St. Lawrence County Environmental Management Council
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www.Stlawco.gov/Departments/Planning/AdvisoryBoards/EnvironmentalManagementCouncil

Meeting Minutes Wednesday, September 16, 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 6:00 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 7 of the 9 members present. **Quorum was obtained**

1. Members Present: L. Bage, *Secretary*; R. Graham; E. Harriman; B. Lavia; S. Rau; B. Washburn, *Chair*; N. Woodworth, *Vice Chair*.
2. Members Absent: A. Pearson; N. Terminelli, *BOL Liaison;*
3. St. Lawrence County: S. Joseph, *Planner III.*
4. DEC: J. Dougherty, *Assistant Region 6 Director*
5. Guest: Krystyna Kowalski (EMC applicant); Alexander Stewart (EMC applicant); Alyana Contant;

C. Introductions: We did introductions of the Council members for applicants.

D. Acceptance of Order of Business (Woodworth/Bage) (passed unanimously)

E. Approval of Minutes as corrected (July 15, 2026) (Bage/ Rau) (passed unanimously)

F. Public Comments: Alyana a Master's Student in Planning wanted to attend for class.

G. Council Logistics:

1. 2 new applicants that have been submitted to the BOL
2. Discussion on new BOL liaison. It ultimately is up to the BOL chair, but they will ask the legislators if they have preferences. If the Council wants to approach an individual Legislator they can do so.

II. Reports:

A. Report of the Board of Legislators: none

B. Report of the DEC:

1. Released the modification to the SPDES permit for North Country Dairy. The permit will go into effect October 1st. North Country Dairy through grant funding and new technology believe they will be able to meet the modifications and so withdrew their challenge to the modifications. The Tribe also agreed to the modifications. The new permit has been agreed to by all parties.
2. Question on status TDML Phosphorus for Black Lake. Still TBD.
3. Question on the DEC response to federal administration attempts to roll back provisions in Clean Air Act. NYS involved in some litigation, but situation evolving and so current status of litigation unclear at this time**.** Suggestion if the EMC should advise the SLC BOL on this issue.

C. Report of the Planning Department: See work report.

1. Staff gave update on Public Health Mosquito monitoring, To date couple cases of West Nile and a case of Cache Valley Virus. Nothing alarming or outside normal.
2. Rabies cases are up this year concentrated in western and southern parts of the County. Case loads can be cyclical every decade or so, and so might be part of normal cycle, with better surveillance might show higher numbers. Additionally, because of several low case load years USDA reduced air dropping vaccination bait. Because of high load this year USDA as started that program again and expanded to Franklin and Clinton Counties. Public Health has engaged in public outreach by going door to door to inform public of risks and

procedures. If an animal bites or scratched you go to emergency room and contact Public Health which will attempt to test the animal. If encounter an animal that you suspect might be rabid, but it doesn't touch you than contact the DEC and they will attempt to catch the animal if feasible. And if you encounter a suspicious animal that you then find dead on road contact USDA or local highway department and they will collect animal to test.

3. Emily Fell updates: Wild parsnip fact sheet, Lake Ontario Lakewide Action Plan (which includes the St. Lawrence River) seeking public comment, and DEC urban forestry grants.
4. Discussion on enabling EMC legislation.
5. Discussion on EMC email and directory group
6. Canton Local Revitalization Survey https://bandl.mysocialpinpoint.com/town-village-canton-lwrp
7. Discussion on DEC permitting and wetland regulations
8. Discussion on staffing changes in the Planning Office
9. Discussion on Home Consortium, housing rehab grants, and septic grant, Black Lake Morristown sewer district, Village of Norwood, snowmobile grant,

D. MUT update: Clarkson Study Steering committee met August 26th. Discussed draft report of public survey, a pending release of business survey, and pending release of club survey. The next public input session at Sept 24th 5 pm Parishville AMVETS post 265. Next steering committee meeting October 7th.

III. Old Business:

A. Cranberry Lake

1. APIPP Lake Protectors Training debrief. Discussion on aquatic invasive species and Cranberry Lake.
2. Discussion on lake associations, assess number of lake association, and figure out ways to get them to talk to each other. Discussion on PRISMs.

B. Parsnip PSA: The PSA the EMC submitted was picked up by news outlets and published.

C. EMC Strategy for Future: Staff gave very brief overview of powers and duties, but topic postponed

D. Inactive Landfill Update:

1. Chair gave update on status of Inactive Landfill Initiative
2. See Report: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1epxl1ou_GmeVEk1XaOUBTZ9mmP3drwW7/

IV. New Business:

A. Nuclear Fort Drum: Department of Defense stated they plan to put a 20 MW generation 4 modular nuclear reactor. Discussion on ramifications and potential issues.

B. CAFO: Chair discussed conflict with agricultural community and solar with majority of ag production in County based on very few large scale CAFOs see numbers: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1geRCOK1Zt3-gDTeu82b9csCSp6O3rQym/edit

C. Mussel Relocation: L. Bage shared an article on mussel relocation in Akwesasne as part of the Grasse River remediation project. https://www.northcountrynow.com/stories/ny-state-museum-epa-to-release-500000-mussels-into-lower-grasse-river-to-improve-rivers,385646 Bage is wondering if we could invite someone to talk about it.

V. Member Updates:

Sustainability Day coming up. Bage will gather funds to donate to Canton Tree Committee in honor of Lance Rudiger.

VI. Adjourn: (Bage / Rau) 7:58 p.m.