



**St. Lawrence County Environmental Management Council**

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*Approved*

**MEETING MINUTES**

**June 17, 2009 6:00 PM**

**Star Lake Community Center, 4208 SH 3**

**Star Lake, New York**

*Action items in bold italics*

- 1. Call to Order:** Chair David Katz called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.
- 2. Roll Call, Determination of Quorum:** A quorum was present.  
Members present included: T. Cutter, A. Heidenreich, R. Horst, D. Howard, D. Katz, L. Perry, C. Rediehs, J. Rosales, L. Rudiger.  
Members absent included: D. Church, B. Flavin, G. Johnson, D. O'Shea, P. Skomsky, A. Soutar, B. Zimmerman.  
Staff: J. Montan; J. Tenbusch.  
Guests: Mark Hall, Supervisor, Town of Fine; Elizabeth Cooper, Community Development Coordinator, Town of Fine.  
Press: None.
- 3. Hearings, Comments from the Public:** No speaker was scheduled.

Mark Hall, Supervisor of the Town of Fine, spoke about the potential for re-use of the J&L remediation site near Star Lake. He reported that a wood-chip processing facility has been proposed for a 10-acre portion of the J&L site. This facility would dry wood chips to make fuel stock; it might produce 125,000 tons per year, of which Newton Falls Fine Paper, Inc. might use 40%. This facility might require 30-35 tractor-loads per day of raw material. The project might create 12-15 FTE jobs at the facility; another 60-80 off-site jobs might be created.

Hall noted that issues related to re-use of the J&L site might include liability of the County for environmental remediation or for personal injuries. In addition, ongoing oil monitoring costs might become a County expense.

In response to a question from L. Perry, J. Montan reported on the status of the CDM remediation study; that study is not yet complete (nor has it been accepted by DEC).

L. Rudiger asked if the proposed wood-chip processing facility might be located at another site in the area; Hall answered "Yes", but emphasized the potential synergies of re-using the J&L site.

**EMC: Everybody Must Care!**

4. **Acceptance of Order of Business, Items for New Business, Items for Unfinished Business:** The Order of Business was approved (by consensus).
  5. **Approval of the Minutes of the May 20, 2009 Meeting:** The May meeting minutes were approved (C. Rediehs / T. Cutter).
  6. **Report by the Representative of the Board of Legislators (BOL):** L. Perry reported:
    - A public hearing will be held on July 6<sup>th</sup> on the County's proposed Ethics Law.
    - The IT Strategic Plan was adopted by the Board of Legislators at their May meeting.
    - The BOL has supported two bills affecting the Adirondack Park:
      - One bill encourages a local planning assistance fund.
      - One bill promotes affordable housing in the Adirondack Park.
    - The BOL approved County policies regarding cell phone use by employees.
    - L. Perry will serve as chair of the County's Complete Count Committee for the 2010 Census.
    - NYS will increase reporting for pension credits.
  7. **Reports by EMC Members on Conversations with County Legislators:**
    - Howard reported that she e-mailed Sallie Brothers to thank the BOL for funding the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Days program.
  8. **Report of the Committees:**
    - a. **Executive** – D. Katz. No report.
    - b. **Education** – R. Horst. No report.
    - c. **Natural Resources** – A. Heidenreich. No report.
    - d. **NYSAEMC** – No report.
  9. **Report of the Staff:** J. Montan reported on the DEC Update, held June 15<sup>th</sup> in Albany:
    - DEC has changed their program requirements for pharmaceutical collection efforts; these changes may make a local collection effort more feasible.
    - Regarding invasive species, the Emerald Ash Borer has been found near Ottawa, Ontario, within 60 miles of St. Lawrence County.
    - Montan has prepared the draft Climate Change/Peak Oil Plan for the BOL to consider (copied were distributed to EMC members at this point). He asked EMC members to make comments on the plan to him by June 25<sup>th</sup>.

J. Tenbusch reported on several items:

    - An Agricultural Tour is being planned by the Ag & Farmland Protection Board for August 24<sup>th</sup>.
    - EMC Mileage Reimbursement forms were distributed to members.
    - The EMC typically schedules a picnic for their August meeting; members agreed by consensus to do so again.
  10. **Unfinished Business:** None.
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**11. New Business:** None

**12. Announcements:**

- J. Montan announced the NYS DEC landowner incentive program for grassland protection and management.
- D. Howard announced that the Ag Plastic Baler will be in St. Lawrence County during July.
- J. Rosales announced that, having observed Eskimo villages that have been impacted by climate change, he will be looking for ways to tell their story.

**13. Message to Board of Legislators:** By consensus, members agreed to speak with their legislators about two items:

- Ask their legislators to support the draft document “Climate Change and Peak Oil – A Plan Proposal for St. Lawrence County, NY – July 2009”; and
- Report that they have visited the J&L remediation site, and listened to a presentation by Mark Hall, Supervisor of the Town of Fine, about re-use options for the site.

The meeting adjourned at 7:41 PM.

Minutes prepared by J. Tenbusch

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