



St. Lawrence County Environmental Management Council

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

Meeting Minutes Wednesday, July 15, 2026 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 6:01 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 6 of the 10 members present. **Quorum was obtained**

1. **Members Present:** L. Bage, *Secretary*; R. Graham (arrived at 6:13 pm); N. Terminelli, *BOL Liaison*; S. Rau; B. Washburn, *Chair*; N. Woodworth, *Vice Chair*.
2. **Members Absent:** ; R. McAuliffe (resigned June 17, 2026); E. Harriman; A. Pearson; L. Rudiger (Resigned July 12, 2026).
3. **St. Lawrence County:** S. Joseph, *Planner II*; L. Denesha, *SLC Legislator*.
4. **Guest:** Kate and Joe from Star Lake Protectors

C. Acceptance of Order of Business (Rau/Woodworth) (passed unanimously)

D. Approval of Minutes (June 17, 2026) (Bage/ Woodworth) (passed unanimously)

E. Public Comments: Members from Star Lake Protectors reviewed some initiatives they have under taken with Star Lake for water quality protection.

II. **Reports:**

A. Report of the Board of Legislators: Governor Hochul signed an executive order on a one year moratorium on DEC issuing permits for data centers.

B. Report of the DEC:

1. A captive deer escaped in Lisbon.
2. Empire State Mines submitted application for graphite mine at their Fowler location.
3. Deer River the DEC have sampled 22 miles of Deer River and Saint Regis River waiting on results. There is a conference with parties scheduled for July 19
4. Council member expressed concern about EMS responding to an accidental SOS from iPhone on High Rock in the Forest Preserve, driving up the trail. Member expressed need for Emergency Service to communicate with DEC Forest Rangers for Emergency calls in the Park.
5. Discussion on the Data Center and how it relates to contamination at site
6. Discussion on Federal government rolling back Clean Air Act regulations and how that might impact acid rain and Adirondack Park.
7. Department of Public Service announced a proposal for clean energy zones to expedite development and offer host communities benefits. Discussion on solar and solar decommissioning.

C. Report of the Planning Department: See work report. Discussion on potential staffing changes in the planning office, and future of EMC.

D. MUT update: Clarkson Study Steering committee met July 8th. 512 responses from public survey. There was a public input session at Brasher Falls central school on June 18th. Another public input session being planned for September, location TBD.

III. **Old Business:**

A. Cranberry Lake

1. **Lake Protectors Training Aug 11 5 - 7 pm**
 - a. Discussion on logistics of EMC meet up boat ride prior to event.
2. **Cranberry Lake Management Plan**
 - a. Discussion on how to encourage lake management plan
 - b. Discussion of 501c

IV. **New Business:**

A. **Review Powers and Duties, Bylaws, and Vision Statement** Chair postponed this topic

B. **Parsnip PSA:** Discussion on proposed psa to send to newspaper

V. **Member Updates:** none

VI. **Adjourn: (Rau / Woodworth) 7:40 p.m.**