

Coalition of Watershed Towns Meeting Minute
April 16, 2012

Present: Bill Layton, Carl Stuendel, Pete Bracci (Delaware County); Dennis Lucas and Stephen Walker (Greene County); Bruce Lamonda, Henry Rank (Ulster County); Tony VanGlad (Schoharie County), Ric Coombe (Sullivan County). Jeff Baker – CWT Counsel; Georgianna Lepke, CWC board president, and Kevin Young (Delaware County counsel)

Meeting started at 6:05 PM

1. **March meeting minutes** – motion to accept March minutes made by Bruce LaMonda, seconded by Carl Stuendel with all present in favor

2. Privilege of the Floor

- a) Peter Bracci requested the executive committee pass a resolution in support of the hydro-electric generation project specifically calling out benefits for local communities (see November 21, 2011 CWT minutes for details). Peter noted interested parties have until June 2, 2012 to go on record. Wayne Marshfield, Supervisor for Hamden, underscored the benefits to local communities (e.g., taxes) with the Cannonsville system the most economically feasible.
 - b) Focusing the resolution's last paragraph to the issues discussed (optimize capacity, provide low-cost renewable power to local communities, sunset provision in permit if no activity takes place another entity can apply) Jeff B. will revise the resolution to include the CWTs support of the project to maximize benefits to local communities.
 - c) Rick C. expressed interest in seeing the project go forward regardless who is behind it
 - d) Upon review of revised language in the closing paragraph, a motion was made by Carl Stuendel, seconded by Peter Bracci with all present in favor to support the project that specifically notes benefits to local communities.
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3. West of Hudson Flood Hazard Mitigation Proposals in preparation for April 19 flood work group meeting

- Dennis L. and Jeff B. updated the committee on internal discussions with county agencies regarding staffing and project needs for the short term buyout and long term flood hazard mitigation proposals. Jeff sent out a proposal today to the stakeholders who are in the position to require DEP, as a condition of the mid-term FAD, to redirect and enhance funds for flood mitigation projects.
- The state is supportive as long as the additional funds are funneled through the CWC as a regional entity. Jeff B. and Dennis agreed on behalf of the CWT that, providing the CWC approves, program administration will be handled through CWC, which has watershed county representatives built into the board structure.
- It would be set up as a grant program where county agencies could apply for personnel assistance, relocation and buyout assistance, and floodplain and stream projects above what SWCDs contracts cannot cover.
- Georgianna Lepke, CWC board president, will review with the CWC board whether they are comfortable in this role and, if so, what the parameters of funding should be.
- Increasing SWCDs contracts by 40% is also proposed to increase SWCDs capacity to do more and varied stream work.

- Jeff B. emphasized the goal is to develop the framework of the program and get the City to support it financially before getting into the particulars of the how it would operate. CWC has a successful program administration record which is why they are recommended to play a role in future grant administration
- Kevin Young, representing Delaware County, agreed with the general parameters of the proposal, but noted he is looking for the CWC fund to support a Delaware County program with specificity.

The executive committee agreed to go into executive session to continue the negotiation strategy.

Executive committee came out of executive session at 8:10 PM.

4. **Treasurer's Report** – Carl Stuendel reviewed the balance of CWT accounts as of March 31, 2012 as follows: there is \$1,000.34 in the checking and \$110,751.29 in the savings accounts.

5. Correspondence

- Town of Hunter resolution on reallocating LAP funds to flood mitigation

8:20 PM meeting adjourned on motion by Tony VanGlad, seconded by Rick Coombe with all present in favor.