

Water Quality Coordinating Committee

Regular Meeting – Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Wayne County Soil & Water Conservation District
10 Leach Road Lyons NY 14489

Present:

Scott DeRue (SWCD)
Ken Miller (Wayne County Board of Supervisors)
Kevin Rooney (Wayne County Highway)
Ora Rothfuss (Wayne County Planning)
Dave McDowell (Save Our Sodus)
Ed Leroux (Save Our Sodus)
Elizabeth Claypoole (CCE Wayne)
Lindsey Gerstenslager (SWCD)
Cathy Comfort (SWCD)

Call to order @ 9:00 am

Introductions were made all around.

Approval of Agenda

Additional topics added at this time:

- S. DeRue – March Minutes approval (not on agenda).
- E. Leroux – Additional conversation to agenda item #4; Sodus Bay barrier breach.
- L. Gerstenslager – Blue Communities.
- O. Rothfuss – Great Lakes Clean Communities Network update.

A MOTION was made to approve the agenda by K. Rooney, seconded by E. Leroux; carried.

Approval of Minutes from March Meeting:

A MOTION was made to approve the minutes of the March 2016 meeting by K. Rooney seconded by E. Leroux; carried.

FLLOWPA closeout overview of Contract 13/14

- L. Gerstenslager gave a review of the attached closeout documentation highlighting several key projects, the summary report was prepared by S. DeRue. L. Gerstenslager explained that the contracts are now running at 18 months to completion and the 13/14 was the first contract with WQCC approved spending. Other points brought up was that SUNY Brockport was backlogged and we are waiting on lab results; S. DeRue is looking at alternative testing facilities. E. Leroux inquired if G. Boyer would be an alternative; L. Gerstenslager stated that it would not be cost effective to use him; SUNY Brockport is used by all 19 Soil & Water Districts that are a part of FLOWPA so the lab is overwhelmed.
- L. Gerstenslager stated that the funding for FLOWPA 16/17 will be the largest allocation yet and she will have a template for review at the next meeting. Water quality ideas for next year's

budget; streambank stabilization, shoreline restoration, rain garden etc. please get them in right away so they may be included. O. Rothfuss inquired if trail work would be a consideration; L. Gerstenslager stated as long as it had to do with water quality such as removing invasive species like Japanese knotweed or giant hogweed. K. Miller suggested Boy Scouts and Eagle Scouts projects.

Sodus Bay and Port Bay barrier breach discussion

- L. Gerstenslager advised the committee on April 3rd 2016 a significant breach happened on Port Bay. L. Gerstenslager stated that she and K. Rooney had been looking at this barrier for about a year and were part of a work group for erosion control. Now after the breach and working with the DEC a plan has been designed to use logs and small wooded plants to fill in the breach and hopefully take root; this could be used as a demonstration project. The Army Corp of Engineers is working on changing the dredging permit to make it easier to maintain the barrier. The DEC has devised a list that needs to be completed for further permitting and implementation.
- D. McDowell and E. Leroux advised the committee that at the same time as the Port Bay breach there was also a breach on Sodus Bay only they are dealing with it being private land although the landowners have reached out to the Town for advice/assistance. L. Gerstenslager believes that the DEC is waiting to see the results for Port Bay, she will contact the DEC to inquire on private ownership plan guidelines. L. Gerstenslager also stated that if the owners are willing to cost share there are other possible funding sources that could be written for. K. Miller inquired about the consequences of doing nothing; D. McDowell stated that further erosion will take place and the bay will become part of the lake creating further damage to homes etc. E. Leroux stated that the Army Corp of Engineers has attempted to put aside money each year to address this problem. E. Claypoole Stated that Cornell has a program, Engage Cornell that has certain funding available; she is attending a meeting June 1st and will need an executive summary to present at the meeting. L. Gerstenslager stated that she has information for the summary.

A MOTION was made to present a summary to Engage Cornell for possible funding solutions for Sodus Bay barrier breach by E. Leroux seconded by O. Rothfuss; carried.

- A follow up meeting for E. Claypoole to present her summary of Engage Cornell will be scheduled for June 22nd 2016 at the Sodus Village Hall.

WQCC Special Projects Program Request(s)

- Rain Garden Implementation along Wickham Blvd., Sodus Point.
 - L. Gerstenslager explained that this money would be used to help purchase supplies for this project that has a June 2016 implementation schedule. Once complete the District would like to close the WQCC checking account as the funding for WQCC projects is part of the budget process and is also provided thru FLOWPA.

A MOTION was made to use the remaining funds in the WQCC checking account for the purchase of fabric and mulch for the Rain Garden Implementation Project by O. Rothfuss seconded by K. Rooney; carried.

A MOTION was made to close the WQCC checking account once all funds have been expended by K. Rooney seconded by O. Rothfuss; carried.

- Maxwell Creek Tributary Assessment from Sodus Mill Pond to Maxwell Bay.

A MOTION was made to use \$2,500 from the FLOWPA 15 contract for stream analysis on Maxwell Creek Tributary from Sodus Mill Pond to the Bay by O. Rothfuss seconded by E. Claypoole; carried.

Other

- O. Rothfuss spoke about the Great Lakes Clean Communities Network/Great Lakes Action Agenda. This is a strategic management plan for water quality issues with sub groups; web based approach is being developed see <http://glccn.org/groups/glaa-ny-great-lakes-action-agenda-sub-basins/>. O. Rothfuss will make sure Soil & Water Conservation Districts are included. O. Rothfuss explained that he is part of a sub-group New York Policy Innovation Ad Hoc Committee.
- Blue Communities – L. Gerstenslager had a recent conversation with the District's AEA who talked with her about water resource strategy and the Buffalo Waterkeeper and how becoming a Blue Community opened up additional funding sources for them. The group agreed that while Wayne County is too diverse to focus on one topic, incorporating it into the County plan as a whole could have possibilities. S. DeRue will forward the website and this topic will be revisited.

A MOTION to adjourn was made by E. Leroux at 10:35 am.

Next Meeting June 22, 2016 at 9:00 at the Sous Village Hall Sodus NY.