

Regular Meeting

Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization (I O) Minutes

Wednesday, November 18, 2020 @ 7 pm

Held Via ZOOM

Minutes

*** The next I O meeting will be on **Wednesday, 12/16/2020 at 7 pm on ZOOM, Happy Thanksgiving!**

Voting Members Present: Tee Ann Hunter, Roxy Johnston, Don Slocum, Dave Sprout, Liz Thomas, Grace Bates, Tom Vawter, Becky Sims/Stephanie Redmond (Enfield), Gary Mutchler, Bud Shattuck, Kelly O'Hara, Mike Allinger, Jackie Cassaniti

Others Present: Darby Kiley, Robert Meek, Hilary Lambert, Rod Howe, Jennifer Karius, Roxanne Marino

Tee Ann said "I am asking that consideration of a resolution Endorsing and Supporting the Adoption of the Revised Owasco Lake Watershed Rules and Regulations drafted by the IO Executive Committee be added to the IO's November 18th agenda." This was accepted.

Agenda Item 2 – Consider Approval of Minutes-

BE IT RESOLVED that the I O approves the minutes from the October 28, 2020 meeting as submitted.

MOVED: Roxy Johnston SECONDED: Liz Thomas VOTE: 12 Yea, 1 Abstention

Agenda Item 3 – Consider Approval of the Financial Report –

As of 10/30/2020 the I O had \$55,694.40. The I O received additional dues of \$2,100.00 in October; and approved a few invoices, from CLWN for \$4,000 and one from the I O Education and Outreach Committee. Please see Tee Ann's email from 11/12/2020 for a copy of the financial report as well as other documents for tonight's meeting.

BE IT RESOLVED that the I O approves the Financial Report from the October 18, 2020 meeting as submitted.

MOVED: Tom Vawter SECONDED: Mike Allinger VOTE: Unanimous

Agenda Item 4 - Adopt proposed 2021 Work Plan-

This draft is to organize the annual work plan - what the I O does every year. It is about filling positions, approve the administrative center, applying for grants among other things; in the bylaws the watershed manager is called the "staff director", we have contracted with Ian Smith for that; Kathy Bertuch's work

with the municipalities will be finished in 2021 and work of the educational outreach committee will be continued. Please see Tee Ann's 11/12/2020 email for a copy of the work plan.

(Thank you to Rod Howe and the Town of Ithaca for letting the I O use their meeting space.

MOVED: Roxy Johnston SECONDED: Gary Mutchler VOTE: Unanimous)

BE IT RESOLVED that the I O approves the Cayuga Lake Watershed Annual Work Plan as submitted.

MOVED: Roxy Johnston SECONDED: Dave Sprout VOTE: Unanimous

Agenda Item 5 – Adopt Proposed 2021 I O Budget-

Liz worked on the budget for 2021 as well as 2022 and 2023; the dues collected for 2021 so far are \$18,750. She said the I O needs to market itself better to get more municipalities to sign on and benefit from the work of the I O. The budgets for the succeeding years don't show an increase in dues or members.

BE IT RESOLVED that the I O approves the Proposed 2021 Cayuga Lake Watershed Budget as submitted.

MOVED: Tee Ann Hunter SECONDED: Roxy Johnston VOTE: Unanimous

Agenda Item 6 – Fill 2021 Appointments and Committees-

In December the I O will vote on new officers, specifically a new chairperson and committee members. Please volunteer for some of the open positions. Please see the openings on pages 5 and 6 of the I O work plan on Tee Ann's 11/12/2020 email.

Agenda Item 6B- Endorsing and Supporting the Adoption of the Revised Owasco Lake Watershed Rules and Regulations-

Discussion then went to revised water purveyors' rules and regulations. Roxy talked about the history of them for the City of Ithaca and Cornell, saying some date back as far as the early 1920's. She mentioned the rules and regulations NYC had to do in the 1990's to continue with using surface water without filtering it. The Town of Owasco and Auburn want to update their rules and regulations, albeit on a much smaller scale than NYC, and they look good. The I O wants to follow in their actions to get its own watershed rules and regulations, but it's very difficult. The I O sponsored a presentation at Bolton Point asking them about their rules and regulations and that Tompkins County contacted two other water purveyors in the northern part of Cayuga Lake. The I O wants to pass a resolution to support the Owasco Lake new rules and regulations. Kelly said that their rules and regulations don't cover all their needs. They leave out rules for funding and engineering implementation as well as partnerships from existing agencies. He said this plan is not complete. Roxy asked him if he would be able to help the I O form our rules and regulations, he said yes, and Roxy said the Owasco plan makes it easier for Cayuga Lake to form their own plan.

Tee Ann added that the I O wants a good relationship with its municipalities and would like more money for soil and water and the agricultural community. She said the I O wants to do a good job and gets money from public and private sources. Bud said that the DEC's TMDL has not come out and has hurt organizations' capacity to get money because they can't plan. Roxy added that every plan you have gives more opportunities to get more funding for projects; she used the example of the HAB's Action Plan and said it can be adapted to the needs of the I O. She said the TMDL is stuck in Albany in the higher echelons. Liz asked if that could be put on a future agenda; Roxy suggested a letter. (Tee Ann said there are resolution changes: numbers 3 and 4 shouldn't be there and the fourth "whereas" should be removed.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the I O will endorse and Support the Adoption of the Revised Owasco Lake Watershed Rules and Regulations-

MOVED: Roxy Johnston SECONDED: Liz Thomas VOTE: Unanimous

Agenda Item 7- Consider Scope of Work for Watershed Management Work-

Ian Smith and Mark Venuti were at the I O meeting last month and talked about the 50 hours Ian would be working for the I O. they pointed out the help with getting municipalities join the I O and the help they would get from the power point the membership committee was making, help with the fair funding formula and how he could help the I O get grants. Also, he could help with working relationships for project partners. The Town of Ithaca could help by letting the I O use their purchase order form for these services.

BE IT RESOLVED that the I O will engage FLI for future work.

MOVED: Tee Ann Hunter SECONDED: Grace Bates VOTE: Unanimous

Agenda Item 8- Adding I O members to CLWN news email list-

Hilary said the newsletter is about all 3 lake shore counties and Liz added that it has a lot of information. Anyone who is not on the CLWN list can get on by going to steward@cayugalake.org

Agenda Item 9- Committee Reports-

-Ad Hoc Education and Outreach Committee (EOC)-

Roxy said the I O can move forward with the list of educational things from the 2017 RPP she will send the document to the I O members and she wants to hopefully have it approved at the next meeting. The I O couldn't help the 3 organizations that asked for money (\$17,000) in 2019 because it would have taken almost all the annual budget of membership dues. Roxy stressed to work with all the organizations around Cayuga Lake such as WRC, Discover Cayuga Lake, CLWN and others. The process could be called Educational Public Participation Outreach Committee (EPPOC). Two pieces of it are action items to fund to a central clearing house and have a watershed curriculum; the I O should re-establish EPPOC and cooperate with CLWN. The committee discovered that the RPP's from 2001 and

2017 are not consistent. Also, they realize the EPPOC is a lower priority than a watershed manager, but the I O needs to look at the chart and see what is important. Tom would like a line item for EPPOC at a certain amount and not just a percentage to work with, it could be \$7,000 out of the \$18,000 budget; it should be a "lock box" item so there is not a big discussion every time EPPOC want to do something. Roxanne Marino likes what the committee has done. Liz said we could take action on it at the next meeting after Roxy sends it to everyone. Roxy said Darby was a big help by answering all their questions quickly.

-Executive Committee-

They have been working on all the information covered at this meeting. The contract with the Consensus Building Institute is going well. The I O is looking forward to getting other municipalities involved as well such as highway departments, agricultural groups, stakeholder groups and the scientific community, plus others. This information should be around Thanksgiving and the outreach soon after.

-Finance Committee-

They did not meet, their main goal is the fair funding objective and the addition of the sub-watersheds at the northern end of Cayuga Lake.

-Membership Committee-

Roxy Johnston reported on the power point the membership committee is doing to get new members, and the watershed manager will be a big help in this endeavor. Roxy reported for Cynthia Brock, who had another meeting, about how they showed the power point to Rod Howe and others and the suggestions they made that will make it better. It was discussed the best time of the year to go to the municipalities as most elected and appointed members come to office in January. Some municipalities have their budgets in June and Bud said organizational meetings for villages happen in April.

Agenda Item 10- Discuss need for December meeting-

Yes, there is a need for a December meeting, it is now scheduled **for Wednesday, December 16, 2020 at 7pm on ZOOM.**

Agenda Item 10 – Consider adjournment-

MOVED: Tom Vawter SECONDED: Liz Thomas

Submitted by Jackie Cassaniti