



October 21, 2009
MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: **Dave Bachman**, Town of Southport Highway Dept.; **Roger Burlew**, Town of Erin; **Thomas Dobrydney**, Town of Big Flats; **Jennifer Fais**, STCRPDB; **Diane Fiorentino**, Stormwater Coalition; **Richard Gunderman**, County Legislator; **Sarah Peck**, Village of Wellsburg; **Jim Pfiffer**, Chemung River Friends; Chemung County Legislature; **Dennis Rathbun, Jr.**, CCHD; **Scott Shaw**, CCPD; **Jennifer Trimber**, CC EMC.

1. Call to order and Communications – Diane Fiorentino, vice chair, called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM in the Town and Country Fire Hall, Horseheads, NY. She invited the group to the Coalition meeting and to stay for lunch.
2. Approval of the June 17, 2009 minutes – On a motion by Dick Gunderman, seconded by Jennifer Trimber, the Water Quality Committee approved the minutes as written.
3. 2009 Water Quality Improvement Projects Program, Round 10 – Diane explained that she submitted an application for \$4,500 to underwrite the cost of the 2010 and 2011 WQCC Annual Reports and the creation of a DVD that would document all the activities of the Water Quality Committee as well as any notable activities of each Water Quality Committee member. She encouraged all members to think about their projects and borrow the state-of-the-art camcorder from the stormwater team. She encouraged them to make short films of activities, from three to ten minutes, which she will provide to their contractor to put into the DVD. She expects that they would show the DVD to RAMS and county legislators as part of the annual reporting in 2010 and 2011. The project runs from March 2010 through March 2012.
4. Aerial Photography – Tom Dobrydney explained that a new fly-over was happening in 2010 with the opportunity to photograph the rural areas to a six-inch resolution up from the one-foot resolution which is currently in place. The Stormwater Board, as well as the County and the City, supports the project with funds. Those contributions will ease the burden for rural communities as they pay their shares.

5. Member Reports

STC – Jennifer Fais noted that STC submitted an application for Round 10 which would match the Upper Susquehanna Coalition's \$90,000 for cattle exclusion from streams. The purpose of the project would be to document stream corridors and make recommendations for stream corridor protection.

She also encouraged people to attend the October 30 presentation on sustainable landscapes made by the director of the US Botanic Garden in Washington, DC. It will be held at 171 Cedar Art Center, Corning, from 10:00 AM until Noon.

She also said that STC and Southern Tier East received the ARRA stimulus 604(b) money which would be used to create the Susquehanna Action Plan. This would involve digitizing impervious surfaces in the region and using EPA models to simulate where the best places would be to put low impact development projects. Because the funding was reduced, STC has to look at the work program to see what we need to adjust.

Roger Burlew said that, after five years spent on pushing for a county-wide road crossing permit for pipes, he has settled for implementing the permit requirements in the Town of Erin. This positions the town to be ready for Marcellus Shale drilling which will involve road crossings. He said that he would be happy to provide a copy for the WQCC web page when it became official.

Jennifer Trimber said that the Environmental Management Council was beginning to organize groups in the County to be able to address Marcellus Shale. She noted that a public hearing sponsored by DEC would be held on November 18 at East High School in Corning. The meeting would start at 6:00 PM with individual comments, then the presentation at 7:00 PM. Diane Fiorentino said that a stenographer would document all comments.

Dick Gunderman said that he is working hard to keep the Chemung County tax at the same level as 2009.

Diane Fiorentino reminded the Water Quality Committee that the WQCC had submitted comments on the Marcellus Shale scoping and now they have until November 30 to comment on the 800 page Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement (sGEIS). Since not all of the EIS pertains to water resources, the committee does not need to read the full report. She would like to put that on the November agenda to gather individual comments again to put into one letter from the Water Quality Committee.

Diane Fiorentino also wrote a grant for Round 10 funds. This would be for outreach materials that could be used on a state-wide basis. She is building on what the Stormwater Coalition is doing with their own funds, which is to create two stormwater commercials. The grant would fund a general description of what you can do to help alleviate stormwater problems. This would include the discussion of Low Impact Development and green infrastructure. The second commercial would be focused on the permit requirements themselves. She

would prepare complementary handouts. The work must be generic enough for statewide use, but there would be space to add the local contact. WENY would be the contractor to create the commercials. The Stormwater Committee is asked to provide the content, WENY would do the voice. She hopes to run them from March through May then September through November during the rainy seasons. The narrative would also be appropriate for radio and could be shared with other local channels. The grant would cover air time for about five years. Potentially pieces of these commercials could be clipped for posting on YouTube. The grant would also include workshops on green infrastructure.

There were no other member reports.

6. Old Business

There was no old business.

7. New Business

The next meeting will be November 18 at 9:00 AM at the Big Flats Community Center.

8. Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Fais