



**MEETING MINUTES**  
**July 18, 2024, 4:30 PM**

Westmoreland Town Offices, 100 Station Rd., Westmoreland

**Present**

Gene Whipple (Town of Sangerfield) \*  
Larry Stern (V. of Waterville) \*  
Roger Potenski (T. of Westmoreland) \*  
Shaun Gannon (Ramboll)  
Alyssa Flint (Ramboll)

Liseli Haines (Clinton-Kirkland Climate Smart)  
Steve Johnston (Clinton Resident)  
Karl Buscher (Sangerfield Resident)  
John Ditz (Sangerfield Resident)  
Jeff Rehler (HOCCPP Staff)

\*Authorized or alternate voting representative

Roger Potenski opened the meeting at 4:35 pm.

**Meeting Minutes**

Approval of meeting minutes from May 16, 2024 and June 20, 2024 were tabled due to lack of quorum.

**FEMA BRIC DTA Program**

J. Rehler discussed upcoming DTA initiatives planned for the Fall including a cost/benefit analysis webinar and in-person project financing event. Both opportunities will be relevant to grants and designed with OCWC as the primary audience.

**Oriskany Creek Watershed Study: Sediment and Debris Management Plan**

Ramboll has completed a draft and is requesting feedback from Commission Members. S. Gannon discussed the approach to include maintenance and green (nature-based) solutions as those are currently eligible for various grant funding opportunities. J. Rehler is working on getting a copy of the report to share with Members in the coming weeks. The consultant team will soon present findings to the Commission at an upcoming OCWC meeting (date TBD).

**2024 NYS CFA – DEC NSPR Stream Corridor Studies**

J. Rehler discussed the 2024 CFA and DEC NSPR Comprehensive Stream Corridor Assessments. HOCCPP staff intends to submit two Oriskany Creek stream corridors for study (Dean's Creek and Big Creek).

**Discussion of OCWC Project Possibilities**

G. Whipple discussed the possibility of taking on an upstream culvert project in the Town of Sangerfield. Possibilities discussed included Bacon St. and Osborne Ave. Bacon St. was discussed extensively due to flooding at a nearby bus garage. The Town is interested in obtaining engineering services for a hydraulic study of the location, noting the need to avoid creating negative downstream impacts to Big Creek. The culvert is owned by Sangerfield and Marshall but located in Waterville. J. Rehler discussed the possibility of either the Town of Sangerfield or OCWC using an Oneida County Flood Mitigation Grant to fund the project.

Members expressed interest in learning more about Oneida County Flood Mitigation Grant opportunities; J. Rehler will provide additional information at an upcoming OCWC meeting. There was a question about highlighting current capital projects; J. Rehler explained OCWC has not yet conducted a project, but individual municipalities are working on various projects in their jurisdictions.

### **2024 Budget**

J. Rehler discussed the funding formula (unchanged from previous years) and some possible budget scenarios for 2024. He stressed that the budget is directly related to OCWC's ability to fund the recently discussed projects. Due to lack of quorum, the vote to approve a 2024 budget was tabled. Member municipality invoices will be issued following budget approval.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The balance in the Commission's bank account is \$64,431.96. Approval of the Treasurer's Report was tabled due to lack of quorum. S. Gannon indicated Ramboll will soon invoice OCWC for the remainder of the Oriskany Creek Watershed Study: Sediment and Debris Management Plan costs.

### **Member Reports**

Westmoreland – R. Potenski discussed a proposed RV Sales/Service project near the NYS Thruway and NYS 233. The project proposes substantial stormwater mitigation features in the watershed of Dean's Creek and will require avoidance of several on-site wetlands. The Town is currently allowing the Thruway Authority and Applicant to sort out a site access issue before other aspects of the project are addressed. R. Potenski also added that the Town and School are discussing drainage solutions for the sports fields and surrounding areas.

### **Other Business**

There was a discussion about the recent difficulties in obtaining quorum. The May, June, and July meetings did not have a quorum of voting Members. Members requested communications about the next meeting stress the importance of approving the budget and having at least one voting representative from each Member municipality at each meeting. There was discussion about holding an additional special meeting to get a quorum, a tactic that has worked in the past. J. Rehler mentioned communications efforts may be best spent on the August meeting since OCWC is also anticipating a large Ramboll invoice requiring a vote. The group decided to forgo arranging a special meeting at this time.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting date is August 15, 2024, at the Waterville Village Offices at 4:30 pm.  
The meeting adjourned at 5:23 pm.