



MEETING MINUTES
June 20, 2024, 4:30 PM

Waterville Village Offices, 122 Barton Ave., Waterville, NY 13480

Present

Jon Scott (Town of Kirkland) *
Jamie Bechy (V. of Waterville) *
Larry Stern (V. of Waterville) *
Robert Rockwell (V. of Clinton) *
Roger Potenski (T. of Westmoreland) *

Alyssa Flint (Ramboll)
Jake Voelker (NYSDOT)
Paul Hoole (FEMA)
Jeff Rehler (HOCCPP Staff)

*Authorized or alternate voting representative

Chairperson Jon Scott opened the meeting at 4:35 pm.

Meeting Minutes

Approval of meeting minutes from May 16, 2024 was tabled due to lack of quorum.

FEMA BRIC DTA Program

P. Hoole, Hazard Mitigation Planner from the Albany Field Office of FEMA, shared information on extreme heat events, mentioning impacts and vulnerable populations. 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

A. Flint discussed Ramboll's activities including an upcoming data collection collaboration with Hamilton College. The fieldwork initiative will collect GIS data and include a windshield survey of areas of Big Creek. Modeling work for the Watershed Study is back on track and Ramboll is targeting July 1st to have a draft report of the Watershed Study available for review. OCWC Members can review the document and use it to apply for 2024 CFA funding, with many CFA opportunities having a July 31st deadline.

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 OCWC areas for the studies including Dean's Creek and Big Creek. Submissions are due July 31st and awards are up to \$75,000. There is a 10% match requirement that County Flood Mitigation Funds will cover. J. Rehler also more generally discussed CFA opportunities, noting a preference to award grants to municipalities with Climate Smart bronze/silver certifications and environmental justice/disadvantaged community designations. Currently, Clinton, Kirkland, and Whitestown are designated for the latter. R. Rockwell informed the Commission that Clinton has recently achieved Climate Smart bronze status.

Discussion of OCWC Project Possibilities

J. Bechy discussed an idea to pursue bank stabilization initiatives along NYS 12 to expand on recent efforts along the corridor and protect the wastewater treatment plant. Trout Unlimited has already surveyed much of the target area. J. Scott mentioned that prior work had been washed out and J. Bechy stressed the importance of continuing the work that had already progressed nearby to stabilize the entire area and intends to put some project costs together to share with OCWC.

2024 Member Municipality Invoices

J. Rehler mentioned that municipalities will soon be invoiced for 2024. This will likely use a similar formula to previous efforts and a budget and breakdown is forthcoming.

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.

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

No other business was discussed.

Next Meeting

The next meeting date is July 18, 2024, at the Westmoreland Town Offices at 4:30 pm.
The meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.