

**Cayuga County Water Quality Management Agency  
June 6, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

Members or Designees Present: Jason Cuddeback, Doug Dello Stritto, Rachael DeWitt, Barbara Harvey, Harry Hinman, Seth Jensen, Ron Kuck, Bruce Natale, Rick Nelson, Eileen O'Connor, Donald Oltz, Dale Powell, Ed Wagner, Carl Wiezalis, Jim Young

Others Present: Kate DesJardin, Adam Effler, David Gardner, Paul Harris, Dr. Andrew Kozlowski, Debby McCormick, Aileen McNabb-Coleman, Patrick Mooney, Frank Moses, Greg Rejman, Lauren Ryan, Emily Sheridan, Michele Wunderlich

**Announcements**

None

**Old Business**

**Minutes**

The minutes of the May 2, 2019 WQMA meeting were reviewed. Ed Wagner made a motion to accept the May 2, 2019 minutes as written. Seth Jensen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Presentation**

Dr. Andrew Kozlowski presented on his research on, and mapping of, the surficial geology of Cayuga County.

**WQMA Priority Working Groups Reports**

**Communication and Outreach Working Group**

Eileen O'Connor reported that the Communication and Outreach Working Group is working on preparing a newsletter for July.

**Invasive Species Working Group**

Michele Wunderlich announced that she plans on holding two iMapInvasives trainings during New York State Invasive Species Awareness Week. They will be on July 11<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am and at 11:45 am with the Cayuga County WQMA meeting between them.

**Nutrient-Sediment Working Group**

Eileen O'Connor reported that she is setting up a meeting for the Nutrient-Sediment Working Group.

**Agency Reports**

**Cayuga County Environmental Health Update**

Eileen O'Connor reported that the annual water quality reports for all community public water systems are due on May 31st. The Health Department is in the process of putting them on the Cayuga County Health Department website.

She reported that a citizen has been posting signs accusing the Moravia Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) of discharging raw sewage into the Owasco Inlet. She reached out to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to find out more information. The WWTP was inspected by them in March 2019, there have been no incidents of overflows from the plant, and there are no combined sewer overflows in Moravia. NYSDEC said the plant is operating in compliance with their regulations.

Seth Jensen stated that the City of Auburn is working with Moravia WWTP and is assisting them with their industrial pre-treatment program.

#### Cayuga County Parks Department

Doug Dello Stritto reported that the park has a CFA to do landscaping along the channel around Deauville Island and they are looking at making that area a more natural area on the Island. They are awaiting final approval. There are plans to do buffer planting on the other side of the channel in the fall, mirroring the landscaping on the Island side of the channel.

#### Cayuga County Department of Planning and Economic Development

Bruce Natale reported that the contractor is adding more cover crop to the Owasco Flats Wetland Restoration and Riparian Buffer Project area today.

Eileen O'Connor stated that the two public meetings for the Owasco Lake Watershed Rules and Regulations Update were well attended. Cayuga County Department of Planning and Economic Development is collecting the comments.

#### Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)

Jason Cuddeback reported that the hydroseeder has been out hydroseeding road ditches. He reported that they are working on the AEM program which includes planning and updates to plans. The Ag Non-Point Source Grants applications are due at the end of July and they have 5-6 proposals. Work has been done at West barrier Bar to stabilize the road. They are looking at a project where a stream is undermining Old State Road and another at Route 38.

#### Cayuga County Solid Waste Management Program Office

Bruce Natale reported that there will be a tire recycling event on June 22, 2019 at the Natural Resource Center from 8:30 am to noon. He reported that the electronics collection event in May had a record number of people and electronics collected. He also stated that the State has not renewed the funding to assist Counties in electronics collection.

#### Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) of Cayuga County

Ronald Kuck reported that they are currently interviewing for Executive Director. He stated that Karl Czymmek will be presenting on the Dairy Acceleration Program at an Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council meeting.

### **Lake Reports**

#### Cross Lake/Seneca River Report

Carl Wiezalis reported that the water level is causing shoreline damage. He reported that Rick Nelson will be speaking at their annual meeting on June 25, 2019 at the Jordan Elbridge Community Center.

#### Duck Lake Report

Dale Powell reported that the water level on Duck Lake went up about 5 inches but there has been no flooding. The Duck Lake Association plans on doing their herbicide treatment of milfoil on June 17, 2019.

#### Lake Como Report

Barbara Harvey reported that they started their Citizen Statewide Lake Assessment Program sampling and that their lake level has been fairly high.

### Owasco Lake Report

Rick Nelson reported that Julie Lockhart is the new president of the Owasco Watershed Lake Association; they have a corporate campaign to raise funds for hydroseeding and Bob Duckett passed away.

### Skaneateles Lake Report

Rachael DeWitt introduced Frank Moses who is the new director of the Skaneateles Lake Association and Lauren Ryan who may be the new member to the Cayuga County WQMA. She reported that they have an office in Skaneateles now and they have two interns for the summer. They are expanding the steward program to include all boat launches, they have over 30 remediation projects planned and have broke ground on some, they have expanded their harmful algal bloom volunteer program and are working on a CFA for a living shoreline project.

### **Partner Reports**

#### Atlantic States Legal Foundation

Paul Harris reported that they are looking for partners for a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grant application to do tree planting.

#### Great Lakes Action Agenda Southeast Lake Ontario Work Group

Emily Sheridan shared the “2018 Great Lakes Program” report and grant programs that are available.

#### Finger Lake Institute (FLI)/Finger Lakes Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (FLPRISM)

Kate DesJardin reported that Patty Wakefield-Brown is working on the volunteer macrophyte survey program, the watercraft steward program has trained 40 people for the summer, and they will be doing point surveys for hydrilla this summer. She also reported that they dredged the site in Cayuga Lake at King Ferry and are monitoring the site for hydrilla regrowth.

#### Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council

Adam Effler reported that they have a new intern who is redesigning their webpage, are working on the ability to submit grants, have a stream reclassification petition for the streams to Owasco Lake into the NYSDEC, have acquired aquatic invasive species signage from the Finger Lakes Institute, will have a presentation in iTreeTools, are looking at purchasing a water quality sonde, and are assisting with the harmful algal blooms program.

#### Partners for Healthy Watersheds

Greg Rejman stated that they have been geo-targeting their social media to get more views.

#### Miscellaneous

Eileen O’Connor stated that she is looking for people who are willing to add phosphorus treatment to their septic systems and there is funding to install this treatment.

Bruce Natale stated that Lake Ontario is at a record high.

#### Adjournment

Doug Dello Stritto made a motion to adjourn. Rick Nelson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The meeting was closed at 11:43 am.