

Sauquoit Creek Basin Intermunicipal Commission

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MEETING MINUTES
October 15, 2024
4:30 PM

Oneida County Dept of Public Works Building
5999 Judd Road
Oriskany, NY

Present

Chairperson Dave Glenn (T. of Whitestown)	Jake Voelker (NYS DOT)
Kyle Tritten (V. of Whitesboro)	Briam Whittaker (Ramboll)
Stephanie Wurz (City of Utica)	Chris Burtch (OC DPW-Oriskany)
Nicholas Bridenbecker (City of Utica)	Kristin Campbell (HOCCPP Staff)
Joseph Morasco (V. of Yorkville)	Jim Lomonaco (Cassville Resident)
Nicole Bourgeois (OC DPW)	

The meeting was opened at 4:30 pm by Chairperson Dave Glenn. Approval of the May, June, September and October 2024 minutes were tabled due to a lack of quorum.

Sauquoit Creek Flood Plain Restoration and Bank Stabilization Program Update

Brian W. gave a brief updated on the project in Whitestown. Project 1 repairs are complete, and the plantings will be installed in the spring 2025. Project 3, which is an expansion of Project 2 benches, will go out to bid and be constructed in 2025. The intent is for a spring start date. Project 4 is in a holding pattern until it is decided if the benefit of doing a fourth project is worth the cost. With the success of the previous projects, this project may be unnecessary.

The NRCS buyout program in Whitesboro is moving along. The Town of Whitestown looks to send out purchase offers in the next couple of weeks to homeowners who have signed up to be in the program. The process for closure on the homes will be similar to any real estate transfer process with taxes/utilities being paid and exchange of keys for a check. Approximately 120 homes are in the program at this point.

Kristin C. asked how the process will move from accepting the purchase offer to demolition of the structures. A cover letter from the Town of Whitestown will be provided with the purchase offer that explains this process. The program is flexible, and demolition will be done in batches. There are varying levels of readiness among homeowners as some have already left for new homes and others are going to need to find a new residence. Once purchased there will be hazmat and asbestos abatement before demolition can occur. Certain areas will be demolished in mid-2025. There was discussion about coordination with Village of Whitesboro DPW and

notification of when to cap off water/sewer and necessary road closures required during the demolition. This is being discussed among the partners.

Clinton Street Bridge

Nicole reported that the County is reviewing the requirements to submit a PROTECT grant. This funding is federal and very competitive with an 80/20 split. This means for a \$13 million request, there would need to be a \$2.6 million local match for the bridge replacement and resiliency project.

MS4 Coalition

Kristin reported the Mohawk Valley Stormwater Coalition met just before the SCBIC. Since many of the members were at the prior meeting, this will be removed from the agenda in the future.

Treasurer's Report

The balance in the Commission's bank account is \$126,246.87. There were no new bills. Kristin commented that members need to review and attend the next meeting to vote on the budget for 2025.

Member Reports

- Jim Lomonaco, a resident from the Hamlet of Cassville in the Town of Paris, came to explain to the members concerns that he and neighbors have with sediment buildup near the bridge on Summit Road over the Sauquoit Creek and a beaver dam near NYS Rte. 8. Members were presented with photos and a description of the history of the area. Chairperson Glenn will be in contact to do a site visit.
- Yorkville reported that a contractor hired by Oneida County Water Quality and Water Pollution Control cleaned out the channels on the Yorkville side of the CSX tracks

The next regular meeting date is **January 21, 2025 at 4:00pm** at the Oneida County DPW. Please note the change in time and there will be no meeting in December.