



St. Lawrence County Environmental Management Council

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www.Stlawco.gov/Departments/Planning/AdvisoryBoards/EnvironmentalManagementCouncil

Meeting Minutes Wednesday, June 18, 2025 6:00 p.m.

Classroom A, One Stop Career Center, Human Services Center

80 State Highway 310, Canton, NY 13617

- I. Call to Order:** Chair called the meeting to order 6:04 p.m.
- A. Land Acknowledgment** Chair read a land acknowledgement provided by Tony David, Director of the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe Environment Division, and used with his permission: “As we meet today, let us first give thanks and acknowledge that the land upon which we are gathered is part of the traditional indigenous territories, including the Rotinonshionni (Low-dee-no-SHOO-nee), the People of the Longhouse, also known as the Iroquois Confederacy; and the Kanienkehaka (Ga-nyun-geh-HA-gah), the People of the Land of Flint, also known as the Mohawk Nation.”
- B. Roll Call and Introductions** 8 of the 11 members present. **Quorum was obtained**
1. Members Present: L. Bage, *Secretary*; R. Graham; E. Harriman; A. Pearson; S. Rau; N. Terminelli, *BOL Liaison*; B. Washburn, *Chair*; N. Woodworth, *Vice Chair*.
 2. Members Absent: M. Iversen; L. Rudiger; M. Weaver.
 3. St. Lawrence County: S. Joseph, *Planner II*.
 4. DEC: Randall Young Regional Director for Region 6
- C. Acceptance of Order of Business** (Woodworth/ Rau) (passed unanimously)
1. **Items for Unfinished Business**
 2. **Items for New Business**
- D. Approval of Minutes** (May 21, 2025) Correction of mistakes Woodworth is Vice Chair and attached email communication and tree resolution to the meeting minutes (Rau/Bage) (passed unanimously)
- E. Council Logistics:**
1. **July Meeting Wanakena**
 - a. Poll of expected members and general planning
 - b. Moved meeting time to 1 p.m.
 - c. Topics potential Five Ponds Partners Cranberry Lake, Invasives along road sides, Benson Mine Cleanup site, Milfoil on Cranberry Lake, Ranger school property management removing non natives,
 2. **Communication with BOL**
 - a. Memo on Deer River sent to the BOL between council meetings through Executive Committee Meeting
 3. **EMC Social media**
 - a. Add to next agenda
- F. Public Comments:** None
- II. Reports**
- A. Report of Board of Legislators:**
1. **Resolution Contract for aerial spraying mosquito adulticide:**
 - a. Because SLC has a potential risk of Eastern Equine Encephalitis and West Nile (positive cases from last year), SLC BOL wanted to have a contract ready to aerial spray pesticide in case it is deemed a public health risk they can act fast. (see attached resolution)
 - b. Questions How much public notice is given prior to spraying? Will look into that. What are they spraying? Pyrethrin which is non toxic to mammals but very toxic to insects and aquatic organisms.
- B. Report of DEC:**
1. **Deer River Update:**
 - a. Regarding a question from BOL about the Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) levels dropping dramatically in May, the BOD levels fluctuate over time connected to temperature and season.

Additionally North Country Dairy (NCD) plant removed the whey from the waste stream and that should contribute to the drop in the BOD level.

- b. NCD submitted their engineering report to DEC June 12th and is under review by the Division of Water. DEC sampled the water at nine locations spanning upstream of the outfall to the confluence with the St. Regis River, this happened the week of June 2nd and 9th and will be sampled again later this year.
 - c. The Notice of Complete Application for the draft SPDES permit was published in the Environmental News Bulletin. The DEC will continue to monitor the River.
 - d. Question: What are they doing with the Whey? Either find another market for it or landfilling it
 2. **Trail closure to Goodman Mountain** because of a moose
 3. **North Lawrence Waste Water Treatment Plant:** A consent order sent to North Lawrence waste water treatment plant due to high levels of BOD and suspended solids. This will allow them to score higher on funding to address the issue
 4. **A new wildlife manager for Region 6**
 5. **Question on potential kestrel poisoning:** DEC Wildlife determines the cause was electrocution
- C. Report of Staff:**
1. Google social media account: reviewed an old version
 - 2.

III. Unfinished Business:

A. Wetland PSA

1. Emerged from the combined meeting from Planning Board
2. Discussion on the PSA, audience, and technicality of the document
3. Staff will check on what the Planning Board is doing for training
4. Suggestion to include PSA in Tax Bill mailings

B. Anticoagulant Rodenticide

1. Legislation held up in NYS Assembly
2. Suggestion to wait to approach the BOL until more info is gathered

C. Innovative Storm Water Runoff

1. Village of Canton installing bio-swales on property formerly a McDonalds for storm water management
2. County parking lot project is too far along and mostly focused on resizing piping
3. Staff talked with grants manager in department and there are grants for green storm water management, but there needs to be interest from the managing departments implementing the project such as building and grounds or highway, to engage with the grants.

D. Dark Sky Lighting

1. No resolutions passed from the BOL
2. Anything updated on County property are already being installed to be dark sky compliant and will continue to be so and so suggestion from staff is it is not worth pursuing as a project.
3. County Planning Department recommends it on all project reviews. Enforcing dark sky requires municipalities to have it in their zoning code, most municipalities do not have it in their zoning. Canton and Potsdam are only ones that we know of that have it in their code. Enforcement is a challenge.

E. Multiuse Trail SEQR

1. Contact in highway will provide SEQR for multiuse trail as it becomes available

IV. New Business:

A. Historical Resolutions

1. Reviewed resolutions 260-2021 and 8-2023
2. 260-2021 requests an invasive species management plan and so Chair did a draft. To be added to next meeting. Also mentioned PFAS document provided by Chair.

B. EMC Overview / Strategy/ Jurisdictional

1. Discussion on relationship with BOL
2. Discussion on topics

C. Fort Drum Nuclear

1. Announcement of possible mini nuclear on a military base. Bage will look more info

2. Staff attended a fort drum impact meeting in April and they did not mention it
3. Announcement of future nuclear development in NYS
4. Discussion on nuclear

D. Waste Transfer Site Potsdam

1. Suggestion of having highway outpost in Potsdam serve as a transfer station
2. Discussion on recycling in general
3. Mention on solar panels

V. Announcements:

VI. Adjourn: (Pearson/Bage) 8:15 p.m.

July 7, 2025

Services Committee: 6-16-2025

RESOLUTION NO. 202-2025

**AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CONTRACT FOR AERIAL MOSQUITO
ADULTICIDE APPLICATION IN RESPONSE TO PUBLIC HEALTH THREATS**

By Mr. Webster, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, in 2024, St. Lawrence County experienced an unprecedented year in mosquito activity, and this prompted collaboration with the federal and state partners to make specific efforts to address this challenge in 2025, and

WHEREAS, the St. Lawrence County Public Health Department (SLCPHD) recognizes the importance of safeguarding public health against mosquito-borne diseases, including but not limited to Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE), and West Nile Virus (WNV), and

WHEREAS, SLCPHD has initiated a mosquito surveillance program to monitor mosquito populations and the presence of vector-borne pathogens within the county, and

WHEREAS, findings from the surveillance program may identify elevated human risk due to the confirmed presence of disease-carrying mosquitoes, and

WHEREAS, other surveillance indicators include animal and/or human infection rates that contribute to the assessment of public risk of infection, and

WHEREAS, aerial application of mosquito adulticide may be an effective and necessary public health intervention to reduce the adult mosquito population and mitigate the risk of disease transmission during times of elevated risk or outbreak, and

WHEREAS, such action may be appropriate only upon the declaration of an Imminent Threat to Public Health (ITPH) by the New York State Commissioner of Health as petitioned by the SLCPHD, in consultation with state health authorities as applicable, and

WHEREAS, Duflo Spray-Chemical, Inc. has been awarded the competitive bid to provide the aerial application of mosquito adulticide as needed for the SLCPHD,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign a contract with Duflo Spray-Chemical, Inc. for aerial mosquito adulticide application, upon the approval of the County Attorney.