



**May 20, 2021**

## **Meeting Minutes**

**CALL TO ORDER**– Chair, Carl Blowers, called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM via teleconference, due to NYS public meeting restrictions put in place because of COVID-19.

### **ATTENDANCE**

**Chemung County** – Dawn Burlew; Aaron Dowd; Vinnie Azzarelli; Ernie Hartman; Kevin Meindl; Joe Roman; Mike Collins

**Schuyler County** – Kristin VanHorn; Tim O’Hearn; Carl Blowers; Judy McKinney Cherry; Phil Barnes

**Steuben County** – Heather Reynolds; Bob Nichols; Jenn Miller; Jamie Johnson; Matt Sousa; Jack Wheeler

**STC Staff** – Chelsea Robertson; Victoria Ehlen; Brittany McKerlie; Yvonne Terwilliger; Janet Thigpen; Courtney Cornell; Maggie Costello; Stephanie Yezzi

### **WELCOME / INTRODUCTIONS**

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** – On a motion duly made (VanHorn/Barnes) and carried, the minutes of the April 15, 2021 meeting were approved.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **BUDGET AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

- a) **County Shares** – Carl told the Board that in the next week or so, the Budget and Personnel Committee will have a resolution drawn up to bring to the Board regarding the accounts that are due to STC.

#### **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

- a) **Abstract of Claims** – The audit committee reviewed abstracts totaling \$14,725.14. On a motion duly made (VanHorn/Miller) and carried, the abstracts were approved.

### **REGIONAL PROGRAM ACTIVITIES**

- 1) **Finger Lakes as a Heritage Area – Resolution of Support** – Maggie Costello said that the National Park Service is conducting a feasibility study looking at designating the Finger Lakes as a Heritage Area. They are looking for public support and STC has created a resolution of support. One of the benefits of this is, as far as tourism goes it would bring more visitors to our area who would spend more dollars in our region. It would also qualify organizations in our area for potential funding and technical assistance from the National Park Service. On a motion duly made, (Azzarelli/VanHorn) and carried, the Heritage Resolution was approved.
- 2) **GIS Tools and Potential for Government Efficiency** – Courtney Cornell told the Board that we have an opportunity through the CFA to potentially apply for funding which would grant us a regional planning enterprise license agreement. This would allow us to expand our licensing to municipalities to be able

to use, we currently have one inhouse license. Chemung County already has their enterprise license agreement, but Schuyler and Steuben County do not. She listed the many ways that municipalities would benefit from this - ranging from code enforcement, economic development, planning projects, map surveys, location data, a citizen reporter, and parks and recreation. These licenses would reduce human error in data analysis, reduce paper and also have the potential to bring in tourism because it can create more of an online presence for businesses seeking to promote area attractions.

- 3) Current and Future Land Use Trends and Role of Planning** – Kristin VanHorn spoke about using a regional approach to wind and solar because so many municipalities seem to have different local laws regarding solar energy. She thought perhaps STC could create some model laws that could be shared with the towns in the region. Beyond that there's also the issue of marijuana becoming legal and how we could create a model ordinance that includes design guide lines for our local municipalities to use. The Board agreed that the three County planners will meet and have a discussion to see how they can bring their ideas about this to the IDA's.

**4) Intergovernmental Reviews** – Janet Thigpen

**2108 Village of Odessa Wastewater Treatment Plan**

Project Applicant: Village of Odessa

Description: Construct a public sewage collection system for the sewer service area designated by the Village. Construct a subsurface infiltration system to receive flows from the new sewer service area. Connect existing homes, businesses and public buildings within the sewer service area to the public collection system and decommission the existing individual septic systems.

Federal Agency: USDA Rural Development – Rural Utilities Service

Cost: Federal: \$3,763,625.00 Applicant: \$6,000.00 State: \$691,375.00 Local: \$1.00 Total: \$4,461,001.00

**2109 NYSDEC 2021 Cooperating Technical Partners Flood Risk Project**

Project Applicant: NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

Description: Money applied for would be used to develop and support flood hazard data for the National Flood Insurance Program by completing technical risk analyses, mapping, and outreach activities. These activities may result in a new or updated planning level flood hazard information for the communities within the project area. All developed information and community feedback will be used to inform DEC and FEMA of community specific mapping needs, as well as the accuracy of existing mapping.

Federal Agency: Department of Homeland Security – FEMA

Cost: Federal: \$100,000.00

Total: \$100,000.00

On a motion duly made (VanHorn/Barnes) and carried, the intergovernmental reviews were approved.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

- 1) 2021 Regional Leadership Conference** – Reminder that the Conference will be virtual this year and the sessions will be on June 8,10,15 and 17<sup>th</sup>.
- 2) 2020 Annual Report** – Chelsea told the Board that the 2020 Annual Report is available online.
- 3) Next Board Meeting** – The next meeting will be on July 15, 2021.

**ADJOURN** - On a motion duly made, (Barnes/Johnson) and carried, the meeting adjourned at 9:38 a.m.

Respectively submitted,  
Yvonne Terwilliger  
Executive Assistant