



Sauquoit Creek Basin Intermunicipal Commission

c/o Herkimer-Oneida Counties Comprehensive Planning Program
The Boehlert Center at Union Station
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MEETING MINUTES

July 20, 2021

4:30 PM

Whitestown Community Center
Westmoreland Road
Whitestown, NY

Present

Chairperson Dave Glenn (T. of Whitestown)	Celeste Friend (Utica Council Person)
Kyle Tritten (V. of Whitesboro)	Maggie Reilly (Ramboll)
Mayor Friedlander (V. of Whitesboro)	Shaun Gannon (Ramboll)
Joseph Morosco (V. of Yorkville)	Bill Schmidt (Whitestown Attorney)
Supervisor Kaleta (T. of Whitestown)	Ron Loubier (Whitesboro Water Warriors)
Rick Sherman (T. of New Hartford)	Robert Jones (Resident)
Supervisor Christian (T. of Paris)	Gary Kielar (Resident)
Tom Hughes (V. of New Hartford)	Vincent Turczyn (Resident)
Stephanie Wurz (C. of Utica)	Kenneth Blandall (Resident)
Dan Appler (OC E-911)	Michael Boelhert (Resident)
Dave Babowicz (OC DPW)	Robin Inman (Resident)
Chris Burtch (OC DPW)	Kendra Stagner (Resident)
Sherry Hierholzer (NYS DOT)	J. Majka (Resident)
Michael Stadelmaier (Rep. Tenney)	Claire Wiley (HOCCPP)
Marianne Buttenschon (NY Assembly)	Kristin Campbell (HOCCPP Staff)
Audra Williams (Assemblywoman Buttenschon)	

Sediment and Debris Management Plan

The meeting was opened at 4:30 pm by Chairperson Dave Glenn with remarks thanking the many state, local and federal partners that work together to create a more flood resilient Sauquoit Creek Watershed. Maggie Reilly and Shaun Gannon from Ramboll Engineering provided a presentation of the Sauquoit Creek Sediment and Debris Management Plan. A copy of the presentation will be provided on the Commission's webpage. The following are bullets from the discussion.

- The intent of the plan is for each community to adopt as their own community program. The watershed is 62.5 miles square. Managing sediment and using natural based solutions helps to mitigate flooding

- It is a collaboration between entities at all levels of government working together with the community.
- “Economically feasible solutions in high risk areas such as high velocity or energy coming from tributaries can cause sediment deposition or “woody” debris that works its way upstream and cause flooding.
- Create a natural balance of the stream with flood benches that create a place for deposition of materials and trees so they are easier to remove with local equipment and manpower.
- The following are observations about the watershed: need for regular trash/woody debris removal, tributaries are sediment collectors, need wetland management which is important for detention, restoration of the historic flood plain which has been over developed and more robust land use planning that incorporates water resources in its goals and actions.
- Ramboll wanted the entire 26 miles of the creek and measured all crossings and structures then taking this information to identified specific zones. Utica to Whitesboro is flat lower areas that flood plain restoration is appropriate while the steeper upper areas of the creek moving south to Paris would benefit from stabilizing the banks and slowing water.
- Ramboll explained some of the actions and provided examples of actions for municipalities that are effective and able to be completed with municipal labor.
- The individual plans should be adopted by local municipalities and there will be a coversheet and steps to adoption provided for municipalities. Once the plan is adopted locally, then there is state funds for implementation.
- The finalized plan will be put on the SCBIC’s website.

After the presentation the June 21, 2021 minutes were approved with a motion by Supervisor Christian and a second by Joe Morosco. Approval of the minutes passed unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report

Kristin reported the balance in the Commission’s bank account is \$68,449.09. Upon a motion by Rick Sherman and a second by Kyle Tritten, the motion passed to accept the Treasurer’s report. Members will discuss the 2021 budget and member contributions at the August meeting.

Other Business

Member Reports

Chairperson Glenn requested members discuss any projects and concerns in their representative communities.

Paris

Supervisor Christian reported that Brian Miller had secured the Town a grant for culvert replacement that ran into easement issues. The money is being used at a new location.

Town of New Hartford

Rick S. reported the Town moved a tree down near Piggy Pat’s in Washington Mills.

Town of Whitestown

Maggie Reilly provided a brief update Projects 1-4 along with the NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection Grant. Project 1 at Dunham Manor Park, the town is working on updated design and FEMA grant funds for repairs Project 2 at the CSX tracks is under construction, working first on the

culverts and then the flood bench in March 2022. Project 3 along Commercial Drive is under way with design and grant administration. The Town has signed a cooperative agreement with NRCS to secure money to solicit appraisers to work on the 190+ homes.

Village of Yorkville

They removed two trees from the creek near the pump house and cleaned up some debris

Village of Whitesboro

The village paved Main Street and completed the storm drainage project. The Village worked with CCI (contractor for the Flood benches at the CSX tracks) and assisted in cutting branches and chipping material.

City of Utica

City reported that work has started on an Emergency study of Nail and Ballou Creeks.

The next meeting date is August 17, 2021 and will be held in person at the Town of New Hartford Offices at 4:30.