

Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council – Watershed Inspection Committee
January 23, 2018 – Monthly Meeting

Members present: Ed Wagner, Debby McCormick

Technical Advisors present: Don Bowen, Dave Eckhardt

Others present: Drew Snell, Doug Kierst, Bruce Natale, Seth Jensen, Eileen O'Connor

Debby McCormick made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 28, 2017 meeting. Ed Wagner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Drew Snell reviewed his activities for the past two months. A new shoreline dwelling has been referred to the Health Department to see if they have an adequate septic system. Eileen O'Connor reported that her office has no record of this structure or a septic system and is following up. The WIP has walked areas on Lick Street in the Town of Groton to look for septic issues. None were found. In that same area a farmer had spread manure on snow, but no runoff was observed. Mr. Snell will contact DEC to see if spreading on snow is part of this CAFO's plan. A significant streambank erosion issue in the Village of Groton, referred to the WIP from Tompkins County Soil and Water, is caused by a plugged DOT culvert. Mr. Snell will contact the DOT regional engineer in Tompkins County and the Cayuga County Soil and Water will assist with funding to address this issue. Seth Jensen asked that Mr. Snell put together a list of contacts, including the regional DOT engineers, for each county so he is able to contact them when an issue arises. Mr. Snell has visited the site of the new water and sewer lines in Niles and adequate erosion and sediment control practices have been put in place. Turbid water, seen in a stream in Scipio, was determined to be caused by a number of ducks. The WIP looked into a new home and seawall construction project. Apparently the property owner obtained a permit for the seawall from DEC even though the WIP was told that a permit would not be issued. Mr. Snell was asked to follow up with DEC and ask to be kept in the loop. Ms. O'Connor will check if approval was given by the Health Department for the septic system on this property. Older issues that the WIP has been involved with over the past six months were reviewed. Mr. Snell will update the status for his next report. Mr. Snell does not know what the status of the Benson Rd tile outfall follow-up is. He will contact DEC to obtain this information. Ms. O'Connor said she will ask DEC to set up another meeting to discuss joint issues of concern such as this. The farm issues that were discussed at the last DEC meeting were discussed. Mr. Snell will bring more information on the ten farms that he discussed with DEC to the next WIC committee for a thorough discussion.

It was clear from the recent City Council meeting that the WIP needs to modify its communications to better inform the City of its efforts. Mr. Snell will incorporate a map showing the location of issues that the WIP is investigating. Seth Jensen said he would like to incorporate the WIP report into his monthly report that he provides to the Counsel.

Mr. Wagner reported that the budget committee met and prepared the 2018 proposed budget. It was noted that an expense of \$50,000 was included in the 2017 expenses but no income to offset that was included. This money is actually for a S&W project and the expense will be removed from the WIP expense line. Ms. McCormick made a motion to adopt the 2018 budget with the correction to remove the \$50,000 expense, which will increase the amount of funds being carried over to the current year. Mr. Wagner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Bruce Natale said that the weather for next week looks promising for work on the sluiceway and there are funds from FLOWPA. Mr. Snell will contact UFPO and Mr. Wagner will contact Mr. Bruno to schedule the work. Mr. Snell said that Gary Duckett is in the loop on this project.

Minutes prepared by Eileen O'Connor, January 26, 2018