



## St. Lawrence County Environmental Management Council

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[www.Stlawco.gov/Departments/Planning/AdvisoryBoards/EnvironmentalManagementCouncil](http://www.Stlawco.gov/Departments/Planning/AdvisoryBoards/EnvironmentalManagementCouncil)

### Meeting Minutes Wednesday, November 19, 2025 at 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 6:06 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** of the 11 members present. **Quorum was obtained**
1. Members Present: L. Bage, *Secretary*; R. Graham; E. Harriman (Arrived at 6:13 p.m.); A. Pearson; L. Rudiger; B. Washburn, *Chair*; N. Woodworth, *Vice Chair*.
  2. Members Absent: S. Rau; N. Terminelli, *BOL Liaison*; M. Weaver.
  3. St. Lawrence County: S. Joseph, *Planner II*.
  4. DEC: Randall Young *Regional Director for Region 6*
  5. Guests: Ella Hinckley, Student from SUNY Geneseo
- C. Acceptance of Order of Business** (Woodworth/Bage) (passed unanimously)
- D. Approval of Minutes** (October 15, 2025) (Bage/Woodworth) (passed unanimously)
- E. Public Comments:** Ella Hinckley, Student from SUNY Geneseo attending for a class.
- F. Council Logistics:**
1. Motion to approve Meeting Dates 2026 which will be the third Wednesday of the month except August and December. (Rudiger/Bage) (passed unanimously) .
  2. Discussion about other meeting locations to other parts of the county. Will put on the next meeting agenda.
- G. Report of the Board of Legislators: None**
- H. Report of the DEC**
1. Empire State Mines Titan Mining Corporation working with the DEC to advance their project to open a graphite mine at the same location as their zinc mining operations. The DEC Natural Resources staff met with them and visited the proposed areas to review the plan and delineate wetlands.
  2. DEC further engaged in conversation with ALCOA on their sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) emissions and other process contaminants they emit and the technologies that can be employed to address it.
  3. Cranberry Lake Illegal Boat Launch: Beth Doubt from Wanakena reached out regarding land ownership of the illegal boat launch. DEC Real Properties reviewed and stated it would be a legal mess with lawyers and surveyors to determine ownership and outside the scope of the DEC to determine, but it is a town highway by use.
  4. Question: regarding poster competition watershed awareness, and if it happens every year. The DEC regional director explained the (DCEE) Division of Communication and Environmental Education, that every year they do contests for arbor day poster and the watershed contest as a way to engage children and general public with environmental awareness and stewardship.
- I. Report of the Planning Department:** See work report
- J. Report of PRISM monthly meeting**
1. DEC forester reviewed status of invasives and its potential impacts on the NYS forests.
- II. Unfinished Business:**
- A. Wetland PSA:** Discussion on wetland psa.

1. How are we going to disseminate this, print versus digital, links, QR.
2. Discussion on watershed partnership webinar. *Diet for a Small Lake* NYS Federation of Lake Associations. Discussion on connecting with the folks concerned about Cranberry Lake in Wanakena.
3. Motion to accept the Wetland PSA with modifications add “the DEC” before email address and send it to the newspaper (Woodworth/Bage) passed.
4. Discussion future material promoting wetlands

**B. Invasive Species Management plan:**

1. Dr. Jessica Pearson encouraged her class to do a GIS project with the invasive species data. A student did a tangential project with invasives and fishing.
2. Staff has not reviewed the data and is questioning the value of some of the data specifically under representing the widespread amount of invasives. Chair offered to review the data.
3. Not possible for the EMC to address invasive species directly, the primary responsibility fall to the two PRISMs in St. Lawrence County: SLELO in St. Lawrence River Valley and APIP in the Adirondacks. The Adirondack Research Consortium, USGS, Thousand Island State Park, County Forester
4. Discussion which species to put on the maps. Discussion on wild parsnips, highway mowing, and public awareness on the danger.

**C. HWA monitoring proposal:**

1. Discussion on webinar Dec 5<sup>th</sup>, APIP Executive Director meeting Dec 9<sup>th</sup>, and in person events. NYS Hemlock Initiative has citizen science materials available for us to use. APIP has a kick off webinar January 22, 2026 for forest pest hunters. Discussion on having Executive Director of APIP or Mark Whitmore coming to a meeting or performing a presentation. Look into the train the trainer program with the Hemlock Initiative.

**D. PFAS primer:**

1. Waiting on FOIL request the R. Graham submitted to DEC. Received 209 files of images of paper report that are difficult to sort. In process of reviewing and organizing files. There will be additional files.

**III. New Business:**

**A. NYS Electricity overview:**

1. Staff presented information on NYS ISO Power Trends 2025
2. Discussion on nuclear, Hydro Quebec, transmission lines, data centers

**IV. Announcements:**

**A. ADK State Land Master Plan**

1. Public feedback expressed concern that the mobility accessibility would allow for motorized vehicles into the park and so they removed that part of the plan and are going to work with the DEC on making the Park accessible.

**V. Adjourn: (Bage/Woodworth) 8:02 p.m.**