

Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council
February 18, 2020

Meeting of the Members

Members Present: Ed Wagner, Aileen Mc-Nabb-Coleman, Debby McCormick

Ed Wagner made a motion to pass a resolution to establish and make appointments to governance, audit and finance committees as required under Public Authorities Law. The motion was seconded by Aileen Mc-Nabb-Coleman and it passed unanimously.

Meeting of the Directors

Directors Present: Terry Baxter, Ed Wagner, Aileen Mc-Nabb-Coleman, Gary Mulvaney, Debbie McCormick

Ex-Officio Members Present: Bruce Natale, Eileen O'Connor, John West

Others Present: Drew Snell, John Halfman, Adam Effler, Dave Eckhardt, Michele Wunderlich, Ron Kuck, Kaitlyn Shanahan, Olivia Green, Dan Welch, Brian Hall, Dana Hall, Jon Negley, Ed Weinberg, Mike Coia, Gavin Gresky

Terry Baxter made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Debby McCormick and it passed unanimously.

Ms. McCormick made a motion to approve the December minutes. The motion was seconded by Gary Mulvaney and it passed unanimously.

Dana Hall announced that the Bob Brower Symposium is scheduled for March 7th.

Mr. Baxter said that, regarding the large parcel that was recently obtained by The Nature Conservancy, he is concerned that changes made in the Flats may have unintended consequences and result in exacerbating downstream flooding. Flooding concerns should be taken into consideration on future plans in that area. Mr. Wagner reported that NYSDEC will be removing blockages such as logs and trees in the Inlet and removing sediment by the bridge.

Dr. Effler presented his monthly report, which was distributed prior to the meeting. Mr. Wagner reviewed the financial documents that were distributed prior to the meeting. He said that an auditor will soon audit the financial information for the Council as required. Mr. Baxter made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mulvaney and it passed unanimously.

Jon Negley from Tompkins County Soil and Water summarized 2019 projects his agency has worked on in the Owasco Watershed. These include a barnyard runoff improvement project, two agriculture nutrient storage projects, approximately one mile of ditch stabilization, culvert assistance for the Town of Groton, and a pond rehabilitation at Groton Elementary school that will be used for educational purposes. They also worked on two waste storage projects outside of the watershed for operations that apply manure in the watershed which will assist in better nutrient management. Mr. Negley also reported that they are

involved with soil health composting initiatives. They have equipment to fill filter socks with wood chips that can be used for erosion projects. They will be assisting the WIPD with the use of this equipment. He said that obstacles to the implementation of BMPs continue to be lack of funding and cost share requirements.

Dr. Halfman reported that he is working with a foundation for funding for buoy upgrades and dockside monitoring.

Dr. Effler read a report from Tony Prestiagiacomo that the Hub is helping with the 9E SWAT model and is developing a response from DEC to the request for funding information made by the Council last month.

Steve Lynch reported that a meeting is being scheduled in March with the Steering Committee and the extended workgroup to review the updated draft of the rules and regulations.

Olivia Green said that TNC is working with Evidn to put together an implementation phase of their project in encouraging the implementation of BMPs.

Bruce Natale is putting together costs to address the sluiceway and will then try to obtain funding for implementation.

Drew Snell and Kaitlyn Shanahan gave their report. During this month they monitored logging activities, responded to potential runoff following a fire, worked with contractors on implementing erosion control practices at residential construction sites, and followed up with DEC regarding the erosion caused by the broadband implementation project. Before the broadband project will be allowed to start up in the spring, they will need to meet DEC's storm water requirements. Mr. Snell will contact Town highway superintendents and CEOs to let them know of DEC's requirements. Mr. Snell discussed the development at Wykoff Rd and West Lake Rd that appeared to be greater than one acre with DEC. He said the Town of Scipio will require a sediment/erosion plan before they issue building permits for these lots. According to DEC, if Casowasco wants to keep the dam that was recently drained, structural repairs will need to be made and ongoing maintenance procedures will be required.

Mr. Hall asked what is being done to prevent the intrusion of invasive species into Owasco Lake. Dr. Effler said that the PRISM is taking action including education and the posting of stewards at various launching sites throughout the Finger Lakes region. Mr. Hall is concerned that unless all boats are inspected at all launch locations, there is still a large risk of invasive species entering the lake.

John West reported that he lake level is at 709.9 and he will begin to bring the lake up in the middle of March.

The next meeting is scheduled for 10 am on March 17, 2010.

Minutes prepared by Eileen O'Connor, February 21, 2020