

Sauquoit Creek Basin Intermunicipal Commission

HOCCPP · Boehlert Center at Union Station · 321 Main St. Utica N.Y. 13501
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MEETING MINUTES

October 18, 2022

4:30 PM

Whitestown Town Offices
8539 Clark Mills Road
Whitestown, NY

Present

Chairperson Dave Glenn (T. of Whitestown)
Kyle Tritten (V. of Whitesboro)
Rick Sherman (T. of New Hartford)
Stephane Wurz (City of Utica)
Quinn Pratico (NY Assembly Miller)
Dave Babowicz (OC DWP)

Dan Appler (E-911)
Dana Olney (A/M Buttenschon)
Jake Voelker (NYS DOT)
Maggie Reilly (Ramboll)
Kristin Campbell (HOCCPP Staff)

The meeting was opened at 4:30 pm by Chairperson Dave Glenn. The August 16, 2022, minutes were approved with a motion by Rick Sherman and a second by Kyle Tritten. Approval of the minutes passed unanimously. The September 20, 2022 was approved with a motion by Kyle Tritten and a second by Stephanie Wurz. Approval of the minutes passed unanimously.

Whitestown Flood Plain Bench Update

Maggie R. provided updates on all phases of the flood plain restoration project in Whitestown. Project 2 at the CSX tracks is now complete with plantings in the spring. Project 1 has been approved by FEMA and the funds have been obligated. NYS DEC approved the permit and waiting for ACOE. The plan is to go out to bid and start the project around May 15, 2023. Project 3 is waiting for GIGP grant award announcements later this year.

A brief update was provided on the NRCS buy-outs. The title commitments were completed around September 30th. NRCS is working to approve the titles and doing due diligence and will be scheduling meetings with homeowners to get information directly from the participants. The goal is to have contracts in place by the end of the year. A better timetable will be available once all the contracts are signed and number of property owners participating is known. There was a question about how long would people have to vacate the house? Maggie mentioned there is discussion about setting up a task force to help residents find new homes.

Upper Portion of Sauquoit Creek in New Hartford and Utica

Maggie reported for Shaun G. that survey work and data collection has started in Utica from Brookline Drive to Genesee Street Bridge and New Hartford from Hand Place to Piggy Pats/Kellogg Road.

Treasurer's Report

The balance in the Commission's bank account is \$68,346.35. There were no new bills. Kristin reported that 4 checks have arrived and will be deposited this week. Upon a motion by Kyle T. and a second by Rick S., the motion passed to accept the Treasurer's report.

Other Business

Member Reports

New Hartford:

- Rick S. reported that the Mud Creek dam project has been completed. Just working on landscaping and siting poles for a camera to watch for debris and water levels. There are additional solar powered cameras being planned for installation in 3-5 months at other detention ponds on Foxcroft, Grange Hill and White Tail/Oneida Street.
- Sangertown project at Mud Creek is still moving along with permitting and easements.
- Oneida Street Box culvert project is completed.
- The Town has been working with Utica on access easements to clean some hidden/forgotten ponds near Sylvan Way and Stonebridge. These have 10 feet deep of sediment and the cleanup should help efforts near Halleck's Ravine in Utica.

MS4 Requirements

Members discussed issues they are having with meeting the updated requirements for MS4 reporting, training, data collection, and mapping outfalls. Hiring an engineer is costly. Many need IDDE (Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination) training that has not been offered recently in the area. Members discussed looking for money to do all the outfall mapping not just into waterbodies. Maggie and Kristin explained there are stormwater coalitions in Onondaga County and elsewhere in the state that were created to work in a way similar to the SCBIC to share costs and meet the MS4 requirements. John Dunkle does IDDE training and maybe the Commission could host a training event. There is money available for mapping from NYS DEC in the CFA. Members indicated interested in forming a coalition. Kyle T has information from a recent conference that he will share, and Kristin will research options for the next meeting.

Chairperson Glenn opened the discussion about the next meeting. He wanted to know what members thought about the next meeting not held until January. November and December are tough months to get a quorum and if something arises where we have to meet, a remote meeting can be arranged. Members all agreed.

The next meeting date is January 17, 2023 at 4:30 at the Town of New Hartford Offices.