

TOMPKINS COUNTY WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL

**October 21, 2013
Final Meeting Minutes**

Members Attending:

Name		Representation
Sharon Anderson	P	Cooperative Extension
John Andersson	P	At-Large
Fay Benson		Agriculture
Ed Bugliosi		USGS <i>ex officio</i>
Liz Cameron	E	T C Environmental Health
Scott Carpenter		At-Large
Sarah Dwyer	P	Business/Industry
Bill George	P	Municipal
Barry Goodrich	P	Watershed Organization
Roxy Johnston	P	Water Purveyor
Joan Jurkowich	E	T C Planning
Dan Karig	P	Recreation
Dooley Kiefer	P	Legislature Liaison
Darby Kiley	P	Municipal
Lynn Leopold	P	Municipal

Name		Representation
Rick Manning	P	At-Large
Jim McGarry	P	EMC Liaison
Jon Negley	P	Soil & Water
Frank Proto	P	At-Large
Elaine Quaroni	P	At-Large
Marjory Rinaldo-Lee	P	Environment
<i>Jose Lozano</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>Associate Member</i>
<i>John Mawdsley</i>		<i>Associate Member</i>
<i>Todd Miller</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>Associate Member</i>
<i>Steve Penningroth</i>		<i>Associate Member</i>
<i>Mary Shelley</i>	<i>E</i>	<i>Associate Member</i>
<i>Tom Vawter</i>		<i>Associate Member</i>
<i>Linda Wagenet</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>Associate Member</i>
<i>Mary Lou Szabol</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>Staff</i>

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Guests: James Balyszak, Craig Schutt, George Fowler, Kathy Halton

Chairman Frank Proto called the meeting to order at 4:18 PM

Agenda Review and Approval of Minutes – There were no changes to the agenda. Frank Proto asked that the vote on the proposed changes to the WRC Bylaws be addressed first.

Action on Proposed Changes to Bylaws:

Lines 113-114 - “Written absentee ballot” isn’t allowed according to Jonathan Wood, County Attorney. This sentence has been deleted.

Lines 113-114 – Jonathan Wood also recommended that the following be added: The person participating by phone cannot be counted toward a quorum or vote”.

Line 419 – This sentence has been stricken from the Bylaws.

Motion to accept the draft changes to the WRC Bylaws by Marjory Rinaldo-Lee, seconded by Joan Jurkowich and unanimously approved.

Draft minutes were motioned by Barry Goodrich, seconded by Jim McGarry and accepted with two changes.

Final minutes are available on the WRC website:

<http://www.tompkinscountyny.gov/planning/committees/wrc/wrcagenda-minutes>

31 **Hydrilla Eradication Project Update** - Roxy Johnston started the report. Third quarter reimbursement
32 requests were submitted on time but the Federal Government shutdown may delay the reimbursements.
33 James Balyszak reported that access to funds was still possible. Since the Hydrilla project was submitted on
34 time, he doesn't foresee any delays. James and Sharon Anderson gave a presentation to TCCOG on 9/26/13,
35 including treatments, progress, education, and outreach. Roxy said that Tonawanda won't treat this fall but
36 the Army Corps, using Federal funds, will treat with Endothall in the spring of 2014. There will be a wrap-
37 up on the Inlet Treatment at a public meeting on Nov. 12 in the Borg Warner Room at the TC Public Library
38 and will include a thank you to the volunteers who helped with the monitoring. Homeowners Association on
39 the West Shore was told to keep checking through November; plant will be visible unless there are freezing
40 temperatures. Farmers Market outreach continues for at least one more week, it probably would have ended
41 had hydrilla not been found in Fall Creek and the lake. Roxy and Sharon are drafting a wrap-up article for
42 the Ithaca Journal. Cayuga County passed an aquatic transport law and will create outreach and signage.
43 Tompkins will copy what they do. Getting more requested signs from the DEC for Jennings Pond and
44 Dryden Lake. Endothall treatment in Fall Creek was completed 9/26/13, monitored for 2 weeks; numbers
45 were below MCL for drinking water, no more sampling. Fluoridone monitoring continues through today,
46 10/21; will be over depending on results. If we find some above non-detects, we'll go one more week. Fall
47 Creek signs can come down now and the rest can come down next week. We'll engage with the public – is
48 there a tipping point from eradication to management? James updated results in the SE corner of the Lake -
49 there have been no more finds of roots or fragments of hydrilla. Monitoring will continue into November.
50 Out of the remaining \$78,000 grant from Fish and Wildlife, the October invoice of \$36,000 for Fluoridone
51 and Endothall treatments for Fall Creek, will leave about \$42,500.

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53 **Cayuga Lake Modeling Project Update** – Roxy Johnston reported that the DEC charge for the Technical
54 Advisory Committee is to help review data collection this year, look for any technical gaps, give input,
55 review data as it comes in, and the model selection. When the written charge came in, it was TMDL, TMDL,
56 etc. Roxy requested that it all be stricken. That didn't happen, but they did include language to explain that
57 whenever it says TMDL, it could mean alternative management strategy, although it doesn't actually say
58 that. The charge makes many people less than happy, since some feel it should only talk about TMDL,
59 others feel that the TMDL process and opportunity for involvement should be separate. Also, the meetings
60 are closed, so it's not even a public process. Jeff Myers, DEC, doesn't see a separate TMDL public process,
61 not for technical stakeholders; he sees the TMDL input process as public sentiment. Jose Lozano discussed
62 the lack of concern or answer to the Council's request for information on TMDL due process. Also, there's
63 been no feedback opportunities for the Special Joint Committee. TMDL means new limits, new ways to
64 operate point sources. If location and assessment process isn't done properly, it could cost taxpayers
65 millions of dollars. The SJC, the Town and City of Ithaca and Dryden are contemplating presenting a
66 petition to the DEC and the State for this process to be modified to include an advisory capacity for the
67 stakeholders and the community. Rights are being neglected and are clearly explained by the National
68 Association of Clean Water Agencies. There is concern for the precedent being set – what is the DEC going
69 to require the Wasterwater Plant to do when it's permit negotiation comes up. We should have a more
70 formal exploration into the impact of non-point sources (agriculture and towns) – this is of extreme
71 significance, not trivial. Frank suggested that WRC should appoint an ad hoc committee to work on these
72 issues similar to that for the fracking issue. The WRC received compliments from the State and DEC on the
73 scientific work that was done.

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75 Frank Proto left for a TC Legislative Budget Meeting so Marjory Rinaldo-Lee chaired the remainder of the
76 meeting.

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78 **Committee Reports** – Aquifer: John Andersson reported that they're moving forward with the arsenic fact
79 sheet. Bill George wants to be involved. Arsenic is still creeping up at the Dryden wells, so they're
80 seriously looking at connecting to Bolton Point or drill a new local well. Todd submitted the first draft of the
81 Danby Aquifer Report to Ed Bugliosi to review.

82 Grants: Jose Lozano reported that he, Sarah, and Jon have met in person and via e-mail. Two interesting
83 grants: the Water Quality Improvement Grant is open, \$45 Million, mostly for non- point sources and aquatic
84 habitat restoration and #3 in New Jersey if you're interested in public education for disaster preparedness.
85 Jon Negley reported that we're getting money from FLOWPA for hydrilla and annual reimbursement.
86 Nominating/Membership: Joan Jurkowich reported that applications have not been received from all
87 members up for re-appointments and the committee will speak with them after the meeting to see if they're
88 still interested. Let the committee know if you have any candidates in mind.
89 Recreation: Rick Manning reported that the Draft Cayuga Lake Blueway Trail Plan is available for public
90 comment and is being circulated. The Cayuga Bird Club funded an interpretive panel to be placed on the
91 boardwalk between the two pedestrian bridges overlooking Renwick Wildwood, telling the natural and
92 cultural history of that area, the bird club's role in saving it, and illustrations of birds in various sub habitats
93 within the woodland. It will be installed sometime next year. There will be further development of
94 Lakefront Overlook and panels overlooking the Swan Pond – Fuertes Bird Sanctuary. The Cayuga Bird Club
95 is funding this effort and the STPB funded the design work.
96 Streams: Dan Karig reported on the Dominion Crossing Pipeline and the letter sent to Jean Foley at DEC
97 outlining our concern about burying the pipeline. Dan received one e-mail from Jean and further inquired
98 about Dominion's development plans and received no response. Dan spoke to someone from Dominion at
99 the site, was shown the plans and noted that Dominion did exactly what WRC had suggested in the letter to
100 Jean Foley. Dan is working on chloride data with help from Todd Miller. Road salt is suspected of
101 increasing the amount of chloride detected in sampling, since there's an increase in the winter months.
102 Another source of chloride is atmospheric chloride. The problem is serious because it will affect drinking
103 water and aquatic plants and animals.

104 Wetlands: Darby Kiley is continuing to work on grant funding for Wetlands mapping project.

105 Cayuga Lake Monitoring: Roxy Johnston had nothing further to add.

106 Education: Elaine Quaroni reported that we are continuing to help with the hydrilla outreach committee and
107 will meet with Todd about arsenic.

108 Executive: There haven't been any meetings.

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110 **Adjournment** -- The meeting was adjourned at 5:41 PM.

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112 Respectfully submitted,
113 Mary Lou Szabol, Administrative Assistant

114 Tompkins County Planning Department.

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116 Adopted by the Council on November 18, 2013.