

TOMPKINS COUNTY WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL

February 22, 2016
Meeting Minutes

Members Attending:

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

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

Guests: Nicole Henry, Gian Dodici, USFWS; Bert Bland, Cornell Sustainability; Nick Hollingshead, Environmental GIS Specialist, Liz Moran, Ecologic LLC; Hillary Lambert, Cayuga Lake Watershed Network

Chairperson Darby Kiley opened the meeting at approximately 4:16 PM.

Agenda Review and Approval of Minutes –Moved by Joan Jurkowich, seconded by Jon Negley, to approve the minutes from January 25, 2016 meeting minutes were approved by unanimous vote. Final WRC minutes are posted on the webpage: <http://tompkinscountyny.gov/planning> under Advisory Boards.

Cayuga Lake Modeling Project Update – Roxy Johnston introduced Liz Moran, of Ecologic LLC, to the Council. Liz Moran opened the presentation by providing background on the Cayuga Lake Modeling Project and how it relates to the Lake Source Cooling permit, and State Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit (SPDES) that Cornell University received in order to operate this project. Liz went on to report on the research focus on “potency” of the phosphorus in the lake and hydrodynamics and went on to provide additional details related to the segmentation of the lake and classifications by the DEC for best uses.

Liz went on to report on the DEC classifying Cayuga Lake with impairments by excess of phosphorus, silt/sediment, and by pathogens. It was later determined that pathogens were an error and the DEC delisted the lake, for pathogens.

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31 Findings on phosphorus fractions were reported, and include information on the detailed monitoring that
32 took place in 2013 citing that 97% total bioavailable phosphorus is coming from the watersheds (not point
33 sources), and that the elevated total phosphorus was associated with sediment, and does not contribute to
34 phytoplankton. Wind-driven circulation and rapid flushing was discussed, and it was noted that because
35 the water does not stay on the shelf more than one day, minimal algae growth occurs.

36
37 Members discussed the possibility that flooding and/or the shift from zebra to quagga mussels could be
38 potential causes for Cayuga Lakes increase in chlorophyll in 2006. Two-dimensional hydrodynamic
39 models will be available through an unpublished paper that will be made available on the Cayuga Lake
40 Modeling Project website in the future. A public meeting is scheduled at The Space on March 9th.

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42 For more information on project partners, or to view the full presentation please visit:
43 <http://www.tompkinscountyny.gov/planning/committees/wrc/wrcagenda-minutes>

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45 **Wetlands Mapping Project** – Darby Kiley provided background on the Wetlands Committee’s
46 collaborative efforts with Soil and Water in 2008 to get funding as part of EPA’s Wetland Program
47 Development grants, from which the “Wetland Protection in Tompkins County – Existing Status Gaps
48 and Future Needs” study was developed. The first round of mapping was funded by the Stormwater
49 Coalition and Soil and Water using FLOWPA funding in 2013-2014, for their pilot study mapping of
50 Dryden. The full project to complete wetlands mapping for the entire county was funded by Tompkins
51 County and the Park Foundation.

52
53 Nick Hollingshead presented the results of the study and described his methodology for mapping
54 wetlands using currently available images and data. The Wetlands Mapping presentation will be given to
55 TCCOG, Planners, and Army Corp of Engineers, and the DEC.

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57 To view the complete presentation please visit: [http://www.tompkinscountyny.gov/files/planning/water-](http://www.tompkinscountyny.gov/files/planning/water-resources/Tompkins_County_Wetland_Map.pdf)
58 [resources/Tompkins_County_Wetland_Map.pdf](http://www.tompkinscountyny.gov/files/planning/water-resources/Tompkins_County_Wetland_Map.pdf)

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60 **Chair’s Report** – Darby Kiley reported that committees plan to meet over the next month, and made note
61 that comments on the Susquehanna River Basin are due on March 7.

62
63 **Announcements** - Roxy Johnston announced the public meeting on the Cayuga Lake Modeling Project
64 on March 9, at The Space, and reported on the presentation by Jose Lozano and Damian, on persistent
65 organics in Cayuga Lake, and the materials that pass through the waste water treatment facility, and
66 suggested a presentation at an upcoming meeting.

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68 **Education Committee** – Lynn Leopold reported that the Education Committee is working on updating
69 the boating brochure, and will focus on making the content more user-friendly.

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71 **Adjournment** -- The meeting adjourned at 5:45 PM.

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73 Respectfully submitted,
74 Jennifer Turner, Administrative Assistant
75 Tompkins County Planning Department
76 Approved by Council on March 21, 2016

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