

Approved June 26, 2017.

Water Quality Coordinating Committee

Regular Meeting – May 24, 2017

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

Present:

Ed Leroux (Save Our Sodus)
Lindsey Gerstenslager (SWCD)
Ora Rothfuss (Wayne County Economic Development & Planning)
Ken Miller (Board of Supervisors)
Scott DeRue (SWCD)
Cathy Comfort (SWCD)

Call to order @ 9:07 am

A MOTION was made to approve the minutes of the January 2017 meeting by O. Rothfuss seconded by L. Gerstenslager; carried.

WQCC Organization Roles

- E. Leroux stated that an idea has been brought forward to take WQCC to more of an advisory group than a decision making structure. K. Miller suggested that scheduling the meetings in advance and only canceling if there is no business and moving the day to a Monday may also increase attendance.

Water Quality Project Implementation Process

- E. Leroux spoke of the handout for establishing a set of guidelines for project processes; he further stated that a “champion” could be a special interest group like an advisory member of the WQCC or a community member. Suggestions on how to do outreach were made by doing surveys of priority needs in watersheds with completed strategic plans.
- L. Gerstenslager stated that this could tie into the next two rounds of FLOWPA funding. L. Gerstenslager then further explained the FLOWPA 16/17 Budget and took the time to explain that if WQCC acted more as an advisory group then this would eliminate the need for all of the line item processes.
- O. Rothfuss stated that he has concerns of training the “Champion” as the WQCC is only a six voting member committee.
- K. Miller stated that he feels it will be a blend of a new and old concept.
- E. Leroux stated he would like to try it on a known issue like the sedimentation in Wolcott Creek.
- K. Miller stated that perhaps the Mission Statement and Roles should be looked at and updated.
- E. Leroux stated that he would like for everyone to review the Red Creek assessment that S. DeRue just completed and decide at the next meeting.
- O. Rothfuss stated that there would be a need for a volunteer educator.
- L. Gerstenslager shared the opportunity to contact and engage “Riverkeeper” group could be brought in for consideration of the Seneca River Watershed.

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- L. Gerstenslager stated that for the next meeting the topic of discussion could be the Red Creek Assessment and review of the WQCC Strategic Plan; it will be available on the District Website and a link will be shared with committee members.

Other Business

Breach Impact on Water Quality

- E. Leroux advised the committee members that he has seen a drone view of a large (150-200') mushroom shaped plume creeping in from the breach towards Newark Island.
- E. Leroux shared with the group that further conversation with Greg Boyer has led to the insight that the nutrient loading coming in from the lakes may be higher than the tributaries.
- K. Miller asked if other Soil and Water WQCC could get together and share information.
- Discussion was held that maybe nutrient loading concerns from the near shoreline offers an opportunity to hold a conference to review other WQCC local issues in relation to Cyanobacteria and how it is affecting water quality.

Discussion about trying a different date or time for a meeting to be held. It was decided since the Red Creek Assessment and the WQCC Strategic Plan was to be reviewed at the next meeting, a meeting would be held in June.

A MOTION to adjourn was made by L. Gerstenslager at 10:36 am seconded by O. Rothfuss.

Next Meeting tentatively June 26, 2017 at 8:00 at the Public Safety Building.