

TOMPKINS COUNTY WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL

March 21, 2022 Zoom meeting

Final Minutes

Attendance

Member		Seat	Member		Seat
Annie Bastoni	P	At-Large	Holly Payne	P	At-Large
Fay Benson	E	Agriculture	Frank Proto	P	At-Large
Cynthia Brock	E	Municipal	Brian Rahm	P	Environment
Liz Cameron	P	Co. Environmental Health	Stephanie Redmond	P	At-Large
Amanda Champion	E	County Government	Steve Riddle	P	Water Purveyor
Jenna DeRario	P	Cooperative Extension	Elizabeth Thomas	P	Recreation
Michelle Henry	P	EMC Representative	Linda Wagenet	P	At-Large
Kristen Hychka	P	Municipal Government	Chris Bordlemay Padilla	A	<i>Associate</i>
Emelia "Mia" Jumbo	E	At-Large	Roxy Johnston	P	<i>Associate</i>
Darby Kiley	P	County Planning & Sustain.	Cedric Mason	A	<i>Associate</i>
Patrick King	P	Business & Industry	Steve Penningroth	P	<i>Associate</i>
Liz Kreitinger	P	Watershed Organization	Elaine Quaroni	P	<i>Associate</i>
Lynn Leopold	P	Municipal Government	Tom Vawter	A	<i>Associate</i>
Jon Negley	P	Soil & Water Cons. District			

Guests: Doug Barnes, Nancy Spero, Dan Walker, Steven Winkley

Call to Order/Agenda Review or Changes – Vice Chair Liz Cameron called the meeting to order at 4:16pm.

Privilege of the Floor – No members of the public spoke.

Presentation: Town of Enfield Drinking Water Protection: Background and Local Law – Steven Winkley, New York Rural Water Association, and Stephanie Redmond, Nancy Spero, Dan Walker, Town of Enfield

Steve Winkley from New York Rural Water Association (NYRWA) discussed his organization’s collaboration with the Town of Enfield to pass a local drinking water law for the municipality. The law was written by the town’s Water Protection Committee, with help from NYRWA, and used data from a USGS Aquifers and Groundwater Study. The law, which is meant to safeguard the town’s access to sustainable drinking water, requires site plan approval for any projects using more than 1,000 gallons of water per day. It does not cover agricultural developments, however, as those are regulated through NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets. The committee, which included elected officials, planning board members, and other stakeholders, considered several issues while developing and drafting the law. These included safe disposal of medical and other hazardous waste, manure storage and pesticide application, bottled water sales, salt mining, NYS building codes, zoning and subdivision regulations, similar measures passed by other communities (e.g. Town of Danby created an overlay district to protect its drinking water), and chemical spillage cleanup. It also conducted various information-gathering activities, such as a drinking water well survey that yielded about 180 responses and limited testing of private drinking water wells. The Q&A discussion covered various issues, including a breakdown of the survey results, community reception to law as of yet, testing for chloride in wells, effects of road salt on water quality, presence of dug wells versus drilled wells in Enfield, regulation of private water well construction and operation, and County sanitary code.

Action: Approval of Draft Minutes – The draft Feb. 28, 2022, meeting minutes were approved (moved by Jenna DeRario, seconded by Lynn Leopold) as submitted. Frank Proto abstained.

Committee Reports (as needed)

Regional Watershed Coordination Committee held kickoff meeting and welcome additional members.

Chair and Staff Reports – Cynthia will present the 2021 WRC Annual Report to the Planning, Development, and Environmental Quality (PDEQ) legislative committee at their March 28 meeting. It was included in this month's agenda packet. WRC members should reach out to staff with any edits. The Department of Planning and Sustainability is hiring for a sustainability coordinator.

Member Announcements – Liz C. introduced Doug Barnes, who recently joined the County Health Department as an environmental health specialist. His work will focus on water resources. Group also re-welcomed new members Liz Kreitinger and Jenna DeRario. Agriculture representative Fay Benson is looking for a replacement for his seat. Members briefly discussed lifting of COVID-19 restrictions and hybrid versus in-person meetings.

Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 5:22pm.