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## TOMPKINS COUNTY WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL

**March 17, 2008  
Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present (16):** John Andersson (Associate), Liz Cameron, Roxy Johnston, Joan Jurkowich, Dan Karig, Dooley Kiefer (Associate), Darby Kiley, Todd Miller (Ex-Officio), Frank Proto, Nick Schipanski, Cindy Schulte, Tania Schusler, Craig Schutt, Bud Shattuck, Mary Shelley, Cathy Valentino (Associate)

**Members Excused (5):** Ed Bugliosi, Carol Chock, Barry Goodrich, Linda Wagenet, Roger Yonkin

**Members Absent (2):** Dan Konowalow, Paul Tunison

**Staff Present (1):** Kathy Wilsea (T C Planning Dept.)

**Guests Present (6):** Jim Adams, Bert Bland, Edwin (Todd) Cowen, Amanda LaBelle, Pam Mackesey, Elaine Quaroni

Chair Frank Proto called the meeting to order at 4:19 PM.

**Agenda Review and Approval of Minutes** – There were no changes to the agenda. One sentence was struck from the draft minutes. The amended minutes of the February 26<sup>th</sup> meeting were moved by Joan Jurkowich, seconded by Nick Schipanski and passed by voice vote.

**Draft monitoring plan for the southern basin of Cayuga Lake** – Roxy Johnston said the goals are to:

- Reduce duplication
- Understand more about the southern end and the main lake, and where they meet
- Learn about circulation patterns
- Capture some “forcing” events (storm flows, wind)
- Begin baseline toxins and emergent contaminants monitoring
- Increase understanding of mussels, shrimp & fish
- Resolve site 7

Public education components to date have included an op-ed by the partnership, an op-ed by USGS on the aquifer monitoring studies, Dan Karig’s op-ed on sediment sources and their importance, and a meeting on phosphorus research sponsored by Community Science Institute and Cornell Cooperative Extension. Upcoming is an op-ed on weeds and algae.

The partnership has found lots of monitoring duplication in the southern end of the lake, especially where Ithaca Area Wastewater Treatment Plant tests near their outfall point. IAWWTP has 40 test sites, all of which are shallow, in a two-month cycle. Community Science Institute has 7 sites, Roxy does 4 at approximately 40 meters depth for the City drinking water program, and Lake Source Cooling has 8. So the total nears 60.

In the Lake Source Cooling SPDES permit renewal process, Cornell continues to work on the Before-After Control Impact (BACI) report. There is positive input in the Priority Waterbodies List, but there are differing responses from other DEC offices on development of the monitoring

plan. Roxy expects the monitoring plan and joint statement to take another month or two to finalize.

The Stormwater Coalition will fund some studies, likely phosphorus testing. If CU and WRC agree on the plan, the partnership will promote it, and the Cayuga Lake Watershed Network might become an advocate. Handouts were distributed, and Roxy provided some framework for their use. Frank Proto voiced appreciation for the work of the committee and the joint group.

**Adoption of 2008-2009 Workplan** – John Andersson suggested one change, and the Recreation Committee provided their recommendations for changes. Revised Workplan was moved by Nick Schipanski, seconded by Craig Schutt, and passed by unanimous voice vote. Clean copies will be available next month.

**Committee Reports** – Cayuga Lake Recreation: An Inlet Cleanup will be held 3/29. Education: Tania Schusler said work is underway to meet some of the objectives of the Workplan. On 5/3, they will participate in Environmental Appreciation Days. Information handouts on tap water vs bottled water are planned. LakeFest will be held in August. They spent some time discussing the role of the committee, as there is a lot of interaction with items in the Workplan that do not specify the Education Committee.

**Recommendations for Membership** – Craig Schutt reported that the Nominating/ Membership Committee met and had a long discussion about recommending changes to the WRC seat structure. They decided to recommend appointment of Rick Manning to the Business & Industry seat, appointment of Patrick Barry to the NRCS seat, and continue to recommend change of the Economic Development seat to Planning or Environment. They will also discuss in the future whether or not to recommend changing the Business & Industry seat to another category, and felt if that was done that the shift could probably accommodate those persons already seated. Appointment of Rick Manning was moved by Joan Jurkowich, seconded by Dan Karig, and passed by unanimous voice vote. Appointment of Patrick Barry was moved by Joan, seconded by Roxy Johnston, and passed by unanimous voice vote. Joan then moved to change the Economic Development seat to Environment, which was seconded by Craig. Roxy preferred making it a Planning seat, which Joan accepted as a friendly amendment, and that was seconded by Mary. This could be a professional planner or member of a municipal planning board. Passed by voice vote. Kathy Wilsea will check how this can proceed through the County Legislature and forward it to PDEQ.

**Chair's Report** – Frank announced that Roger Yonkin has written a book on dredging, which can be borrowed from the Planning Department library. The Erie Canal Natural Heritage Corridor has an Ithaca photo on the cover of its Annual Report, and that was passed around.

**Announcements/Other Business** – Visitor Amanda LaBelle was introduced. She is a graduate student at Cornell.

**Adjournment** -- The meeting was adjourned at 6:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Wilsea, Planning Department Secretary

Adopted by the Council on April 21, 2008.