



## MEETING MINUTES

April 20, 2023, 4:30 PM

Westmoreland Town Offices, 100 Station Road Westmoreland

### Present

Chairperson Jon Scott (T. of Kirkland)	Paul Kulpa (Westmoreland School)
Rueben Ostrander (V. of Waterville)	Jake Voelker (NYS DOT)
Chuck Hebbard (T. of Westmoreland)	Bernie Szarek (Westmoreland Union Cemetery)
Chris Burtch (V. of Oriskany)	Bob Jarret (Clinton Resident)
Bill Fredericks (T. of Sangerfield)	Steve Johnson (V. of Clinton)
Larry Stern (V. of Waterville)	Shaileen Machold (Kirkland Resident)
Thomas Mott (V. of Waterville)	Kenneth Ellis (Kirkland Resident)
Randy Rundle (T. Westmoreland)	Alan Cole (Kirkland CSC)
Kirk Donley (Westmoreland TB)	Liseli Haines (Clinton CSC)
Roger Potenski (Westmoreland PB)	Kristin Campbell (HOCCPP Staff)
Denise Szarek (Westmoreland School)	Jeff Rehler (HOCCPP Staff)
John Acee (Westmoreland School)	Alyssa Flint (Ramboll)
Steven Bulger (ICAN and Westmoreland School)	

The meeting was opened at 4:30 pm by Chairperson Jon Scott. The March 16, 2023 meeting minutes were approved with a motion by Chris B. and a second by Chuck H. Approval of the minutes passed unanimously.

### Treasurer's Report

Invoices were sent out by HOCCPP on March 25<sup>th</sup> for member contributions. Several have already been received by HOCCPP and deposited into the Commission's bank account. Kristin said if you have not received an invoice, contact the office to make sure the right address and person were on the invoice.

The balance in the Commission's bank account is \$9,127.60. There was a discussion about reimbursement to Chairperson Scott for funds he used to get the EIN expedited and open the checking account for the OCWC. Jon will pull together an invoice for his reimbursement. Upon a motion by Chris B. and a second by Chuck H., the motion passed to reimburse Jon Scott for expenses and accept the Treasurer's report.

### Trees for Tributaries: Buffer in a Bag Program

There was an update on the Buffer in a Bag grant program. This program was on a first-come-first-serve basis and the 350 available applicants had already been granted by the time OCWC's application was submitted. The application will be kept on file and submitted next year.

### April 5<sup>th</sup> Storm

Chairperson Scott asked members to report any issues that might have resulted from the rain event on the evening of April 5, 2023. There was a quick burst of rain that evening in localized parts of the watershed. It was reported:

- Sherman Brook diverted across a field and yard.
- Westmoreland School had wet athletic fields
- Town of Westmoreland Little league park was wet. Discussion about undersized infrastructure.
- There was flooding on Rte. 315 in Marshall.
- Resident in Clark Mills stated that sewer waste backed up into their home at 41 White Street when the pump station shuts down.

### **New Member Updates**

Two new members were welcomed. The Town of Westmoreland and Sangerfield passed a resolution (and signed the IMA) to join the Oriskany Creek Watershed Commissions after last month's presentations by Oneida County Planning Department. Sangerfield voted on Tuesday, April 18, 2023, at their Town Board Meeting to participate and will soon be signing the IMA.

### **Other Business**

Kristin briefly updated the group that New York State will be announcing the next round of grants in the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) in May and the Bond Act. The Bond Act she has been told will have opportunities for property acquisition that is a piece of a project that is hard to find funding. Municipalities should be thinking about projects that they might want to request funding for from the State. She stated if there are any studies or feasibility reports for your community that they should be dusted off and used to apply for competitive grants. These are important to support the need for a project and how it will help an issue.

### **Member Reports**

Westmoreland: The Town mentioned that some of the issues in the Town are from Dean's Creek and flooding on school property. This seems to be an infrastructure capacity issue.

Waterville – Big Creek causes a lot of concerns in the Village on Main Street and side streets off Main.

Village of Oriskany – The Village said they get a lot of their water from the hills above. The Village is working with the Oneida County Sewer District on a ditching project to divert to Oriskany Creek. Flooding is an issue from the old dam and mill property as it flows to Oriskany Creek. There is a tree down near the Rte. 69 bridge. Discussion was about who to report the issue to and how to remove it. Jake V. will reach out to Chris to coordinate with NYS DOT to look at the debris in question.

Town of Kirkland – The Sherman Brook Study is underway. Alyssa F. from Ramboll reported that the modeling is almost complete, and a 2<sup>nd</sup> public engagement session will be scheduled soon. The public session was well attended. St. Mary's Brook Study is now complete. The Norton Ave culverts for overflow are being replaced and will help water concerns in the Sanford Ave neighborhood.

Sangerfield – There was a discussion about a municipal dam that was damaged in the Halloween 2019 storms. The Village of Waterville owned a dam that was damaged and there is a FEMA claim in for recovery. The property has been flooded and there are willows and debris that concern neighboring residents. This dam is not used for water now, but the reservoirs can fill up during storm events and the Village is waiting for FEMA for the next step.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting date is May 18, 2023, at the Kirkland Town Offices at 4:30 pm.  
The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.