

**Cayuga County Water Quality Management Agency
February 7, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

Members or Designees Present: Doug Dello Stritto, Rachael DeWitt, Valarie Horning, Seth Jensen, Ron Kuck, Steve Lynch, Bruce Natale, Rick Nelson, Eileen O'Connor, Don Oltz, Dale Powell, Ed Wagner, Carl Wiezalis, Jim Young

Others Present: Tom Haag, Jo-Anne Humphreys, Timothy Lattimore, Charlie Ripley, Michele Wunderlich

Announcements

None

Old Business

Minutes

The minutes of the January 3, 2019 WQMA meeting were reviewed. Ed Wagner made a motion to accept the January 3, 2019 minutes as written. Doug Dello Stritto seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

New Business

Eileen O'Connor made a motion for the Cayuga County WQMA to co-sponsor March to Lake Day. Doug Dello Stritto seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Doug Dello Stritto made a motion for the Cayuga County WQMA to write a letter of support to our State Representatives for the Governor's proposal for Finger Lakes Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance funding. Rick Nelson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Jim Young made a motion that the Cayuga County WQMA write a letter of support for the Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District's application to the NYSDEC Invasive Species grant program to cover costs associated with the removal of aquatic vegetation from Owasco Lake. Doug Dello Stritto seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Carl Wiezalis made a motion that the Cayuga County WQMA write a letter of support for the Finger Lakes Institute's grant application for the NYSDEC Invasive Species grant program for water chestnut control in the Finger Lakes Region. Eileen O'Connor seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

WQMA Priority Working Groups Reports

The Cayuga County Water Quality Management Agency 2018 Year End Report had been sent to members and partners for review prior to the meeting. Carl Wiezalis made a motion for the Cayuga County WQMA to adopt the Cayuga County Water Quality Management Agency 2018 Year End Report as written. Doug Dello Stritto seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Communications and Outreach Working Group

Eileen O'Connor announced that the Communications and Outreach Working Group would meet after the meeting.

Invasive Species Working Group

Ed Wagner had nothing new to report.

Nutrient Working Group

Eileen O' Connor reported that this group met prior to the WQMA meeting to discuss next year's work plan.

Sediment Working Group

No report.

Consolidation of Working Groups

A discussion occurred on if the nutrient and sediment working groups should be merged into one Nutrient-Sediment working group. Doug Dello Stritto made a motion to consolidate the nutrient and sediment working groups into the Nutrient-Sediment working group. Jim Young seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Eileen O'Connor will chair the Nutrient-Sediment working group.

A discussion occurred on participation on the working groups. It was determined that the WQMA will discuss participation at the next meeting. Since work is planned to increase participation in these groups, it was determined that the work plan for 2019 should be developed after that meeting. Doug Dello Stritto made a motion to move the deadline for the Cayuga County WQMA work plan from March to April. Rick Nelson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Presentation

Scott Fonte from Agricultural Engineering Services PLLC presented on the Veness Brook Floodway Improvements on the DuMond Farm.

Agency Reports

Cayuga County Health Department

Eileen O'Connor reported that the Health Department has been researching technologies to remove phosphorus from sewage effluent and hopes to test some of them.

Cayuga County Parks Department

Doug Dello Stritto stated that they have finished one bridge on the Cato Brutus trail and have two more to go.

Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)

Valarie Horning reported that they continue to conduct SPDES permit reviews, are working on the DuMond farm program, are working with farms on nutrient management plans and agricultural environmental concerns, and are part of the group updating the Owasco Lake Watershed Rules and Regulations.

Cayuga County Solid Waste Management Program Office

Bruce Natale reported that they are closing out last year's household hazardous waste and electronics collection events. He reported that there is no money in the Governor's proposed budget for television recycling.

Cayuga County Cooperative Extension of Cayuga County (CCE)

Ron Kuck reported that the Board of Directors continuing their search for a new executive director.

City of Auburn

Seth Jensen reported that the City of Auburn will discuss the closing of the City's landfill at City Council on February 14, 2019. He reported that they are working on additional storage at the upper

pump station at Emerson Park for the activated carbon. He also reported that they are looking at getting funding for a source water protection plan.

Town of Owasco

Ed Wagner reported that the Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council has hired a full time executive director, Adam Effler, who starts on March 4th.

Lake Reports

Cayuga Lake Report

Jim Young stated that Michele Wunderlich has been keeping the Agency up to date on Cayuga Lake.

Duck Lake Report

Dale Powell reported that the Duck Lake Association is planning on using Navigate for Eurasian watermilfoil and Super K for broadleaf weeds.

Owasco Lake Report

Rick Nelson reported that Seth Jensen presented on Combined Sewer Overflows at the February 6th Owasco Watershed Lake Association meeting. He reported that March to Lake Day will be held on March 9th at 9 am at the Auburn Public Theater in downtown Auburn. Presenters include John Halfman, Dr. Howarth and Dr. Schultz.

Skaneateles Lake Report

Rachael DeWitt reported that the survey to help the Skaneateles Lake Association with the strategic planning activities and visioning for the Skaneateles Lake watershed was released and response has been very good. She reported that they are working on applying for local grants. She stated that they have developed 20 potential remediation projects in the watershed and students at Syracuse University and SUNY ESF are looking at potential projects coordinated by the Finger Lakes Land Trust and Nature Conservancy.

Partner Reports

Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council

Eileen O'Connor reported that at the January meeting, John Halfman presented on his 2018 research of Owasco Lake and its tributaries and the SWCD director from Tompkins County discussed projects they are doing in the Owasco Lake Watershed.

Adjournment

Eileen O'Connor made a motion to adjourn. Seth Jensen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The meeting was closed at 11:35 am.