



St. Lawrence County Environmental Management Council
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MEETING MINUTES

July 15, 2020

Via ZOOM

Action items in bold italics / Motions underlined.

1. **Call to Order:** In the absence of the Chair, Vice Chair Donald O'Shea called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.
2. **Roll Call, Determination of Quorum:** *A quorum was present.*
Members present: Don O'Shea, *Vice Chair*; Sue Rau; Nicole Terminelli, *BOL Liaison*; Rod Tozzi; Brian Washburn.
Members absent: David Barnes; Aaron Barrigar; Catherine Bennett, *Chair*; Jennifer Berbrich; Joseph Brant; Ryan Burkum; Richard Marshall; Lance Rudiger; Tiernan Smith; Pat Whalen, *Secretary*
Guest(s): Emily Sheridan, DEC. Staff: John Tenbusch.
3. **Acceptance of Order of Business:** *No quorum.*
4. **Hearings, Comments from the Public.** No speaker.
 - Emily Sheridan reported that Massena had recently signed a settlement with Arconic that will provide \$2,250,000 for the DEC to conduct salvage and relocation of freshwater mussels in the Grasse River. For further information, see the settlement:
https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/remediation_hudson_pdf/arconicnrd.pdf
5. **Approval of the Minutes of the May 2020 EMC Meeting:** Minutes could not be approved, due to lack of quorum.
 - Brian Washburn reported that there was a mistake in the record of Emily Sheridan's comments: namely the referenced "765 KV line" should have been referred to as "the 345 KV line".
 - Washburn reported that, in Nicole Terminelli's report, the BOL had NOT asked for an opinion concerning large-scale solar projects.
 - Emily Sheridan had a correction about a Webinar series offered by DEC.
6. **Report by the Representative of the Board of Legislators:**
Nicole Terminelli reported:
 - At least one BOL member is opposed to large-scale solar projects that consume prime farmland.
 - Tenbusch suggested a review of Environmental Review documents
 - Sheridan asked if the County's Agriculture Plan refers to large-scale solar projects.
 - *Tenbusch will find out; if yes, he will append the pertinent section(s) to these Minutes.*

- The BOL has approved Catherine Bennet as the Chair of the EMC.

7. Reports by EMC Members on Conversations with County Legislators: None.

8. Report of the Committees:

- Executive Committee:** No report.
- Conservation of Resources Committee (CRC):** John Tenbusch reported that the Committee held an informal meeting.
- Environment + Economy Committee (E+E):** Tenbusch made the Committee report. **See attached.**
- Invasive Species Committee (ISC).** Tenbusch made the Committee report. **See attached.**
- Watershed Management Committee (WMC).** Tenbusch made the Committee report. **See attached.**

9. Report of the Staff: Tenbusch reported:

- Planning staff are working with the North Country Housing Council to re-start the existing CDBG projects (septic tank replacement; homeownership assistance) and the Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Program (aka the “Lead grant”). **See attached informational flyer for the Lead Program.**
- Planning staff have submitted the paperwork required before a Release of Funds can be requested for the recent CDBG housing rehabilitation award. This paperwork includes the development of an Environmental Review Record for the program. **See attached for current income guidelines; for information or to apply, contact the North Country Housing Council, Inc. at 315-386-8576.**
- The Earth Day 50 archive project was announced during April. It will be continued through the end of the year.
- John Tenbusch announced that the EMC will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2021. He suggested that EMC members think about how we should observe the occasion.

10. Unfinished Business: None.

11. New Business: None.

12. Announcements:

- Emily Sheridan announced that SLELO PRISM held its partner meeting today. See their current newsletter at <https://www.sleloinvasives.org/newsletter/>

13. Message to the Board of Legislators: None.

14. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned by consensus at 6:45 pm.

Minutes drafted by John Tenbusch