



MEETING MINUTES
March 20 2025, 4:30 PM

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

Present

Chairperson Jon Scott (T. of Kirkland) *
Jamie Bechy (V. of Waterville) *
Larry Stern (V. of Waterville) *
Roger Potenski (T. of Westmoreland) *
Chuck Hebbard (T. of Westmoreland) *

Dave Glenn (T. of Whitestown) *
Alyssa Flint (Ramboll)
Randall Young (NYS DEC)
Kristin Campbell (HOCCPP staff)
Jeff Rehler (HOCCPP staff)

*Authorized or alternate voting representative

Chairperson Scott opened the meeting at 4:36 pm.

Meeting Minutes

The following meeting minutes were tabled due to lack of quorum:

- December 2024
- January 2025
- February 2025

FEMA BRIC DTA Program

The FEMA BRIC DTA program has been paused by the federal government. The BRIC grant program remains open and applications were due to DSHES by 2/28/25. FEMA BRIC DTA program consultants CDM Smith provided partially complete grant application files to HOCCPP. HOCCPP completed 4 grant applications for scoping studies and submitted them to DSHES. These are basic data collection/planning studies to understand issues and inform strategies for addressing them.

- Valley Road Bank Restoration – Whitestown, Oriskany
- Sediment and Debris Management Study for Big Creek – Sangerfield, Waterville, Marshall
- WWTP Bridge Replacement – Waterville
- Sanford Ave. Storm Water Drains – Clinton

Grants

HOCCPP staff can provide additional information upon request for the following grants discussed at the meeting:

- NYS EFC funding (Green Innovation Grant Program) (due 4/11)
 - EFC has traditionally been easy to work with.
 - Green Stormwater Infrastructure applications may be of interest to OCWC Members.
 - Regional Green Stormwater Infrastructure projects utilize green stormwater infrastructure to restore natural landscape features, such as flood plains, riparian buffers, streams, and wetlands. These natural features provide water quality benefits and enhance watersheds, while preserving wildlife and their habitat.
 - Local Green Stormwater Infrastructure projects are typically located in an urban environment and consist of site and neighborhood specific practices, such as bioretention, cisterns, downspout disconnections, green roofs, green walls, permeable pavements, stormwater street trees, and urban forestry programs.
- DHSES's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HGMP) (due 04/30)

- Funding is available as a result of recent disaster declarations
- Projects can include but are not limited to: stormwater drainage and culvert improvements; floodplain and stream restoration; flood control, diversion, and storage; property acquisition; slope stabilization; infrastructure protection; aquifer storage; seismic and wind retrofits; structure elevations; resilient infrastructure projects; nature-based solutions; and emergency generators for critical facilities.
- DEC Resilient Watersheds Grant (RWG) Program (due 6/6)
 - K. Campbell discussed a chart that was created to assist OCWC Members in identifying projects
 - R. Young mentioned that this is an uncommon funding opportunity due to the Bond Act and that OCWC Members are well positioned to apply based on eligible plans that the Commission has completed
 - Eligible project types include: floodplain and wetland restoration, berm, dam, culvert, bridge, or appurtenant structure removal, culvert right-sizing, stream bank restoration, riparian buffer stabilization, and stream daylighting.

HOCCPP and Ramboll can assist with grant applications.

Mohawk Watershed Symposium – Ramboll/Oriskany Creek Watershed Study

A. Flint informed OCWC that the Ramboll conference presentation on the Oriskany Creek Watershed Study has been cancelled.

OCWC Bylaws – Officer Elections

OCWC can elect a new chair and treasurer/secretary once they have quorum. The Bylaws state this should occur each calendar year. R. Potenski discussed quorum challenges and Members requested HOCCPP reach out to OCWC municipalities to revisit meeting preferences (time, date, location, etc.). The goal is to find a regular date/time that works and get active participation and representation from all eight Member municipalities.

Treasurer’s Report

The balance in the Commission’s bank account as of February 28, 2025 was \$29,431.95. Approval was tabled due to lack of quorum.

Member Reports

Waterville – J. Bechy discussed the Village’s Oneida County Flood Mitigation Program application for the Big Cr. Pavilion Stream Bank Stabilization, Floodplain Creation, and Dam removal project.

Whitestown – D. Glenn mentioned the Town is exploring grants for floodplain restoration and stream bank stabilization. He noted erosion issues and indicated impacts of the existing dam are not fully understood despite it consistently being a focal point.

Other Business

J. Rehler informed OCWC that he will be leaving his role at HOCCPP to pursue a new employment opportunity. K. Campbell will be the primary HOCCPP contact for OCWC moving forward.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held April 17, 2025 at the Westmoreland Town Offices at 4:30 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm.