



January 21, 2016 Minutes

CALL TO ORDER– Chair Donna Draxler called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM in the STC Conference room.

ATTENDANCE

Chemung County – Ted Bennett; Donna Draxler; Ernie Hartman; Randy Olthof; Randy Reid; Thomas Sweet; Tom Tranter

Schuyler County – Kate Bartholomew; Tim O’Hearn

Steuben County – Amy Dlugos; Joe Hauryski; Mark Ryckman; Scott VanEtten; Jack Wheeler

STC Staff – Marcia Weber; Susan Cratsley; Victoria Ehlen; Chelsea Robertson; Kemberli Sargent; Janet Thigpen

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – On a motion duly made (Hartman/Tranter) and carried, the minutes of the November 19, 2015 meeting were approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **Audit Committee**

- a) **Abstract of Claims** – the audit committee reviewed abstracts totaling \$36,515.28. On a motion duly made (Tranter/Olthof) and carried, the abstracts were approved.

2. **Budget and Personnel**

- a) **STC Accountant** – Marcia Weber hired Brittany McKerlie for the accountant position. Brittany will begin work on February 8, 2016. She will be required to take the Civil Service accountant test when it is next offered in Steuben County.
- b) **Civil Service Update** – STC received a letter from Steuben County stating that the New York State Civil Service Commission approved the request from Steuben County (and STC) to have the position of Executive Director placed in the Non-Competitive Class effective December 23, 2015. The next Executive Director of STC will not be required to take a Civil Service exam for that position.
- c) **ARC Audit** – the ARC Inspector General spoke to Marcia about scheduling a routine audit of STC. When told that the accountant position was currently vacant, he offered to wait until the new accountant has time to become familiar with the STC finances.

REGIONAL PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

1. **ARC Project Update** – the group reviewed and discussed STC’s Appalachian Regional Commission project sheet and the status of projects.
2. **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)** – the CEDS draft is complete and on the STC website. If anyone has any questions or changes, he or she should please contact Victoria Ehlen. The 30 day public comment period will end on February 15.

3. **Local Development District Conference in Washington, DC, April 3-5** - Marcia Weber asked board members to accompany STC staff to the Local Development District Conference in Washington, DC on April 3-5. STC provides transportation and pays the expenses, and the conference is educational and worth attending. Anyone who is interested should please contact STC.
4. **Economic Development Administration Conference** – the Economic Development Administration Conference, the first one in many years, will be on April 7-8 in Washington. As soon as Marcia gets more information she will share it with the board.
5. **Regional Leadership Conference** – The Regional Leadership Conference will be on Thursday, March 31. Registration forms will be sent out soon.
6. **Flood Program Update** – Janet Thigpen, CFM, STC Flood Mitigation Specialist, gave the following report:
 - a) **Flood Resilience/mapping** – STC co-sponsored and presented at a workshop called Long-Term Flood Resiliency for Communities: A Watershed Management Approach. Janet also worked on incorporating flood resilience into the CEDS. It is not yet known what will be FEMA’s scope of work for flood mapping in the Finger Lakes Watershed; DEC’s proposed priorities include detailed studies of Keuka and Seneca Lakes, but not the streams in the STC region.
 - b) **Local Regulations/CRS** – Janet continues to work with municipalities to better integrate flood risks into their local regulations. She has received approval from DEC for some of the revision and clarifications to their model ordinance. STC is also reviewing zoning and other land use regulations for consistency with NYS stormwater management practices.
 - c) **Flood Warnings** – Janet continues to serve on the Board of Emergency Services and to help with their flood warning operations. She developed new spreadsheets to help organize information during a flood event.
 - d) **Bridges and Culverts** – Janet co-chairs a Flood Work Group for the Upper Susquehanna Conservation Alliance, which has received funding to facilitate the assessment of culverts and bridges for both habitat and for the ability to pass high flows.
 - e) **State/national** – Janet continues to chair the Public Policy Committee and Community Rating System Users Group for the NYS Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association and serves on the board of the national Association of State Floodplain Managers.

7. **Intergovernmental Reviews**
New York State

1514 FY 2016 Funds for the 604(b) of the Clean Water Act

Project Applicant: New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation

Description: assist the DEC to carry out NYS’s Water Quality Management Planning Program

Federal Agency: USEPA

Cost: Federal: \$1,500,000 Total: \$1,500,000

On a motion duly made (Dlugos/VanEtten) and carried, the intergovernmental review was approved with the following comments:

With regard to activity (2) in the work plan narrative (“providing assistance to the regulated community regarding the requirements of the Phase II Stormwater Regulations”), it should be noted that in Chemung County, assistance with both MS4 and Construction permits is provided by the Chemung County Stormwater Coalition with local resources. Although the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has historically provided some stormwater management assistance in the STC region, this assistance has been minimal.

1601 RCRA C Hazardous Waste Management Program

Project Applicant: New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation
Description: hazardous waste management state program support
Federal Agency: EPA
Cost: Federal: \$5,990,420 State: \$1,996,807 Total: \$7,987,227

On a motion duly made (O’Hearn/Hartman) and carried, the intergovernmental review was approved.

1602 Housing Preservation Grant (HPG)

Project Applicant: Bishop Sheen Ecumenical Housing Foundation, Inc.
Description: 12 owner-occupied single family homes will receive housing rehabilitation grants to correct health, safety hazards and energy inefficiency.
Federal Agency: US Dept. of Agriculture, HPG Program
Cost: Federal: \$90,000 State: \$190,000 Applicant: \$20,000 Total: \$300,000

On a motion duly made (Bartholomew/Dlugos) and carried, the intergovernmental review was approved.

- 8. **Other** – Marcia noted that the newly appointed EDA Philadelphia Regional Director is Linda Cruz-Carnall.

OTHER BUSINESS

- 1. **STC Committees** – Board members can see the STC committee list online at http://stcplanning.org/usr/Committee_Roster/2016_Committee_Roster.pdf . Anyone wanting to join a committee should tell Marcia Weber.
- 2. **Nominating Committee** - The 2016 nominating committee was appointed as follows:
Chemung County – Tom Tranter – Chair
Schuyler County - Tim O’Hearn – Vice Chair
Steuben County - Jack Wheeler
- 3. **Next Board Meeting** - the next board meeting will be on February 18, 2016. It is the official annual meeting and will include the election of officers. The STC Annual Dinner will be on April 21, 2016 at Harbor Hotel, Watkins Glen.

ADJOURN – on a motion duly made (VanEtten/Dlugos) and carried, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Cratsley
Executive Assistant