



St. Lawrence County Environmental Management Council

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Minutes Wednesday, February 21, 2024

Classroom A, One Stop Career Center, Human Services Center

80 State Highway 310, Canton, NY 13617

I. Call to Order: 6:12 p.m. (technical issues with sound)

A. Land Acknowledgment S. Rau read a Land Acknowledgement, provided by Tony David, Director of the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe 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 the 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.”

B. Roll Call: 7 of the 13 members present Quorum obtained

1. Members Present: L. Bage; H. Bullock; L. Hanss; A. Pearson, *Secretary*; S. Rau, *Chair*; B. Washburn, *Vice-Chair*; N. Woodworth.
2. Members Absent: S. Cunningham; S. Hurlbut; M. Iversen; R. Marshall; L. Rudiger; N. Terminelli, *BOL Liaison*;
3. Staff: S. Joseph, *Planner II*;
4. DEC Representative: Randall Young, Department of Environmental Conservation;

C. Acceptance of Order of Business

1. Items for Unfinished Business
2. Items for New Business
3. Motion for Approval (Pearson / Washburn) passes unanimously

D. Approval of Minutes (January 17, 2024 EMC meeting minutes) (Pearson / Washburn) passes unanimously

E. Council Logistics (5 min)

1. Agenda Changes
2. Sound Check
3. Nominating Committee L Hanss, N. Woodworth, M. Iversen

F. Comments from the Public None

II. Reports

A. Report of Board of Legislators None

B. Report of Staff

1. Discussion about ag district review process
2. Discussion about property tax, ag assessment, forest tax
3. Discussion on snowmobile and multi-use trail

C. Report of Department of Environmental Conservation

1. Question about when TDML Black Lake available? Model has been completed and some anomalous results. Re-evaluating model. No definitive timeline, but still actively working on it and very concerned about it.
2. Met with SLELO Prism regarding Oswegatchie River and aquatic invasives particularly water chestnut
3. Rangers practice ice rescue training on Cranberry lake
4. Discussion on Eclipse
 - a. Open areas like Cat mountain have a tremendous number of people attempting to go to that spot
 - b. Limit access to fire tower and other areas. Messaging to not overwhelm areas

III. Unfinished Business

A. Review SMART Goals Liaison to Environmental Groups (15 –

1. Went through the SMART goals
2. Discussion on website and communication in general
3. Discussion on goal of directory and understanding what other groups are doing.

4. Disseminate information to the public
5. Something that can be posted on the website
 - a. List (names)
 - b. Link
 - c. Contact info
 - d. Subject / mission statement
6. Discussion on Facebook

B. Vote on projects to work on

1. Directory
2. Website / Facebook / Communication

C. Review Previous Meeting Action Items

1. Staff: (5 min)
 - a. Authority to post on facebook
 - b. Sent out info
2. Members
 - a. Wetland Regulations update (Bage / Pearson /Rau) (10 min)
 - b. EcoAdapt review and contact (Washburn / Iversen) (10 min)

IV. New Business

1. Discussion on Earth day events Trash Dash
2. Discussion on future Earth Day events
3. Discussion about advertising, spreading word, announcing, raising money

V. Next Meeting Prep

VI. Member Updates

1. Washburn: Report FERMF (attached report)
2. Herb Rich Road public input. Comments on plantings and deer browse.
3. Discussion on solar development

VII. Announcements:

A. Next Meeting: March 20, 2024 6 p.m.

VIII. Adjourn 8:16 pm