

# MONROE COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

## Meeting Minutes for February 15, 2023

### Members / alternates present:

| Municipality    | Representative                           | Present |
|-----------------|--|---------|
| Brighton*       | Paul Johnson                             | x       |
| Chili*          | Larry Lazenby                            | x       |
| Clarkson*       | Peter Selig                              |         |
| Gates*          | Romeo DeLucia<br>(Alt- Zach May)         |         |
| Hamlin*         | Steve Rutherford                         | x       |
| Henrietta*      | William Santos                           | x       |
| Honeoye Falls * | Andy Less                                |         |
| Irondequoit*    | Deb Muratore                             | x       |
| Mendon*         | Dave Wetter                              | x       |
| Ogden*          | Bill Parkhurst                           | x       |
| Penfield*       | Burt Gorton                              | x       |
| Perinton*       | Mark Gaul                                | x       |
| Riga*           | Greg Adams                               |         |
| Rochester*      | Shalini Beath                            | x       |
| Rush*           | Donald Root                              |         |
| Sweden*         | Richard Popen                            |         |
| Webster*        | Michael Duminuco<br>(Alt-Richard Seiler) |         |

\*Indicates Voting Member

| Agency                            | Representative                 | Present |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------|
| At Large*                         | Thomas Dooley                  | x       |
| At Large*                         | Haines Lockhart,<br>Jr., Ph.D. |         |
| MC Public Health                  | Starr O'Neil                   | x       |
| MC Public Health                  | Ryan Parra-<br>Merrell         | x       |
| MC<br>Environmental<br>Services   | Clement Chung                  | x       |
| MC<br>Environmental<br>Services   | Yasmin Guevera                 |         |
| MC Planning and<br>Development    | Steve Olufsen                  |         |
| WEC                               | Paul Sawyko                    | x       |
| Crescent Trail<br>Association     | Michael LePore                 |         |
| Penfield<br>Conservation<br>Board | Daniel Moore                   | x       |
| Presenter                         | George Thomas                  | x       |

### Meeting location:

- Monroe County Fleet Services Department  
145 Paul Rd, Rochester, NY 14624  
Building 1 Conference Room

### Call to Order:

- Meeting was called to order at 4:01pm

### Review of Minutes:

- Approved.

### Privilege of the Floor:

- Town of Hamlin beginning lakeside sewer system installation by parkway. Each household needs grinder pump to bring sewage into Monroe County sewer system to Northwest Quadrant Treatment plant on Payne Beach Rd.
- Brockport Yacht Club has permits to dredge mouth of Sandy Creek. Unable to use boats in recent

years due to silt and low lake levels.

**Staff Report:**

- Waivers given to drinking water systems being rescinded.
- Waste water surveillance program sampling for COVID-19, being done by DES and analyzed by NYS. Will expand to test for Hepatitis A, Norovirus, and Polio.
- CIP 2024-2029 proceeding to planning board. Phase 2 on the way, with first public workshop in mid-March.

**Meeting Topic(s):**

Genesee River Watch

George Thomas, Executive Director

- Mission: To champion solutions that improve the quality of the Genesee and initiatives that connect people to the river.
- Genesee River basin begins in Potter County, Pennsylvania. “Upper” Genesee is considered more accessible. “Middle” runs from Mt. Morris to Scottsville. “Lower” runs to mouth.
- Issues facing the river:
  - Erosion, which causes high phosphorous levels, high sediment levels, and loss of valuable farmland. Erosion is caused by food processing and waste water plants, and runoff from fertilizer, manure, and septic systems.
  - Dredging.
- SUNY Brockport Genesee River Basin Study: Work conducted over 3 years to monitor and model the quality of the river. Concluded that streambank erosion significantly contributes to sediment and nutrient loads in the Genesee River Basin.
- Genesee River Watch designs, obtains funding for, and executes projects to improve river quality. Focuses include streambank restoration, working with landowners to gage interest, and solicit funding.
  - First completed project was at Mallard Dairy - \$150,000 project completed in 2018. Other projects have begun and been completed since.
- Planting vegetation reduces soil erosion.
- Grant to work on agricultural best practices. 30-40 years needed in order to make real, measurable improvements in water quality.

**Other Business / Announcements:**

- Review of executive meeting on 2/13/2023 and Article 47.
- EMC membership and committees.
  - Natural Resources Committee Established - Burt Gorton as Chair.
  - Dave Wetter and Steve Rutherford join Natural Resources Committee.
  - Deb Muratore joins Program and Presentations Committee.

**Adjourn:**

- Meeting was adjourned at 5:32pm