

Otsego County Water Quality Coordinating Committee Minutes
967 Co. Hwy. 33, Cooperstown, NY 13326
(607) 547-8337, ext. 4

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

Present:

Matt Albright, Biological Field Station
Holly Waterfield, Biological Field Station
Jill Eichler, Canadarago Lake Improvement Association/Goodyear Lake Association
Don McKay, Canadarago Lake Improvement Association
Dr. Ted Peters, Cooperstown Village Water Committee
Bruce Shultis, Goodyear Lake Association
Vince Stayter, Goodyear Lake Association
Ruth Carlson, Guest, Goodyear Lake Association
Tony Capraro, Natural Resources Conservation Service
Darla M. Youngs, Otsego County Conservation Association
Terry Bliss, Otsego County Planning Department
Liz Fury, Otsego County Planning Department
Claire Hawthorne, Otsego County Planning Department
Scott Fickbohm, Otsego County Soil & Water Conservation District
Blanche Hurlbutt, Otsego County Soil & Water Conservation District
Carl Good, Otsego Lake Association

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Facilitator Holly Waterfield. Bruce Shultis presented guest Ruth Carlson to the group and introductions were made around the table.

I. REVIEW OF MINUTES

The August 26 meeting minutes were reviewed. Tony Capraro asked that one correction be made to the NRCS verbiage, changing the word “complete” to “comprehensive.” There was no further discussion of the minutes. **Scott Fickbohm moved to accept the August minutes with the necessary amendment, with a second by Matt Albright. The August meeting minutes were approved.**

II. TREASURER’S REPORT

Treasurer Blanche Hurlbutt distributed hard copies of the Treasurer's Report, Bank Report and Income Report. She noted a \$100 donation to the WQCC and a release of \$120 from the Buoy Fund toward boat safety training. There is \$2,000 in the account, earmarked for Otsego County water testing, \$693.29 in undesignated funds, and \$1,207.86 in the Buoy Fund. Holly said she had been reading up on Roberts’ Rules of Order, according to which it is not necessary to approve the Treasurer’s Report.

III. OLD BUSINESS

1. REVIEW OF REVISED BYLAWS

Review of the bylaws began with discussion of Section 7, Article III, regarding voluntary membership dues. Vince asked if there was a kickoff date for payment of said dues. Holly suggested that we add the word “annual.” She asked if we were voting on the bylaws today, and Darla Youngs commented that we ought to vote, as the draft had been circulating long enough. After further discussion, it was agreed to add the word “annual” and the verbiage “on or about October 1st of each year.” Scott pointed out that the section dealing with the signing of contracts by the facilitator will need to be changed, as it is SWCD that would officially be responsible. The facilitator will be the signatory of any letters written on behalf of the WQCC, it was decided. At this time, Scott suggested that it would be nice if the facilitator could attend an

SWCD Board meeting every so often, to update that Board as to the activities of the committee. SWCD Board meetings are the third Friday of every month, he said. It is not necessary to include this in the bylaws, he added. **Matt Albright moved that the bylaws be approved, with a second by Tony Capraro.** Joe Homburger had sent word to Darla via e-mail that it would be appreciated if she could carry his “proxy vote supporting passage of new by-laws (in the event a resolution to vote on this business item is introduced).” **The motion was passed and the bylaws were approved.**

2. GRANTS/RFP TASK FORCE UPDATE

Holly said the Grants/RFP Task Force had not met, but reminded those present that the deadline for the DEC Water Quality Improvement Projects Program grant is October 16. Scott said there are a number of opportunities for the committee to submit grants through SWCD, including the WQIP. Carl said he had spoken with DEC representatives regarding the stormwater runoff project currently under consideration for Willow Brook, and had been told not to bother. Otsego Lake is second tier, he was told, and as the stormwater would not be treated but rather would be flowing back into the lake, the likelihood of approval for that grant would be slim. Scott explained that most projects would be second tier, but the opportunity to apply doesn't come around very often, perhaps not for another three years. Scott invited those present to contact him in regard to grant applications for water quality projects that might be submitted through SWCD.

3. SNOW STORAGE/DISPOSAL PRACTICES

Holly said she had been working with Darla to research information that might be compiled for municipalities regarding best management practices (BMPs) for snow storage. There is a broad scope of information available, she continued, including salt storage, maintenance and spreading rates. Holly said she is sifting through the materials to determine what might be the most appropriate scope of information to be included on a fact sheet. She circulated a draft outline of what the content might entail:

Environmental Stewardship: Good Practices for Snow Removal and Dumping

1. *Why is snow removal/winter maintenance an environmental issue?*
 - a. *Water Quality: Contaminants can be discharged to surface and ground waters.*
 - i. *Salt*
 - ii. *Abrasives: sand, fines*
 - iii. *Miscellaneous debris & garbage*

Both salt and sediment loads can adversely affect aquatic life. Stream habitats are easily altered by sediments, creating problems for aquatic insects, fish, and other organisms that use small spaces between rocks and sediments. Groundwater is susceptible to salt contamination, especially where aquifers are shallow, or where karst or fractured bedrock predominates. Other chemicals associated with vehicle traffic and maintenance (oil and fuel derivatives, etc.) are also likely to accumulate in snow disposal areas, and so have the potential to contaminate both surface waters and vulnerable groundwater supplies.
 - b. *Air Quality: fines and dust are raised by vehicle traffic and can cause problems for nearby residents, especially those with asthma and other respiratory sensitivities.*
2. *Limiting Environmental Impacts: Potential Solutions*
 - a. *Proper siting of snow dumps (snow removed from congested areas) in upland areas, away from water bodies and drinking water wells*
 - b. *Caution used when treating roads in sensitive watershed areas (directly adjacent to wetlands, streams, lakes/ponds)*

Those interested in assisting with the fact sheet were asked to contact Holly. She said if we were to create such a fact sheet we would be filling a void, as there is no such document currently available from either the state or DEC. Directives from the Department of Transportation recommend the dumping of snow into the river, which is at odds with the direction we are taking, she added. The potential exists to use the committee's material statewide, Holly said, which is exciting.

Discussion turned to what might be the most appropriate and effective way for the WQCC to get this information, once compiled, to the municipalities. Darla pointed out that topic meetings, as outlined in the new bylaws, were intended as a way to work with municipal representatives, as an alternative to the costly forums and workshops previously discussed. Matt said that meeting face to face would be preferable to simply mailing the materials. Carl said he was afraid our advice would be falling on deaf ears unless we are able to pinpoint alternative snow storage sites, and Matt suggested that we could compile a short list for each municipality. Liz Fury said that perhaps we could identify one or two locations which several municipalities could use, but it was pointed out that the travel distance would need to be very short. Liz also said the county could map information as needed. It was agreed that the plan is to: 1) flesh out the information to be included on the fact sheet; 2) Matt and Scott will research alternative storage sites; 3) the date for the topic meeting will be set; 4) a letter inviting municipalities to said meeting will be drafted. Holly said she would work on the fact sheet, as per her outline, to be distributed to the group via e-mail before the next meeting. Matt and Scott agreed to call municipalities to determine current dumping sites, splitting them in half. Holly also said she would contact Mike Abrams of DOT.

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. DEC WQIP GRANT APPLICATION

Scott passed around an application for the DEC Water Quality Improvement Projects Program grant that he had prepared, requesting funding for the WQCC to produce two annual reports, on 2010 and 2011. If the grant is approved, WQCC would receive \$4,500 toward the two-year project.

Scott read a portion of the grant proposal as well as from the grant RFP. WQCC actions and actions of all committee member groups relating to the strategy would be included in the reports, he said. Matt suggested that a copy of the revised Otsego Lake Management Plan would be good to include as supporting documentation for the grant request. Scott said he would wait until October 9 to see if anyone wants to discuss and/or comment on the grant proposal. There was further discussion as to how the writing of the annual report(s) would be handled, if we are awarded the grant. It was suggested that it might be a good idea to create a subcommittee responsible for creation of the document, which would then be reviewed by all. Scott volunteered as project manager, and he will need a list of contributors. He asked whether we would want to reimburse individuals/groups for hours spent on the report or bank it for general funds. Holly recommended the latter. Scott said, regardless, we would need to document hours spent on the project.

2. RELEASE OF FUNDS FOR DIVE TEAM / NO WAKE ZONE BUOYS

Carl initiated discussion of the recent authorization to release Buoy Fund monies to Paul Lord for boat safety training, which had come under question. He said the monies in the Buoy Fund are from a county tourism grant toward no-wake buoy maintenance and from payment to the divers for pigging the lines for the Village of Cooperstown. Matt said he had raised flags to Blanche regarding this expenditure because he was concerned about the money being spent on indirect costs if it had been designated or pledged specifically toward something else. Blanche said she had wanted to be sure she was doing things in the proper order, in terms of getting approval to pay the money out. The possibility of a separate account, renaming of the account and oversight of these monies was discussed. Carl pointed out that two of the buoys have been damaged and will need to be repaired.

Scott asked if the buoys are insured, and there was discussion regarding the \$500 deductible and \$300 replacement cost. Blanche said the deductible is \$500 per claim, and not cumulative. Returning to the issue of oversight of the funds, Blanche said as it stands now she can release the funds at Paul's request. Scott inquired as to why WQCC controls these funds, and Holly replied that this is so people can donate to an entity with oversight. Darla explained that it is similar to OCCA being the fiscal agent for Earth Festival, whereby people can make tax-deductible donations in support of Earth Festival through OCCA, who then pays all related Earth Festival bills. It was agreed that we would continue to oversee the Buoy Fund with no changes except that Blanche will contact the facilitator for approval to release funds. Blanche said that if WQCC raises funds toward buoy maintenance, she will set up a separate line item.

3. ENVIROTHON

Blanche announced that a date has been set for next year's Envirothon. The event will be held on May 5, again at Glimmerglass State Park, but the site location within the park will be changed. There are already three volunteers for judging and scoring duties from this committee, she said, naming Holly, Carl and Ted. Additional volunteers will be needed – those interested should e-mail Blanche. The state Envirothon will be held June 2-3 in 2010.

Also under new business, Vince inquired as to whether anyone had attended the watershed conference held September 14-15. No one present had done so.

V. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. BIOLOGICAL FIELD STATION

Holly submitted the following BFS departmental report:

*BFS continues to monitor water quality in Canadarago Lake and its tributary streams, Otsego Lake (with data on our website), and continues to analyze water samples from the Susquehanna River (collected by Hartwick College) and 11-Digit HUCs (collected by SWCD). Though our funding has been exhausted, work is ongoing in the testing of phosphorus removal media for onsite wastewater treatment systems, and more results are expected soon. We have published a new Occasional Paper titled "Water Chestnut (*Trapa natans* L.) Infestation in the Susquehanna River Watershed: Population Assessment, Control, and Effects," which is a Master's Thesis by Willow Eyers; this is available in print and on our website (O.P. No. 44). Additionally, our summer newsletter, the "BFS Reporter" is available in print and on our website, <http://bfs.oneonta.edu>. The phone numbers for BFS are: 607-282-4188 (Main Office, Lab) and 607-547-6218 (UIC, Dr. Harman).*

2. CANADARAGO LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Don McKay reported the following:

We had our general membership end of the season meeting at the end of August. About 90 attended and were brought up to date on the many activities of the association. Attached is the agenda of the recent Board meeting. Checks for \$100 each were mailed to you and the Land Trust. We have authorized up to \$5,000 for software to fully automate the data from our station at the State boat launch ramp. This will feed the data to our website on a continuing basis.

3. COOPERSTOWN VILLAGE WATER COMMITTEE

Ted Peters said the current Water Board consists of Jeff Katz, chair, Neil Weiller, Doug Walker, Ron Streek and Jim Christman. Ted serves as consultant to the group, he explained. At the Water Board's September 14 meeting, Ted distributed copies of the WQCC bylaws, and offered to step down in the event that the committee members would like to appoint a regular member to the WQCC. They told Ted that if he couldn't make a meeting, they would ask another to go. Ted said the group also voted to contribute \$100 to the WQCC, timing not determined.

Win asked what the divers are finding relative to zebra mussels, and Ted reiterated that they are not finding zebra mussels on the screens in the plant. Matt asked if the quantity of zebra mussels is substantial, and Carl said diver Paul Lord had indicated that it is. Matt explained that in Cleveland the volume of dead zebra mussels has been such that there have been issues with foul-smelling water as a result of the debris coming into the plant. Ted added that engineering reports regarding the use of potassium permanganate as a control measure for zebra mussels continue to come in. There was also some discussion of copper ion generators. Regarding the topic of pigging the line, someone asked how long the line is and Ted replied that it is almost a quarter of a mile. He said it takes about 30 minutes to pig the line. The various methods of pigging were discussed, and Matt wondered if there was any way to contain the debris so that it does not pile up around the intake.

4. CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

No one was present to report, but Heidi Tafel submitted the following via e-mail:

The only thing new to report is that our new shared Executive Director, Don Smyers, started on September 1. He will be here twice a week and in Schoharie County the rest of the week. He was already Schoharie County CCE's E.D.

5. GOODYEAR LAKE ASSOCIATION

Vince Stayter reported:

Water sampling continues with the generous help of Steve Wilson of Allied Biological; results are still within the "good to excellent" range. Goodyear Lake Day (Centennial +2) went off with good weather, good attendance and good times. Next year we are aiming for 8/28/2010 with a full-day event, joining forces with two non-profits, one of which will be the now annual summer Polar Bear reunion. ENEL has shut the gates to the turbines for repairs and maintenance at Colliers' Dam. The shut-down happened about two weeks ago, and will continue until they clean the sluiceway of the tons of zebra mussels (Carl has photos if anyone is interested), then pressure wash and seal the sluice. Water levels, therefore, have been higher than usual. Also, our Board of Directors has authorized the Goodyear Lake Association, Inc. to pay a voluntary WQCC membership fee of \$100 whenever it is time to do so.

Vince asked where the \$100 membership dues are to be sent. Those checks should be made out to SWCD, toward WQCC.

6. NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Tony Capraro's report was as follows:

- 1. New intern started, Brie Olsen from SUNY Oneonta, she will be working on Monday's and Thursday's until December.*
- 2. NRCS was awarded 6 contracts for the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP). These will be 10-year contracts for keeping grasslands in grass and not letting the fields grow up to successional forest.*
- 3. We have ended our Fiscal Year. We do not know how funding is going to be for FY 2010.*
- 4. We currently have 1 application for the Conservation Stewardship Program. The first "batching" period is ending today. The next period will begin within the next couple months.*
- 5. NRCS is finally doing construction on two WRP sites. One in the Town of Worcester and one in the Town of Otsego. The one in Worcester has been contacted by the local Fire Dept. to install a dry hydrant.*

Tony said it is their goal to have the intern working in the field as much as possible. In regard to the Conservation Stewardship Program, he said hopefully there will be more applications next time around. He thanked Darla for circulating the information via OCCA's eco-bulletin.

7. NYCAMH

Not present to report.

8. NYS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Not present to report.

9. NYS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Not present to report.

10. OTSEGO COUNTY CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

Relative to water quality since the last meeting, Darla reported the following on behalf of OCCA:

- *Completed final handpulling of water chestnut on Goodyear Lake, September 5. Greater than 95% of the infestation harvested. 2009 consisted of 15 outings, participation of 93 volunteers (372 vol. hrs.) and disposal of more than 7 tons of spoils.*
- *Monies received for funding of Tom Horvath's zebra mussel study*
- *Working with Scott Wells of DEC to place several monofilament fishing line recycling receptacles that are currently going unused in appropriate spots within the county, and to place similar receptacles in area stores*
- *Revising press release on water quality reports /web pages of Biological Field Station to reflect most recent data postings, to be circulated to full press list either this week or next*
- *Dr. Zsuzsanna Balogh-Brunstad and Mary Allen, both of Hartwick College, are preparing written updates on their respective water sampling efforts (funded in part by OCCA) and will present at our Annual Meeting*
- *Copies of the OCCA brochure, "Handpulling Water Chestnut," were distributed to CLIA, GLA and OLA*

Regarding natural gas drilling, on September 20 Executive Director Erik Miller addressed Advocates for Springfield at that organization's annual meeting on strategies available to local governments regarding jurisdiction that might limit or help to control natural gas drilling. Board President Martha Clarvoe will be visiting the Crumhorn Mountain drilling site tomorrow, as an ex-officio member of the county's Solid Waste Committee and a MOSA Board member.

In other OCCA news:

- *Our current newsletter has been printed and mailed (copies distributed to group)*
- *We are seeking nominations for Conservationist of the Year. The guidelines and nomination form can be accessed on the website, www.occainfo.org – the deadline is October 1 (copies distributed to group)*
- *Getting ready to send out our member renewal solicitation*
- *After several months of work, our revised website is now "live." The new site, which features a redesigned home page as well as reconfigured and expanded content, may be viewed at <http://www.occainfo.org/>. New sections focusing on environmental issues facing our region today – including invasive species, natural gas drilling and water quality – have been added, as have details on current programming, how to become a member, how to donate, and other ways to contribute to OCCA. The site also includes an expanded organizational history and news archives, and information from Otsego Regional Cycling Advocates, a standing committee of OCCA. Further additions to the website as of last week: volunteer opportunities, past Conservationists of the Year and more on natural gas drilling. Additional information on other subjects will be forthcoming. (copies of water quality page distributed to group)*
- *We are happy to post any environmentally-related events on our website in the EnviroEvents calendar. Please send information to admin@occainfo.org*
- *The Annual Dinner is Friday, November 13 at Stella Luna Ristorante in Oneonta.*

11. OTSEGO COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Liz said that the county's Household Hazardous Waste Day collection was a big success, with a record number of registrants and people. She said she will send collection amount information to Darla, to be circulated to the full group. All went very smoothly, Liz continued, with lots of positive feedback. The location worked very well. Terry said several WQCC member groups had contributed to the pharmaceutical collection, and he thanked them for their support.

Terry then reported that his recent meeting with a small group of water quality professionals, focusing on the possible impacts of natural gas drilling on water quality, also went very well. There were six people present at the meeting, which was held at SUNY-Oneonta – Terry, Scott, two professors from SUNY-Oneonta, one professor from Hartwick College, and the director of the Oneonta Department of Health office. A second meeting has been set for mid-October. The purpose of these meetings, Terry said, is to take action rather than just talk, and focus on natural gas drilling as it relates to water quality. A lot of work will be required, he said, to try to establish credible water quality data before gas drilling comes into the county. Terry explained that the colleges represent the potential for significant labor to collect data samples with certifiable accountability to organize and manage the work. The Planning Department wants to be one part of this collaboration. The small group meeting is not intended to leave out other people that will be helpful, but rather to construct a game plan before expanding and plugging others in. The September meeting was a good one, Terry continued, and there are similar activities underway in Tompkins and Madison counties. Claire will assist with this effort, Terry said.

Vince asked how this relates to County Board Representative Fournier's recent comments and the proposed county task force. Terry replied that they are not directly connected. The task force would cover broader and more complete details, he said. Creation of such a task force is now up to the Board, Terry added. Ted said that one concern regarding the task force is that it might be slanted, when such a task force ought to be neutral. Terry replied that he thinks there is good information out there for landowners and that it would be a solid step to formalize a study group. Regardless, his water quality group will continue to meet.

Terry also said that a select group of Solid Waste Committee, County Planning staff and Otsego County representatives from the MOSA board would be touring the Crumhorn Mountain drilling site, to follow up on information shared by the Independent Oil and Gas Association of New York (IOGA) at a recent forum held at Hunt Union. Vince had questions concerning how easily a vertical well can be converted into a horizontal well and compression noise once a well has been capped. Carl asked who was conducting the tour. Liz pointed out that municipalities can regulate drilling in part through noise ordinances and road laws, and Terry added that it would pretty much require a full-time person to properly address all the questions that arise related to natural gas drilling.

12. OTSEGO COUNTY SWCD

Scott Fickbohm passed around a stormwater outreach poster, and submitted the following:

AGRICULTURE

- 1. Agricultural Environmental Management Program (AEM): Year 5 contracts have been submitted along with our Year 5 Annual Action Plan (AAP) to the state, but not returned (contract not executed). The District hired John Jackson to be work on the AEM program which will now focus on updating old assessments until enough training has taken place to move into the planning phase.*
- 2. Upper Susquehanna Coalition Ag. Agreement: We have entered into an agricultural agreement with USC. Deliverables are 1 CNMP (already submitted to state for review), 30 Tier I's (10 grazers & 20 dairy), 15 Tier V evaluations, data management and wetland liaison work (see below).*
- 3. Upper Susquehanna Coalition Grazing Advocate: The Upper Susquehanna Coalition has funded two 'Grazing Advocate' positions in our area. We have been using both people to help us in our outreach*

efforts to the 110+ grazers in our AEM program. To date we have completed an outreach mailing/survey and have received positive feedback from a number of producers. Work on forming a 'grazing steering committee' will begin next week.

4. Ag. Non-Point Source Grants –

ROUND XIV – Grazing Grant: Two participants are complete, three participants have made progress and two are behind. Additional funds have been secured through USC to assist 2 farmers with completing implementation. Winsor Acres: Construction of the manure facility is scheduled for next year. The facility will allow the CAFO to hold manure until conditions for spreading are favorable.

ROUND XV – Initial word from the state was that the Waterpoint application likely to be funded.

However, because of the current budget shortage in Albany, the state may be in the position of putting off Round XV for 1, maybe 2 years.

5. Graze New York Planner – Early in August, Congressman Arcuri announced the availability of \$400k for the Graze NY Program in 2010.

This represents approximately 60% of the request made by Graze NY Districts. To adapt, we have several potential options: hire part time, partner with Chenango County SWCD for shared services, partner with USC for shared services or seek reimbursement for hours beyond what is billed to Graze NY from AEM or a mix.

FLOODING AND STORMWATER

6. Oneonta Stormwater Program – The “Kick-off” presentation was held in Oneonta at the SUNY campus. Roughly 20% of those invited were in attendance. Mapping of drop-inlets is complete and approx 135 outfall locations have been mapped. Follow up working group meetings with the Oneonta Environmental Group and the Town's code's office are arranged for this month. Outreach efforts have produced a nice stormwater flier for distribution and the four city elementary schools have agreed to display our “Where Does the Rain Go” tapestry.

7. Stormwater Training Seminar – We are arranging to have Tioga County SWCD come to the District in December to offer the DEC required training to area contractors in December.

8. Part C Projects: Town of Exeter Herkimer Creek/ Oaks Creek

Project: Final design of this project has been completed. Engineering approval should take place before the end of the month and construction, with USC as the contractor, is expected in October.

Towns of Edmeston and Burlington Road Ditch Reinforcement Project:

Engineering review of the design is complete, materials delivered and the Town of Burlington finished work earlier this month. Work included 1,500 feet of riprap lined road ditch, 45 stone check dams, culvert re-alignment, rock swale and rock outfall protection.

Bakers Beach: The District has partnered with NYSDEC and the Town of Richfield to implement a shore line erosion control project. DEC provided the design, permitting and implementation; the District provided the material (riprap, top soil, sand and hydroseeding) and the town provided delivery of the material. The project is expected to be finished in October.

Stream Design: Streambank stabilization designs and engineering approval are being prepared for two projects along Butternut Creek and one along the Otego.

9. Part B Projects: Municipal Hydroseeding Program: 40 loads complete, 2 loads are still to be sprayed for municipalities (Cheery Valley & Richfield). SWCD will be submitting a \$38,000 request for WQIP to help fund the program for two years.

10. Canadarago Lake – The BFS is 6 months into the State of the Lake study and has made raw data available. I have visited with all the towns to update. Phase 1 of the H&H study (which will determine to what degree the dam and dredging can help with the Lake's flooding) will be completed in the month of October. Results of the computer model runs they have done to date have not pointed to a clear determination yet.

MISCELLANEOUS

11. *Wetland Program – We have 10 County residents interested in wetland restoration/vernal pool projects through the District and the USC. Field visits will be made in the Oct and Nov with USC staff to collect information and rank sites.*

12. *New NRCS Wetland Agreement – The District became involved with NRCS on a 1 year contribution agreement where the District will assist NRCS in monitoring 40+ conservation easements for WRP.*

13. *Fish Program – The District Fish sale will take place on October 14th at the District office at 9am. To date we have approximately 3,000 fish on 19 orders – double last year’s number. Good work Jordan!*

14. *Natural Gas – The District position paper went out to partners at the beginning of the month. Met with a group assembled by the Planning Dept (DOH, Hartwick College & SUCO) to discuss issues surrounding WQ sampling in regard to gas exploration. The District will be meeting with a law firm to clarify any legal issues on the same topic. With the help of OCCA, we are planning a direct mailing to lease holders to provide information on DEC GP-0-08-001. IOGA and Gastem have stated they are willing to discuss issues outlined in the paper.*

13. OTSEGO LAKE ASSOCIATION

Carl Good reported that OLA’s Board of Director’s meeting will be held in October, with the date yet to be determined. Carl is looking into the status of the \$100 donation to the WQCC, as it was approved by the organization but has not been sent. He will make sure that it gets out.

14. OTSEGO LAKE WATERSHED SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

Not present to report.

15. OTSEGO LAND TRUST

Not present to report.

16. OTSEGO 2000

Not present to report.

17. OTHER

Blanche gave an update on the WQCC website that she is building, and said she will have a preview for us by next month’s meeting. She is currently planning to have links to various WQCC documents including the bylaws, minutes, agendas and the Otsego Lake management plan. She will also have a list of member organizations with links to their websites, if they are provided to her. She welcomes input on features that people think she should incorporate.

VI. NEXT MEETING DATE

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 28 at The Meadows, County Highway 33W.