



# 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**

**November 19, 2019**

**4:30 PM**

Whitestown Town Offices  
8539 Clark Mills Road  
Whitestown, NY

### **Present**

Chairperson Dave Glenn (T. of Whitestown)  
Mayor Donald Ryan (V. of New Hartford)  
Mayor Bialek (V. of NY Mills)  
Supervisor Christian (T. of Paris)  
Supervisor Kaleta (T. of Whitestown)  
Superintendent Sherman (T. of New Hartford)  
Vincent Malagese (V. of Whitesboro)  
Joseph Morosco (V. of Yorkville)  
Delores Caruso (Governor's Office)  
Marc Barraco (Governor's Office)  
Marianne Buttenschon (NYS Assembly)  
Amela Hrustic (NYS Assembly)

Karri Tibbitts (NYS Assembly)  
Kevin Revere (OC E-911)  
Dan Appler (OC E-911)  
Steve Devan (OC WP&WQC)  
Kristina Markey (NYS DEC)  
Lisa Langdon (T. of Whitestown)  
Kevin Barry (T. of Whitestown)  
Brian Whittaker (OBG)  
Shaun Gannon (OBG)  
Gary Kielar (Citizen)  
Irene Tominski (Resident)  
Kristin Campbell (HOCCPP)

The meeting was opened at 4:30 pm by member Chairperson Dave Glenn. Upon a motion by Supervisor Christian and second by Joseph Morosco, the minutes of the October 15, 2019 meeting was approved.

### **Whitestown Sauquoit Creek Channel and Floodplain Restoration Capital Project**

Supervisor Kaleta reported Phase 1 is complete. However, the raging flood waters from the Halloween storm damaged some of the instream structures that had not yet established and now need to be repaired.

### **Channels at CSX Bridge**

The Town of Whitestown signed an agreement with the final landowner for Phase 2 and has sent the appraisal to DASNY for approval. Engineers are coordinating with CSX on incorporating final comments on the design and permitting is well underway. It is anticipated that the project will go out to bid later this year for construction to start in the spring on the 5 culverts under the embankment.

### **October 31, 2019 Flooding Event**

Kevin Revere reported that representatives from FEMA and DSHES have arrived to assess damages. There are two teams examining public infrastructure and residential damages. The teams found serious damages in the Village of Whitesboro with approximately 57 homes with major damages, 27 with minor damages and additional structures effected. The goal is to have a FEMA office established in the area within the next month. Those who were out with the representatives agreed that the assessors were very thorough in their examination of properties very closely for damages.

Chairperson Glenn asked member communities to report on the damages from the Halloween storm event.

- Paris stated there was not much to report from storm damages but Supervisor Christian said he did some research into who owned the drained pond near NYS Rte. 8. The reservoir is not near the Sauquoit Creek and may not be helpful. Members recalled that the reservoir was drained after a drowning.
- Village of New Hartford reported the Sauquoit Creek toppled over the Genesee Street Bridge. Mayor Ryan said the bridge used to have a 20 ft. clearance and now due to sedimentation is about 14ft.
- The Village of New York Mills would like to see an annual debris and maintenance of the creek to stop the backing up of water. There was a breach of the creek near the Sanger Building on 10/31/19. Water was moving very fast along with debris in the creek. There needs to be a maintenance plan with shared services and a schedule. The group questioned if there would be money available to fund an emergency clean up similar to the work completed several years ago along the whole length of the creek.
- Town of New Hartford reported on the damages from the 10/31/19 storm. There was damages at William Tools on Elm Street, Chadwicks, Brookside Trailer Park, Washington Mills Athletic Park, Rayhill Trail near the Sanger Building and more as the Town assess damages with State and Federal representatives.
- Members agreed that CSX needs to step up and clean out the channels under the bridge over the Sauquoit Creek in Whitestown. There was discussion about who is responsible for cleaning the channels. In the future, there should be clarification of the responsible party keeping the new channels clear as we head into Phase 2 of the Sauquoit Creek Flood Plain Restoration Project.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Kristin reported the balance in the Commission's bank account is \$ 40,866.58. There were no new bills. Four members have summited payment of the voucher sent out in October and deposits will be reflected in the next treasurer's report. Upon a motion by Vince Malagese, and second by Joseph Morosco, members voted to accept the treasurer's report.

**Other Business**

Kristin inquired if the members of the Commission would want to apply for Oneida County Flood Mitigation Grant funds to hire a contractor to do a survey and analysis of the residential areas located in the portion of the Village of Whitesboro that were severely impacted by the October 31, 2019 flood event. Upon a motion by Supervisor Christian, and a second by Mayor Ryan, members unanimously approved the application and acceptance of funds through the Oneida County Flood Mitigation Grant Program to secure a contractor to perform the survey and analysis of the flood damaged areas the Village of Whitesboro. This information will be used to develop an action plan on how best to assist the Village of Whitesboro in cleanup and resiliency efforts.

The next meeting date is December 17, 2019.