

Chemung County Water Quality Strategy Committee

January 21, 2009 – 9:00 am

Minutes

Present: Bill Baker (Southport), Roger Burlew (Erin), Diane Fiorentino (Stormwater Coalition), Richard Gunderman (County Legislator), Reeve Howland (EMC), Paul Kingsbury (T.Elmira), Dennis Rathbun (Environmental Health), Scott Rodabaugh (NYSDEC), Scott Shaw (County Planning), Gene Stow (Farm Bureau), Janet Thigpen (STC), Jennifer Trimber (EMC), Mark Watts (SWCD), Jabe Warren (CCE)

1. Mark called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.
2. Approval of the minutes and agenda: Diane requested a change in the agenda regarding old business. To accommodate Jennifer's schedule, Diane requested the report on the Closed Loop Drilling System be moved up and follow the Treasurer's Report. *Dick moved to accept the minutes and the agenda with the change. Gene 2nd, all were in favor.*
3. Treasurer's Report – Mark handed out the treasurer's report, there is \$2,177 in the WQC account. *Diane moved to accept the treasurer's report, Roger 2nd, all were in favor.*
4. Closed Loop Drilling System: Jennifer Trimber passed out a fact sheet on the Closed Loop process. Jennifer stated Nick Schoonover, founding member of the Tioga County Landowner's Group has a power point presentation on the process. She asked if the WQC would like to see this presentation. The consensus was to have Jennifer contact Mr. Schoonover to arrange a date. Diane will work with Jennifer in getting the word out when the date is picked.
5. Member Reports: Diane mentioned Green Diamond Tires has a recycling program and asked if the WQC would like her to set up a tour of the facility. Consensus was to go on a tour and to include the Highway Supervisors when the date is set. Diane passed around an RFP email notice on the EPA Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) program. This is a cooperative agreements program with Level 1 funding to form a broad based partnership and to identify and assess toxic problems and consider options for reducing risks. Diane suggested if any of the WQC partners had ideas for this RFP to contact Diane. There will be 3 webcasts in February on the RFP if anyone is interested in the webcast they should contact Diane to set it up.

Mark is going to Avon for the Open Space meeting to a) see if the state has addressed the impacts of government land acquisitions on tax roles, and b) see if the state would consider incentives for developers who consider re-development of already impervious surfaces as opposed to taking green space for new development.

Dick asked if the WQC felt there was a need for more HHW days or year round drop off stations. It seems residents brought this up at the last meeting of the county legislators. After some discussion by those present, the WQC felt the two collections were adequate.

Janet stated the storm drain markers had arrived at STC; she will be getting them around to the different counties. Regarding the email Mark had received from SRBC (Susquehanna River Basin Commission) on request for input to the SRBC's 2009 Water Resource Program. Janet will call the WQC members who have done work in SRBC's categories and then send the report to SRBC. If you have any questions on this request, please contact Janet.

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6. New Business:

Diane stated that 6 folks have been trained on the Water Quality Monitoring Equipment. She and Gene will be setting up a schedule for the monitoring and the locations. Gene felt there needed to be a few additions to the list of testing locations. Diane & Gene recommended testing should be done every other month. Stats will be posted every six months. Stream Flow has not been a part of the past testing data, Diane suggested a simple flow meter be purchased and used each time stream testing is done. Diane passed around information on a MJP Stream Flowmeter for \$279. *Dick made a motion for the purchase of the MJP Stream Flowmeter, Mark 2nd, all were in favor.*

Upcoming Trainings: Diane announced 3 upcoming trainings in February; Recycling Ag Plastics Workshop on Feb. 3rd, Erosion & Sediment Control Training for Contractors on Feb. 12th and the Chemung County Field & Road Pesticide Recertification Training on Feb. 24th. For more information on this, please contact Diane.

7. Old Business:

Ken Lynch Letter: Mark stated the letter to Ken Lynch (SRBC commissioner on support of local initiatives to address Marcellus Shale gas development has been sent. Copies were sent to State, Federal and local officials.

Web cast on Marcellus Shale – Diane & Jennifer Trimber & Jabe all viewed the Cornell webcast on the Marcellus Shale. Jabe stated the Cornell Extension Educators would be available on a local level to address questions.

8. Next Meeting: There being no other business,

The next meeting of the WQC is set for February 18, 2009

Mark moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:02, Roger 2nd

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Fiorentino

Co-chair, Water Quality Committee

Chemung County Stormwater Coalition Educator