

TOMPKINS COUNTY WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL

**July 20, 2015
Draft Meeting Minutes**

Members Attending:

| Name | | Representation |
|-----------------|---|--------------------------|
| Sharon Anderson | E | Cooperative Extension |
| John Andersson | P | At-Large |
| Fay Benson | A | Agriculture |
| James Balyszak | P | At-Large |
| Chris Bordlemay | P | Water Purveyor |
| Ed Bugliosi | E | USGS <i>ex officio</i> |
| Liz Cameron | P | T C Environmental Health |
| Sarah Dwyer | A | Business/Industry |
| Bill George | P | Municipal |
| Barry Goodrich | P | Watershed Organization |
| Joan Jurkowich | P | TC Planning |
| Dan Karig | E | Recreation |
| Dooley Kiefer | P | 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 | P | At-Large |
| Michelle Henry | A | Associate Member |
| Roxy Johnston | E | Associate Member |
| Jose Lozano | A | Associate Member |
| John Mawdsley | A | Associate Member |
| Todd Miller | P | Associate Member |
| Steve Penningroth | E | Associate Member |
| Tom Vawter | E | Associate Member |
| Linda Wagenet | P | Associate Member |
| Jennifer Turner | P | TC Planning |

Guests: George Fowler, WOIDD Engineering; Jon Jensen, Park Foundation; Kyle Rogers, Mariah Mahaney, Savannah Merie Acosta, and Miguel Castellanos; Cornell Cooperative Extension,

Chairman Frank Proto opened the meeting at approximately 4:21 PM.

Cayuga Inlet Dredging Discussion – George Fowler, P.E., WOIDD Engineering, asked the council for general support in requesting additional assessments for the dredging project with the goal of analyzing the lake level elevations to determine how they will affect the flood benefits. He went on to discuss his concerns with the volume of sediment being removed noting that it will likely fill with lake water. The Corp of Engineers report determined that 600,000 cubic yards of material needs to be removed for flood mitigation but did not include an assessment of the lake level elevations. In comparison, he noted the FEMA flood map study conducted in the 1980’s included an assessment of lake level elevations. George asked the council to write an open letter in support of additional resources for assessments.

Michael Thorne, Superintendent of Public Works for the City of Ithaca, reported that the scope of the stormwater study is underway and will include the evaluation of all the creeks and the effect dredging will have. With these studies, lake levels will be taken into account as well as how much dredging is necessary. It was decided that the Water Resources Council will not write a letter of support unless prompted to after the information on the initial cost of the study is available.

Agenda Review and Approval of Minutes – Moved by Joan Jurkowich, seconded by Darby Kiley, to approve the minutes from June 15, 2015. Final WRC minutes are posted on the webpage:

<http://tompkinscountyny.gov/planning> under Advisory Boards.

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32 **Hydrilla Update** – James Balyszak reported that the first Hydrilla treatment of the season will take place
33 July 21 at the southeast corner of Cayuga Lake and that that through the help of interns, treatment
34 notification signs have been posted over the southeast corner and east shores. Sonar Pellets will be used to
35 address the Hydrilla found in 2013 and 2014, these treatments will continue through late September or
36 possibly October. Bump treatments will take place every two to three weeks in order to keep
37 concentration levels on target. The larger treatments have been pushed back. Herbicide injection
38 treatments will take place in Fall Creek August 3rd, and the main treatments in the Cayuga Inlet will
39 begin mid-August. On June 25th, dye studies were conducted in Fall Creek to evaluate the flow dynamics
40 and improve the contact Herbicide treatments. Bob Johnson will continue tuber monitoring and sampling
41 within Cayuga inlet, Fall Creek, and the southern end of the lake. Members questioned whether there
42 could potentially be any negative effects with the treatments from the high water levels. Water levels
43 were noted as being 4-6 inches over the fifty year average although they have come down from being
44 over 1 ft. higher in the past month. It was noted that mixing issues could occur if water levels remain
45 high.

46
47 **Committee Reports - Education**- Lynn Leopold reported that their committee met today and decided to
48 further discuss the re-ordering of the website. Lynn Leopold and Bill George will make suggestions for
49 the website and meet with Joan Jurkowich for implementation. **Executive** – Frank Proto reported that the
50 Executive Committee did not receive any official requests for funding within the timeframe offered.
51 A request has been submitted as an over-budget request for the printing of the wetlands maps. With
52 further discussion, it was decided that the Wetlands Committee will decide if they will move forward with
53 that funding request no later than June 19th.

54
55 **Water Quality Strategy Update** – Joan Jurkowich worked with the members of the Water Resources
56 Council on an interactive exercise. Members of the Council formed groups in order to prioritize potential
57 issues of the Water Quality Strategy. Joan encouraged members to provide feedback or suggest action
58 items that are missing from the plan. Members discussed reconfiguring the committees of the Water
59 Resources Council based on the outcome of the Water Quality Strategy.

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61 **Chair & Staff Reports** – Frank Proto discussed and confirmed that the Water Resources Council will not
62 meet in August. The next meeting will take place on September 21st.

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64 **Announcements** – Savannah Acosta, Cornell Cooperative Extension, announced that the new Hydrilla
65 brochures are now available.

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

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69 Respectfully submitted,
70 Jennifer Turner, Administrative Assistant
71 Tompkins County Planning Department
72 Approved by Council on September 21, 2015