



St. Lawrence County Environmental Management Council
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MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday April 19, 2023 at 6:00 PM
2nd-Floor Conference Room, Public Safety Complex (and via Zoom)
49½ Court Street, Canton, NY

1. **Call to Order.** Chair Catherine Bennett opened the meeting at 6:03 pm. Cat asked Vice Chair Sue Rau to run the meeting. Sue asked everyone to introduce themselves.

2. **Land Acknowledgement.**

Sue Rau read a Land Acknowledgement, provided by Tony David, Director of the SRMT Environment Division, and used with his permission:

“As we meet today, let us first give thanks and acknowledge that the land upon which we are gathered is part of traditional indigenous territories, including the Rotinoshionni (Low-dee-no-SHOO-nee), the People of the Longhouse, also known as the Iroquois Confederacy; and the Kanienkehaka (Ga-nyun-geh-HA-gah), the People of the Land of Flint, also known as the Mohawk Nation.”

3. **Comments from the Public / Speaker.** There was no speaker.

4. **Roll Call, Determination of Quorum.**

Members present: Catherine Bennett, *Chair*; Sue Rau, *Vice Chair*; Herb Bullock; Lucas Hanss; Shannon Hurlbut; Rick Marshall; Adam Pearson; Lance Rudiger; Nicole Terminelli, *BOL Liaison*; Brian Washburn; Neil Woodworth. **A QUORUM WAS OBTAINED.**

Members absent: Sean Cunningham; Tiernan Smith; William Stephens III.

Staff: John Tenbusch, Planner II.

Guests: Emily Fell, DEC; Katelyn Kressley, SLU student; Will Lehmann, SLU student.

There was a question about when and why the EMC might operate by consensus, rather than by majority vote. John explained that, in a situation where a quorum is not present but business still needs to be acted upon, in that situation, the EMC tries to act by consensus to move business along.

5. **Acceptance of Order of Business, Items for New Business, Items for Unfinished Business.** John Tenbusch reported one item for New Business. The Order of Business was accepted (Washburn / Bullock).

EMC: Everybody Must Care!

It was reported that NYS DEC is preparing to revise the Unit Management Plan (UMP) for the Five Ponds Wilderness. *John Tenbusch offered to look into this and report at the next EMC meeting.*

6. Approval of the Minutes of the September, October, November 2022, January and February 2023 EMC Meetings. Minutes from the September, October, November, January and February EMC meetings were approved (Woodworth / Hanss).

[NOTE: There was no EMC meeting held in March 2023.]

7. Report by Nicole Terminelli, Representative of the Board of Legislators.

Nicole reported that

- Shannon Hurlbut, Adam Pearson and Neil Woodworth were each approved by the Board of Legislators to serve on the EMC.
- Second announcements have been made to re-appoint Lucas Hanss and Brian Washburn to another term on the EMC.
- The BOL approved a resolution designating April 22nd as Earth Day in St. Lawrence County. **See attached.**
- The BOL passed a resolution supporting use of motorized vehicles (ATVs) on the Multi-Use Trail section that would run through the South Colton Conservation Easement. **See attached.**
- The Youth Advisory Committee will hold Trash Dashes in several communities on Earth Day weekend (April 22-23). Registration remains open.

8. Report of the Committees. None.

- Due to staffing constraints, Standing Committees have been suspended.

9. Report of the Staff.

- John Tenbusch reported that the Planning Office has agreed to hire two persons to fill the open positions of Planner II and Planner I. They are projected to begin work after Memorial Day.
- *In response to requests, John agreed to host the annual EMC Picnic on the third Wednesday in August (8/16).*

10. Unfinished Business.

- a. ***Election of Officers.*** Cat Bennett, Chair, had asked John Tenbusch to serve as a nominating committee for the three officer positions: Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary.
- i. Brian Washburn nominated Sue Rau as Chair. No nominations were made from the floor. Cat Bennett seconded the nomination.
 - ii. Neil Woodworth nominated Brian Washburn as Vice Chair. Cat Bennett seconded the nomination.
 - iii. Neil Woodworth nominated Catherine Bennett as Secretary. Herb Bullock seconded the nomination.

There were no other nominations. The slate was approved unanimously.

- b. **EMC Visioning Process.** Tenbusch reported on the responses that had been submitted for the EMC Strategic Planning Questionnaire in March 2023. He also distributed a comparison between the responses from 2023, and responses to the same questionnaire that had been distributed in 2013. **See attached.**
- i. Some issues have remained important over time: e.g., Invasive Species; global warming/climate change.
 - ii. The need to involve the public / conduct continual public outreach and education / co-ordinate with other environmental groups were also seen as important.
 - iii. There was discussion about the work already completed, as well as future activity, in the ongoing project to improve water quality on Black Lake.
 1. There appears to be some progress toward co-ordination between local groups to develop a plan of action for Black Lake.
 - iv. Regarding whether the EMC has been effective in meeting its goals and objectives, a 2023 response noted that “a large project like the burn barrel awareness (project would not be possible now.” There was acknowledgement that some annual projects have continued (e.g., Earth Day events), and that “some collaboration with others exists”. In 2013, responses included “Did some good things; could have done more”, and “Benefits and effective in some programs; focus varies widely”.
 - v. Suggestions for how the EMC could have been more effective, responses included:
 1. “Finishing a project is a struggle. Having one-time or annual projects could help.”
 2. “An orientation/refresher meeting held annually would be helpful.”
 3. “A significant impediment has been the lack of quorum to conduct business.”
 4. “SOP of EMC meetings include presentations on environmental topics. Many of these presentations could have resulted in pro-active advisory opinions to the BOL.”
 - vi. Responses to the question “Who should benefit from the efforts of the EMC?” include:
 1. “The BOL”
 2. “People, communities, residents of the County”
 3. “The environment, of course”

An additional comment was strongly aspirational: “We have the opportunity to be the voice of the County environmental movement, to stand as support to other environmental groups and representatives to the county government.”
 - vii. Another question regarding how EMC committees should operate, was not tabulated, since the EMC is currently operating as a committee-of-the-whole. If and when the EMC returns to a committee system, this question can be reviewed at that time.
 - viii. **Ideas for a New Vision Statement for the EMC:**
 1. Brian Washburn suggested that we determine what we think the EMC is capable of doing. (There are nine areas where EMCs are empowered to do. **See attached BOL Resolution.**)

2. Cat Bennett proposed a concentration on outreach and education. Act as a connector with local environmental organizations.
3. Herb Bullock noted the importance of gaining the respect of the BOL. He suggested that more formal reports to the BOL, delivered more often, would help.
4. Nicole Terminelli suggested that the EMC should raise public awareness about its activities; be involved in education for the public; increase the number of stakeholders involved in its activities.
5. Lance Rudiger suggested that the EMC be more involved in watershed quality management across the County, and interact with the BOL on this topic.
 - a. Sue Rau recalled that the EMC used to develop a monthly message to the BOL. We should go back to that, to have an ongoing conversation with them.
6. Rick Marshall wants to promote education. He thought that the EMC should work on topics that it feels are important.
7. Sue Rau felt that communication is the most important thing the EMC could do. She suggested that the EMC develop a list of catalog of environmental groups. She also wanted to leave personal agendas out of EMC activities.
8. Adam Pearson proposed that the EMC could bring a level of expertise to projects. Be a sounding board to the BOL; report news of importance to the BOL.
9. Lucas Hanss expressed a preference for specific goals. He suggested a concentration on individual species that may be in trouble.
10. Shannon Hurlbut suggested that the EMC should be more visible to the public.
11. Neil Woodworth suggested that the EMC might focus on providing education for the BOL about significant issues (e.g., EAB; knotweed; etc.). The EMC might develop plans to address issues of importance, and show the public and the BOL what can be done.
12. Emily Fell suggested that the EMC might support the Great Lakes Action Agenda, and provide access to scientific information to help decision-making. She also proposed support for environmental justice, and disadvantaged communities.

Other items for Unfinished Business were not addressed.

11. **New Business.** John Tenbusch reported on the Great Lakes- St. Lawrence River Adaptive Management (GLAM) Committee, a part of the International Joint Commission. GLAM is beginning an Expedited Review of Plan 2014, which regulates water levels on Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River. GLAM will use a Public Advisory Group to continue robust engagement with the public over the course of the review.”

On a motion by Shannon Hurlbut, seconded by Lance Rudiger, the EMC agreed to seek additional information about what involvement with the Public Advisory Group would entail.

Sue Rau asked EMC members to each think about whether they might be interested in working on this project.

12. **Announcements.** None.

- Cat Bennett asked if she might be able to become an administrator on the EMC Facebook page. John Tenbusch agreed that would be a good idea; he will look into it. (See <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100077237817578&sk=followers>)
- Nicole Terminelli suggested that EMC members might look at Web sites for Erie, Tomkins and Rockland County EMC; these might serve as models for our EMC.
- Sue Rau mentioned that, as Chair, she will be available to talk with EMC members whenever they wish. She asked John Tenbusch to distribute current EMC rosters to all EMC members.

13. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 8:15 pm.

Minutes prepared by John Tenbusch.

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April 1, 2023

Operations Committee: 3-13-2023

RESOLUTION NO. 120-2023

PROCLAIMING EARTH DAY IN ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators has traditionally emphasized the preservation and improvement of the quality of the natural and the man-made environment within the County, and

WHEREAS, April 22, 2023 marks the 53rd anniversary of Earth Day, and since 1970, Earth Day has increased awareness of the planet we live on, pollution, climate change, endangered species, and many other environmental issues, and

WHEREAS, since its establishment by the Board of Legislators in 1971 the Environmental Management Council (EMC) has worked to advise the Board of Legislators about, and to foster public understanding of, environmental matters affecting the County, and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with Earth Day, the EMC will sponsor and encourage public participation in environmentally responsible activities and educational programs,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators proclaims April 22, 2023 to be Earth Day in St. Lawrence County, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators does hereby encourage all citizens throughout the County to participate in programs and activities, on Earth Day and throughout the year, that promote a healthy environment in conjunction with a stronger economy, and that improve awareness about the interactions between people and the environment.

STATE OF NEW YORK)
) ss:
COUNTY OF ST. LAWRENCE)

I, Kelly S. Bigwarfe, Deputy Clerk of the St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators, **DO HEREBY CERTIFY** that I have compared this Resolution No. 120-2023 Entitled "Proclaiming Earth Day in St. Lawrence County", adopted April 3, 2023, with the original record in this office and that the same is a correct transcript thereof and of the whole of said original record.

Kelly S. Bigwarfe
Kelly S. Bigwarfe, Deputy Clerk
St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators
April 4, 2023

April 1, 2023

Finance Committee: 3-27-2023

RESOLUTION NO. 139-2023

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION (“NYSDEC”) REGARDING THE SOUTH COLTON CONSERVATION EASEMENT RECREATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, a primary economic development initiative for St Lawrence County is a multi-use trail system that seeks to increase tourism, increase traffic for businesses in the County and improve access for a multitude of recreational activities, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislature, and applicable townships support this initiative and have worked collaboratively toward the project’s timely completion, and

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County has completed a Generic Environmental Impact Statement (“GEIS”) resulting in the completion of a positive declaration for a corridor specific Multi-Use Trail System as minimally discussed within the Plan(s), and

WHEREAS, recreation on the South Colton Easement is important to the residents of the County and tourism including activities such as hunting, fishing, trapping, recreational vehicle use, snowmobiling, hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, dog sledding and nature viewing, and

WHEREAS, Board of Legislators views access, including motorized access to this Easement, as a critical connection from Morgan Road to Picketville Road to include private land and Park Forestry South Colton Easement as part of the St. Lawrence County Multi-Use Trail System, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators views this access as critical to the participation of a greater variety of user groups in outdoor activities,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes County officials/representatives to submit comments and recommendations to the NYS DEC, with copies to other appropriate parties, pertaining to the development of a Recreation Management Plan by the NYS DEC with inclusion of motorized access on the Multi-Use Trail for the South Colton Conservation Easement.

STATE OF NEW YORK)
) ss:
COUNTY OF ST. LAWRENCE)

I, Kelly S. Bigwarfe, Deputy Clerk of the St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators, **DO HEREBY CERTIFY** that I have compared this Resolution No. 139-2023 Entitled “Resolution Authorizing Submission of Comments and Recommendations to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (“NYSDEC”) Regarding the South Colton Conservation Easement Recreation Management Plan”, adopted April 3, 2023, with the original record in this office and that the same is a correct transcript thereof and of the whole of said original record.

Kelly S. Bigwarfe

Kelly S. Bigwarfe, Deputy Clerk
St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators
April 4, 2023



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Make Us Your Homepage (/make-us-your-homepage)

NCNow News

DEC seeks public comment South Colton Tract Conservation Easement recreation plan

Thursday, March 9, 2023 - 6:03 am

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is seeking public input on the development of a draft Recreation Management Plan (RMP) for the South Colton Tract Conservation Easement, a privately owned tract subject to a conservation easement encompassing approximately 1,725 acres in the town of Colton, St. Lawrence County.

DEC is encouraging the public to share suggestions on the development of the draft RMP until April 21, 2023.

The South Colton Tract Conservation Easement contains commercially managed forestland, comprised primarily of a northern hardwood forest and multiple small streams and wetlands, including portions of the Dead Creek complex. The conservation easement shares approximately 3,100 feet of boundary with the High Flats State Forest off Donovan Public Forest Access Road in the town of Colton.

RMPs document natural and human-made resources on conservation easements and are used in planning public recreation and the protection of natural resources and the terms agreed upon in the conservation easement. The draft South Colton Tract RMP will be shared for public comment once completed.

The public can currently access the South Colton Tract Conservation Easement by non-motorized means from Morgan Road in St. Lawrence County and via a trail on the High Flats State Forest parcel off Donovan Public Forest Access Road in the town of Parishville. Under the easement, DEC owns the rights to maintain roads and trails for motorized use on the property and to permit public hunting, fishing, camping, paddling, cross-country skiing, and horseback riding. Specific facilities and recreation opportunities will be identified in the RMP.

Members of the public are encouraged to provide DEC with suggestions related to the development of the draft South Colton Tract RMP. Suggestions should be submitted by April 21, 2023, to: Peter D'Luhosch; Environmental Program Specialist, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, 190 Outer Main St. Suite 103, Potsdam, NY 13676; or email: r6.ump@dec.ny.gov or by completing this online survey.

Information relating to the South Colton Tract Conservation Easement is available on the DEC webpage: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/126664.html>

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Share / Save (<https://www.addtoany.com/share?url=https://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/126664.html&title=DEC%20seeks%20public%20comment%20on%20the%20development%20of%20a%20draft%20Recreation%20Management%20Plan%20for%20the%20South%20Colton%20Tract%20Conservation%20Easement>)

EMC Strategic Planning - 2023

Summary of Questionnaire / Responses

1. In your opinion, what are the most significant environmental issues in Saint Lawrence County?

Top 4 issues reported:

- Invasive Species
- Global Warming/Climate change
- Forestry/Forest lands
- Lack of community involvement/co-ordination

2. Among the environmental issues you listed above what are the issues that you think the EMC can be effective in addressing? After listing, please prioritize (#1; #2; etc.)

Top 3 issues reported:

- Invasive Species
- Global Warming/Climate change
- Community involvement/co-ordination

3. During your tenure on the EMC, what has the EMC done that has had the most benefit?

Top 3 issues reported:

- Input into important conversations/local issues (climate change; issues related to power in SLC – nuclear, hydro; etc.)
- Impactful things that involve the public, like Household Hazardous Waste events; Earth Day events; etc.
- Raising public awareness of issues: EABs; Earth Day; Lasagna gardens; etc.

EMC Strategic Planning - 2023

Summary of Questionnaire / Responses

4. During your tenure on the EMC, do you feel that the EMC was effective in meeting its goals and objectives, as you perceived those goals and objectives?

If you answered Yes, how was the EMC effective?

One response:

- “The EMC has been driven by personal interests of its members more and more as County support has dwindled. A large project like the burn barrel awareness (project) would not be possible now.
“Annual Earth Day events have continued, and some collaboration with others exists. We have fulfilled requests from legislators.”

• If you answered No, how could the EMC have been more effective?

Top responses:

- “... finishing a project is a real struggle. Having one-time, or once-per-year projects could help with that.”
- “An orientation/refresher meeting held annually would be helpful.”
- “A significant impediment to the EMC ... has been the lack of quorums to conduct business.”
- “SOP of EMC meetings is a presentation ... on environmental topics. Many of these presentations could have resulted in a proactive advisory opinion to the BOL [or other involved agency/ies]”.

5. Who especially should benefit from the efforts of the EMC?

Top responses include:

- The Board of Legislators
- People, communities; residents of St. Law. Co.; general population
- The environment, of course

An additional comment: “We have the opportunity to be the voice of the county environmental movement, to stand as support to other environmental groups and representatives to the county government.”

EMC Strategic Planning - 2023

Summary of Questionnaire / Responses

6. How do you think that EMC committees should operate?

- Similar [to how they operated previously] but need to either add more committed members who can attend [committee] meetings, or to reduce the number of members and quorum requirements.
- Until the EMC membership vacancies are substantially or fully filled, I believe that the EMC should function as a “committee of the whole” with ad hoc subcommittees or working groups created as needed to address special issues, problems and needs. Working groups could be composed of EMC members as well as qualified individuals with special expertise and knowledge.
- Project based, as has been proposed. But when a project is brought forth, there should be more activity and commitment from all members. Yeah, we’re volunteers, but if every person does just one thing, we can achieve our goals. Maybe that one thing is making one phone call. That’s not too much, right? We could conceivably get 6 to 12 micro-projects done that way, each year.
 - Project Proposal
 - Discussion by whole EMC
 - Laying out what must be done
 - Task Assignment to each person in EMC
 - Final Project day – includes other community members and groups
 - Completion, including a blurb in the media
- We should work with our members and other groups (with) similar missions. They will be (...) semi-independent and report back every month. These reports and activities of committees and the whole group meetings should be passed on to the Planning Office as draft or approved each month. They should sunset when their task is completed and new committees should be formed as needed.
- My tenure has shown that the membership of the established committees was very small and the attendance of those members expressing an interest in a specific committee was suspect. The minutes of committees indicated the Economy and the Environment committee was active with most of the committee membership participating. The other three committees were in my opinion poorly attended. The attendance issues may be in part due to the scheduled time of meetings. This however points to the fundamental issue of complete reliance on the planning department staff to manage/facilitate the EMC.

EMC Strategic Planning Questionnaire Tabulation / Comparison 2023 - 2013

1. In your opinion, what are the most significant environmental issues in Saint Lawrence County?

2023 (five responses)	2013 (ten responses)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Invasive Species - Global Warming/Climate change - Forestry/Forest lands - Lack of community involvement/co-ordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conservation of resources - Invasive species - Climate change - Pollution - Solid/hazardous waste - Balance between developers and preservationists - Energy conservation - Health - Public awareness of environmental issues

2. Among the environmental issues you listed above what are the issues that you think the EMC can be effective in addressing? After listing, please prioritize (#1; #2; etc.)

2023	2013
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - - Invasive Species - Global Warming/Climate change - Community involvement/co-ordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implement outreach and education programs - Watershed/water quality - Conserve resources - Invasive species - Advise BOL - Solid/hazardous waste

3. During your tenure on the EMC, what has the EMC done that has had the most benefit?

2023	2013
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Input into important conversations/local issues (climate change; issues related to power in SLC – nuclear, hydro; etc.) - Impactful things that involve the public, like Household Hazardous Waste events; Earth Day events; etc. - Raising public awareness of issues: EABs; Earth Day; Lasagna gardens; etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hazardous waste collection - Open burning education - Black Lake issues - Climate Change Plan - Coles Creek Cleanup - EMC has made people aware of important issues

EMC Strategic Planning Questionnaire Tabulation / Comparison 2023 - 2013

4. During your tenure on the EMC, do you feel that the EMC was effective in meeting its goals and objectives, as you perceived those goals and objectives?

If you answered Yes, how was the EMC effective?

2023	2013
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - “The EMC has been driven by personal interests of its members more and more as County support has dwindled. A large project like the burn barrel awareness (project) would not be possible now. “Annual Earth Day events have continued, and some collaboration with others exists. “We have fulfilled requests from legislators.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Did some good things; could have done more - Benefits and effective in some programs; focus wavers widely

• If you answered No, how could the EMC have been more effective?

2023	2013
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - “ ... finishing a project is a real struggle. Having one-time, or once-per-year projects could help with that.” - “An orientation/refresher meeting held annually would be helpful.” - “A significant impediment to the EMC ... has been the lack of quorums to conduct business.” - “SOP of EMC meetings is a presentation ... on environmental topics. Many of these presentations could have resulted in a proactive advisory opinion to the BOL [or other involved agency/ies]”. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Health issues - Resource conservation / more value-added - Short-sighted land management - Attention to local issues/local solutions - Climate change - Communicate better with BOL - Members’ personal agendas may clash with EMC goals and objectives - More focus - Public education regarding environmental issues

EMC Strategic Planning Questionnaire Tabulation / Comparison 2023 - 2013

5. Who especially should benefit from the efforts of the EMC?

2023	2013
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Board of Legislators - People, communities; residents of St. Law. Co.; general population - The environment, of course <p>An additional comment: “We have the opportunity to be the voice of the county environmental movement, to stand as support to other environmental groups and representatives to the county government.”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The general public - The Board of Legislators

NOTE: Did not include tabulation of responses to Q. 6:
 “How do you think that EMC Committees should operate?”

December 12, 1988

RESOLUTION NO. 319-88

To Repeal Resolution No. 56-71 As Amended By Resolution 86-71 and Re-Establish the St. Lawrence County Environmental Management Council

by Mrs. Carey, Chairman, Planning and Conservation Committee

WHEREAS, the St. Lawrence County Environmental Management Council has evaluated its structure in terms of membership, definition of a quorum and other aspects of its operation, and

WHEREAS, in order to make changes in the Council's Bylaws affecting the number of members and definition of a quorum it is first necessary to change the Council's County enabling statutes,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Resolution 56-71 and 86-71 are hereby repealed and replaced with the following:

Section 1. Establishment of the Council. The Board of Legislators of the County of St. Lawrence hereby creates and establishes a council which shall be called the St. Lawrence County Environmental Management Council, hereinafter called the Council. The Council is created pursuant to Article 47 of the New York State Environmental Conservation Law.

Section 2. Legislative Intent. Preservation and improvement of the quality of the natural and man-made environment within the County of St. Lawrence in the face of population growth, urbanization, and technological change with their accompanying demands on natural resources, are of increasing and vital importance to the health, welfare, and economic well-being of the present and future inhabitants of the county. It is recognized that the biologic integrity of the natural environment on which man is dependent for survival and the natural and functional beauty of our surroundings which condition the quality of our life experience cannot be protected without the full cooperation and participation of all local governments in the state working in concert with each other and with other public and private institutions, agencies and organizations. Establishment by the County of St. Lawrence of a council for environmental management is a necessary step in fostering unified action on environmental problems among local governments and among public and private agencies and organizations located within the county.

Section 3. Membership and Term. The Council shall consist of the members appointed by the Board of Legislators as provided in this section.

The Council shall consist of twenty-one members according to the following distribution:

1. A minimum of ten members whose collective, demonstrated knowledge and/or expertise is representative of the following fields:
 - a. Environmental Education, defined as experience with environmental curricula in elementary, secondary, and higher educational institutions and organizations.
 - b. Environmental Sciences.
 - c. Environmental Technology, defined as experience with environmental engineering, environmental health, architecture, landscape architecture and similar disciplines.
 - d. Environmental Action, defined as experience with or current membership in organizations active in environmental planning and advocacy.
 - e. Agriculture, including forestry.
2. One ex-officio member who is selected by the Board of Legislators from among its membership.
3. Ten members who shall include one representative from each city, village or town conservation advisory commission which has been created pursuant to Article 12-F, Section 239-x of the New York State General Municipal Law, and the remainder being persons with demonstrated interest in environmental matters affecting the County.

All appointees to membership on the Council shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Legislators, but in no case shall a member's term exceed two years without reappointment. The terms of members appointed from city, town or village conservation advisory commissions shall be concurrent with their terms on such city, town or village commissions, not exceeding a period of two years without reappointment by the Board of the municipality. Vacancies on the Council shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment except that a vacancy occurring through circumstances other than by expiration of term of office shall be filled only for the remainder of the unexpired term. The Board of Legislators shall maintain a list of persons who have expressed an interest in serving on the Council and it is from this list that vacancies on the Council may be filled.

Section 4. Officers and Bylaws. The Board of Legislators shall annually designate a member of the Council as Chair of the Council upon receiving a recommendation from the Council. The Council shall annually submit the names of persons nominated for Chair to the Board of Legislators, and elect a Vice-Chair and a Recording Secretary from among its members during the annual meeting which shall be during March. The Council shall adopt Bylaws which shall contain rules and procedures for its meetings. It shall also maintain accurate records of its meetings and activities and shall file an annual report with the Board of Legislators pursuant to Article 47 of the New York State Environmental Conservation Law.

Section 5. Powers and Duties of the Council. The powers and duties of the Council shall be to:

1. Advise the Board of Legislators on matters affecting the preservation, development, and use of the natural and man-made features and conditions of the County insofar as they have a bearing on environmental quality and, in the case of man's activities and developments, with regard to any major threats posed to environmental quality, so as to enhance the long range value of the environment of the people of the County.
2. Work cooperatively with the County Planning Board and Office. Recommend from time to time to the County Planning Board plans and programs for environmental improvement for inclusion in the County comprehensive plan. Utilize the facilities, staff and services of the Office of the County Planning Board for the conduct of studies, surveys, and inventories and the publication and distribution of books, maps, charts and pamphlets in accord with the purposes of this resolution. Also maintain liason with regional planning agencies, regional water resources planning and development boards and other such public and private regional bodies affecting the conservation of environmental quality, with a view towards improvement of coordination.
3. Develop in cooperation with educational representatives recommendations for a program of environmental education and prepare environmental education aids for use within schools and community groups.
4. Develop and conduct a program of public information in the County which shall be designed to foster increased understanding of the nature of environmental problems and issues and support for their solutions.

5. Develop and recommend a program to improve the coordination and effectiveness of public and private projects and activities in the county in accord with the purposes of this resolution, working in cooperation with conservation advisory commissions, insofar as such agencies have been established in cities, towns and villages within the county, and with other public and private agencies, focusing particularly on those matters relating to environmental quality which require intergovernmental action.
6. Conduct, with appropriate coordination with existing work of a similar nature performed in municipalities within the county, studies, surveys, and inventories in accord with the general purposes of this resolution, including but not limited to surveys and studies for identification of those open spaces, natural areas, marshlands, swamps, and other wetlands and other natural and scenic features which are of a county or regional significance and for which an index shall be maintained, and make recommendations to the Board of Legislators and County Planning Board for the appropriate preservation and use of such areas and features.
7. Prepare, print and distribute books, maps, charts, reports and pamphlets in accord with the purposes of this resolution.
8. When authorized by resolution of the Board of Legislators the Council may accept by gift, grant, devise, bequest, or otherwise, property both real and personal in the name of the county, as may be necessary to conserve and otherwise properly utilize open spaces and other land and water resources within the boundaries of the county. Such real property may be accepted in fee for land and water rights, or as any lesser interest, development right, easement, including conservation easement, covenant, or other contractual right including conveyance with limitations or reversions.
9. Perform other such functions as specifically required or permitted in Section 107 of Article 47 of the New York State Environmental Conservation Law.

Section 6. Compensation and Expenses. The members of the Council, including ex-officio members, shall receive no compensation for their services as members thereof but may be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties within appropriations made available therefor. The Board of Legislators may appropriate funds to the County Planning Office for the expenses incurred by the Council, including but not limited to expenses for professional staff, consultants, clerical assistance, and printing and distribution of publications. For this purpose, the Council shall prepare and

submit to the County an annual budget. The Board of Legislators, upon request by the Planning Office, also may from time to time and for designated purposes, assign or detail county employees from various agencies to perform work for the Council.

Section 7. Construction. This resolution shall be deemed an exercise of the powers of the County to preserve and improve the quality of the natural and man-made environment on behalf of the present and future citizens thereof. This resolution is not intended and shall not be deemed to impair the powers of any city, town, or village within the County of St. Lawrence.

Section 8. Effective Date. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

* * *

Mrs. Carey made a motion to adopt resolution number 319-88, seconded by Mr. Hayden, and carried by a voice vote with twenty-one (21) yes votes and one (1) Legislator absent (J. Smith).