns & Issues from the Floor

1. D. McCoy shared that the WNY Regional Economic Development Council met at Chautauqua Suites in Mayville to host a public outreach meeting before project applications are accepted. The group is reaching out for potential water quality projects to apply for funding.

2. K. Sherwood shared that Khris Dodson from the Environmental Financial Center of Syracuse University has offered to hold a training on grant writing in the County. He also wanted to inform the group on the Center's Smart Management Conference held at Minnowbrook Conference Center in Blue Mountain Lake, NY. The event will occur April 21-23rd and presentation will focus on practical resources for small communities.
3. C. Butler recently attended a public comment session held by the NYS DEC for the proposed expansion of the Ellery Landfill. There was a discussion on monitoring and oversight of the DEC onto landfill construction/operations.
4. J. Jablonski shared that New York State Federation of Lake Associations (NYSFOLA) will be holding their annual conference on May 3-5, 2015 on the shores of Lake Moraine in Hamilton, NY. The event will focus on "Maintaining Lakes in a Changing World."

Next Meeting:

Date: **April 16, 2015**
Time: **10:00 AM**
Place: **Frank W. Bratt Agricultural Center**

Adjournment: Motion by J. Bowman to adjourn. Seconded. Carried.

C. Pinkoski - Recorder



Chautauqua County
**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

200 Harrison St., Suite 300 • Jamestown, New York 14701
Phone (716) 661-8900 • Fax (716) 483-6679
www.planningchautauqua.com

Watershed Coordinator's Update 03/16/15

North County Activities

Dredging of the City of Dunkirk Harbor and Hanover Boat Launch

- Working with City of Dunkirk Engineer Randy Woodbury to draft technical specifications to support a request for proposals to dredge both harbors.
- Prepared Part 1 of the SEQR short form for the Town of Hanover.
- Engaged Hanover Town Supervisor Todd Johnson to discuss advancing the Hanover project.

Lake Erie Management Commission

- Attended LEMC meeting on 2/17 in Portland, NY. Topics of discussion included:
 - North County LWRP discussion with Mark Geise, Deputy Director of Planning and Economic Development
 - Lake Erie Experience, scheduled for June 13
 - Lake Erie Action Agenda
 - NYSDEC Rotating Basin Assessments for Lake Erie in 2015.
- The Next LEMC meeting is scheduled for 3/23 in Portland, NY.

Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance

- Attended the LEWPA quarterly meeting on 2/24 in Gowanda, NY.

North County Local Waterfront Redevelopment Plan

- The LWRP Project Team has completed interactive sessions with the Town/Village/Planning Boards from the member communities
- The North County Advisory Group plans to meet on 3/26 to discuss the results of the meetings
- More information on the North County LWRP is available at <https://planningchautauqua.wordpress.com/northern-chautauqua-county-local-waterfront-revitalization-program/>

South County Activities

Chautauqua Lake & Watershed Management Alliance (CLWMA)

- Erin Brickley, Executive Director is moving forward with a number of initiatives, including:
 - Defining membership structure
 - Meeting with lake and watershed related organizations
 - Preparing for a Spring Chautauqua Lake Rally, scheduled for May 9th in Mayville, NY

Macrophyte Management Plan for Chautauqua Lake

- The Review Committee met to further discuss the MMS on 3/12, where comments on Chapters 5-7 & 8 were vetted.
- The next meeting is scheduled for 3/17
- We are working to extend consultant contracts for the completion of the study.

Integrated Sewer Management Plan for Chautauqua Lake

- Both the S&CCLSD and NCLSD have received proposals for preliminary engineering reports to advance the recommendation of the ISMP.
- The S&CCLSD has engaged a consultant to prepare a Preliminary Engineering report to further define their project and assist in obtaining funding. A kickoff meeting was held on 2/10.

Chautauqua Lake and Waterways Website

- CCPED now has administrative privileges to add/edit content.

Bear Lake

- Participated in NYSDEC conference call on the TMDL on 2/20 to discuss initial comments on the LWRP.

Kevin M. Sanvidge, Director
SanvidgK@co.chautauqua.ny.us

Vincent W. Horrigan, County Executive
HorriganV@co.chautauqua.ny.us

General Interest

2% Occupancy Tax Program for Lakes and Waterways

- The Waterways Panel started discussions concerning potential revisions to the 2% Lakes and Waterways Grant Program. Potential revisions include opportunities focused on education, invasive species and O&M for past 2% projects.
- The 2016 Round of the 2% Lakes & Waterways Grant Program opened on 3/1. PDFs of the application are available at <http://planningchautauqua.com> and <http://chautauqua.ny.us/>.
- Press releases on the program were published in local newspapers and in County Executive Vince Horrigan's Monday Morning Minute.

Invasive Species

- The NYSDEC has enacted 6NYCRR Part 575, which regulates the possession, sale and transport of invasive species.
- More information can be found at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/93848.html>

NYSDEC Activities of Interest

- The NYSDEC has enacted 6NYCRR Part 575, which regulates the possession, sale and transport of invasive species.
- More information can be found at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/93848.html>

Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District

- Attended the monthly S&W meeting on 2/24. Discussed potential coordination with S&W on a potential EQIP grant on Steinhoff Run.

Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board

- Attended the monthly STW Regional Watershed/Stormwater Coalition meeting on 2/25.
 - Planning is underway for the 2nd STormwater Conferece, which is scheduled for May 21 at the Cattaraugus County Demonstration Project Site in Little Valley, NY
 - Next meeting is scheduled for March 30th in Little Valley, NY.
- STW Local Government Conference is scheduled for May 7th in Houghton, NY

Grants

- Working to close out the NYSDOS Ellicott Grant (Chautauqua Lake and Watershed Management Plan Implementation) which provided funding for the Dredging Feasibility Study, Educational and Outreach Activities by the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy and Chautauqua County Soil and Water Conservation District, Macroinvertebrate Study, Shoreline Cleanup by the Chautauqua Lake Association, and schematic design for restoration projects on Goose and Dutch Hollow Creeks.
- Great Lakes Sediment and Nutrient Reduction Program RFP released recently. In our area, only the Cattaraugus Creek Watershed is eligible. Deadline: Friday April 24, 2015 6:00 pm EDST.
- Met with Erin Brickley, Dave Spann, Cassie Pinkowski and Rob Halbohm on 2/23 regarding Goose Creek (Steinhoff Run) and Dewittville Creek WQIP grants.
- Met with Erin Brickley and John Jablonski concerning education and outreach components of the WQIP grants on 2/23.
- Reviewed the USEPAs 2015 Guidance for the Wetland Program Development Grant program and have been gauging the interest of lake & watershed organizations to advance an application.
- Prepared a resolution accepting SEQR for the WQIP-funded Goose Creek (Steinhoff Run) and Dewittville Creek projects. PED and Audit & Control Committee review is scheduled for 3/18 & 3/19 respectively Anticipate Legislature approval on 3/26. Work plans, budget and related information for the grants have been submitted to the NYSDEC for approval.
- Great Lakes Fisheries Trust Gant applications are due by Wednesday, March 18, 2015, at 5:00 PM EST.
- Participated in the Western New York Regional Economic Development Council's outreach event on 3/11 at the Chautauqua Inn and Suites. Approximately 200 people were in attendance. The next round of CFAs are expected to open in May or June of 2015.

Community Outreach and Events

- Initial planning for the second Chautauqua Lake Rally is underway.
- Received numerous calls form landowners interested in the 2016 Round of the Lakes & Waterways Grant program.