

TOMPKINS COUNTY WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL

**October 19, 2015
Meeting Minutes**

Members Attending:

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

Name		Representation
Lynn Leopold	P	Municipal
Jim McGarry	P	EMC Liaison
Jon Negley	P	Soil & Water
Frank Proto	P	At-Large
Elaine Quaroni	P	At-Large
Michael Thorne	E	At-Large
Michelle Henry	P	Associate Member
Roxy Johnston	P	Associate Member
Jose Lozano	A	Associate Member
John Mawdsley	A	Associate Member
Todd Miller	P	Associate Member
Steve Penningroth	A	Associate Member
Tom Vawter	P	Associate Member
Linda Wagenet	P	Associate Member
Jennifer Turner	P	TC Planning

Guests: Marjory Rinaldo-Lee, former WRC member (Environment seat),

Chairman Frank Proto opened the meeting at approximately 4:24 PM.

Agenda Review and Approval of Minutes – The FLOWPA Work Plan was added to the agenda as item 1A. **Moved** by Barry Goodrich, seconded by Jon Negley, to approve the minutes from September 21, 2015, meeting minutes were approved by unanimous vote. Final WRC minutes are posted on the webpage: <http://tompkinscountyny.gov/planning> under Advisory Boards.

FLOWPA Budget Work Plan – Jon Negley presented the proposed Finger Lakes - Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance (FLOWPA) budget, noting this year’s total appropriation of \$67,200. The work plan through the Soil and Water Conservation District will include funding for \$15,000 for water quality improvement, baseline water quality monitoring with the Community Science Institute of \$7,000, \$5,600 for the USGS gauging system at Six Mile Creek, \$10,000 for best management practice on agricultural land in Caroline, and \$2,600 for stormwater best management practice pilot demonstration. \$27,000 will be used for technical assistance for water quality management. Joan Jurkowich **moved** the recommended FLOWPA work plan, seconded by Jim McGarry. The FLOWPA work plan was approved by unanimous vote by all present members.

Water Quality Strategy Update – Joan Jurkowich reported on the Draft Water Quality Strategy update for 2016-2019, and expressed her appreciation to the committee members Roxy Johnston, Jon Negley, Dooley Kiefer, Bill George, and Chris Bordlemay for their efforts. The nine priority action items included in the plan are annual participation in the 303D list, year-round tracking of changes in state, federal and

31 local wetland regulations, to provide comment on the high hazard pipeline inventory, encourage
32 completion on the remaining watershed assessments and disseminate the resulting information in 2016,
33 continued participation in the DEC's TMDL modeling study, develop a systematic approach to data
34 selection and analysis for potential pollutants, review existing watershed rules and recommend
35 appropriate changes, develop a workshop for municipal officials on the importance of local actions to
36 protect stream corridors, wetlands, and aquifer recharge stations, and evaluate the level of protection of
37 existing groundwater sources used for municipal and individual supplies.

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39 Joan **moved** to approve the Water Quality Strategy, seconded by Darby Kiley. Members discussed the
40 possible need to reorganize the existing committees and made note of other agencies that may take the
41 lead on some of the listed actions, noting that unexpected events could change the priority of the action
42 items. It was discussed that priority items will be the focus on the next three years, and will require
43 identifying the first steps required at achieving these goals. Members also noted several minor corrections
44 needed to the text, all these changes were accepted as friendly amendments. The Water Quality Strategy
45 was adopted by unanimous vote by all present members.

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47 **Cayuga Lake Monitoring Partnership** – Roxy Johnston reported that the Cayuga Lake Monitoring
48 Partnership met last month, and that there is a Technical Advisory Committee meeting on Thursday at the
49 Moakley House near the Cornell Golf Course; email reminders will be sent.

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51 **Hydrilla Update** – James Balyszak reported that low dose hydrilla treatments were finalized last week,
52 and that water quality sampling will continue until levels reach below 1 part per billion. The post-
53 treatment meetings will take place on November 2nd at Cooperative Extension from 7:00-8:30, and will
54 include presentations on the treatments by Bob Johnson. James went on to report the sparse sightings of
55 hydrilla, noting Fall Creek as one of the more challenging areas that was treated with Herbicide as well as
56 physical hydrilla removal. Plans moving forward will focus on the high priority areas.

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58 **Committee Reports – Nominating** – Elaine Quaroni announced committee members whose terms are
59 due to expire in 2016, noting applications should be submitted directly to the Legislative office. **Aquifer**
60 – Todd Miller reported that the Aquifer Committee did not meet. **Education** – Lynn Leopold reported that
61 their committee met this afternoon and has decided to take on the issue of micro-plastics. **Executive** –
62 Frank Proto reported that the Executive Committee did not meet, and asked members to review the Water
63 Quality Strategy, and submit comments on committee needs. **Grants** – Jon Negley reported that the Grants
64 Committee did not meet. He went on to report on the grant that Governor Cuomo has announced a
65 climate resiliency grant for agriculture. The applications are due December 14, and will need to be part of
66 the districts' Agriculture Environmental Management (AEM) program to be involved. The district was
67 awarded an agriculture non-point grant in Fall Creek for a collection and treatment system. **Recreation** –
68 Lynn Leopold reported that the Recreation Committee did not meet. Frank Proto suggested that the
69 Recreation Committee work with the City of Ithaca's Recreation Taskforce in order to provide support
70 and input on their efforts with paddle boat storage. **Wetlands** – Darby reported on the Nick Hollingshead
71 is still working on the field surveys for the mapping project and will likely be completed by the end of
72 year.

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74 **Announcements** – Frank encouraged members whose terms expire this year to submit applications
75 through the legislature.

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82 **Adjournment** -- The meeting adjourned at 5:50 PM.

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84 Respectfully submitted,

85 Jennifer Turner, Administrative Assistant

86 Tompkins County Planning Department

87 Approved by Council on November 16, 2015

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