



St. Lawrence County Environmental Management Council

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Approved

MEETING MINUTES

December 15, 2010 7:00 PM

Room 226, County Courthouse, 48 Court Street

Canton, New York

Action items in bold italics

1. **Call to Order:** P. Skomsky, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM. David Doe, recently appointed to the EMC, introduced himself. All present introduced themselves.
2. **Roll Call, Determination of Quorum:** A quorum was present.
Members present included: David Doe, B. Flavin, D. Howard, A. Heidenreich, R. Horst, G. Johnson, J. Rosales, P. Skomsky, A. Soutar, B. Zimmerman
Members absent included: T. Cutter, G. Hart, D. Katz, D. O'Shea, L. Perry, L. Rudiger,
Staff: J. Montan, J. Tenbusch, K. Zimmerman.
Guests: None. Press: None.
3. **Hearings, Comments from the Public:** None.
4. **Acceptance of Order of Business, Items for New Business, Items for Unfinished Business:** J. Montan proposed several items for New Business; these included discussion of the 2011 Work Plan; another request from D. Hassig for EMC participation in a future presentation on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). The Order of Business was accepted by consensus.
5. **Approval of the Minutes of the October and November 2010 Meetings:** A. Heidenreich noted that she had not attended the October EMC meeting. The amended minutes of the October meeting, and the minutes of the November meeting were unanimously approved (B. Flavin, A. Soutar).
6. **Report by the Representative of the Board of Legislators (BOL):** No report.
7. **Reports by EMC Members on Conversations with County Legislators:**
 - B. Flavin reported speaking with Vernon "Sam" Burns about how NYPA and others are pulling up public-access docks along the St. Lawrence River and Black Lake.

EMC: Everybody Must Care!

In response to a question from Doe, it was explained that EMC members are assigned to communicate regularly with a member of the County Board of Legislators. J. Tenbusch reported that, with the recent election, there are eight members of the BOL without EMC contacts. *Staff will coordinate a process before the January EMC meeting whereby EMC members select BOL contacts.*

8. Report of the Committees:

- a. **Executive** – D. Katz. No report.
- b. **Education** – No report.
- c. **Natural Resources** – No report.
- d. **NYSAEMC** – No report.

9. Report of the Staff: No report.

10. Unfinished Business: No report.

11. New Business:

- **Discussion of draft comments on NYS Climate Action Interim Report:** A. Soutar asked who drafted the comments? J. Montan replied that he did, based on comments sent in by J. Rosales, and A. Heidenreich, and additional comments made at an ad-hoc meeting held December 7th. Montan described the NYS Climate Action Interim Report; he noted that technical working groups had been assembled to draft each section/chapter of the Report. Rosales noted that 36 states already have Climate Action Plans. Montan then reviewed the draft comments; numerous questions were asked, and suggestions made for changes to the draft. B. Flavin commented that the Climate Action Council that had developed the Interim Report had not been subject to the Open Meeting Law; he offered to provide a paragraph for the draft EMC comments. D. Doe commented on problems with clean coal; he offered to provide a paragraph for the draft EMC comments. *Montan offered to revise the EMC comments based on comments received; he will present these comments to the Board of Legislators Operations Committee on January 10th.* (See attached, draft EMC comments as presented to Board of Legislators on January 10, 2011.)
- Review of draft Work Program for 2011. *EMC members decided by consensus to bring the Work Program for approval at the January EMC meeting.* (See attached draft Work Program for 2011.)

- Hassig request for EMC participation in a future presentation on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). Montan reported that Hassig is trying to get a speaker from the National Institute of Environmental Sciences to present on Persistent Organic Pollutants. *Staff will follow up with Hassig. In the meantime, the EMC remains committed to pursuing a public education program, possibly in partnership with the Department of Public Health.*
- Groundwater withdrawals. D. Howard reported that the Oswego County EMC is forming a multi-county task force to look into issues related to groundwater withdrawals. Montan reported that staff have received copies of the Town of Grieg policy on the matter.
- St. Lawrence River at Massena Remedial Action Plan (RAP) Area of Concern (AOC). D. Howard and P. Skomsky reported that they sit on the RAP/AOC Remedial Advisory Committee (RAC). There has been some recent progress: according to Skomsky, the US Army Corps of Engineers is now willing to consider restoration of significant coastal habitat areas. He opined that this could be a large-scale project, and that there might be a role for the EMC to help coordinate the process.

12. Announcements: None.

13. Message to Board of Legislators: On a motion by Flavin (B. Zimmerman), the EMC voted to send to the BOL the draft comments on the NYS Climate Action Plan Interim Report.

14. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:44 PM.

Minutes prepared by J. Tenbusch

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