

Meeting Notes

Rensselaer County MS4 Communities Meeting
Rensselaer County Office Building, Conference Room A
January 16, 2018
10:00 a.m.

The meeting opened at 10:10 AM. Introductions were made due to new faces around the table.

The second item on the agenda was the New Draft Permit. Ms. Starr state that the edits were done but there were more obstacles to overcome due to Parts 8 and 9. DEC is trying to be ready for training and other requirements that the permit will require them to do. Ms. von der Heide stated that this was better than the first permit for which the guidance documents didn't appear until two or three years after the programs were supposed to be running.

The third item was Local BMPs. In Sand Lake, Mr. Wager had run into a case where a property was primarily in a large-floored ravine with the Wynants Kill at the bottom. The property owner wanted to build a home on the property. The Town initially told him "no" but the property owner persisted and met with DEC on wetland and flood plain issues. The site had access to public sewer. There was area where fill could be placed which would not impact wetlands and create flood plain issues. Neighboring property owners are screaming about the house development and accusing the Town of kick-backs and other malfeasance. The moral of the story is to be careful. Also, document that all requirements, etc. are being met.

Poestenkill has run into a subdivision where a storm water detention pond was sold off by the developer. The lot the pond was on is greatly in a neighboring town (the pond is in Poestenkill). The discussion lead into the need for neighboring MS4 communities to work together on subdivisions on their borders to keep developers from taking advantage of the lack of communications. Brunswick uses deed assessors and assigns which requires the owners of properties with stormwater ponds, etc. to maintain the facility. The issue of buyer beware and the need for property buyers to carefully look at their deed search document.

A discussion of looking for a trapper to remove beavers ensued as well as methods to keep beavers from clogging up culverts (#8 rock).

Mr. Jaeger of Rensselaer County Soil and Water Conservation District (RCSWCD) stated that the contractor trainings held last year went well. They will be looking into doing more this year. Mr. Daley asked whether the RCSWCD had heard anything from the Onondaga Institute which had a meeting last year about testing the waters of the Poesten Kill. Mr. Jaeger had not heard about the testing. The Onondaga Institute wanted them to rate culverts in the northern part of the County, but RCSWCD didn't have the time to do much on that. Mr. Daley stated that the testing of the sewers around the Poesten Kill did not show any issues and water sampling done by the Rensselaer Land Trust showed the waters entering into Troy had high counts. The testing

proposed by the Onondaga Institute was to look at other chemicals such as pharmaceuticals, which would tell if the issue was agriculture, leaking septic systems or natural causes.

A discussion of new roads that have been built which can't accommodate snow plows ensued. It was mentioned that Appendix D of the NYS Code requires that subdivision roads be built to accommodate not only fire apparatus but also snow plows.

The next meeting will be on March 20, 2018 at 10 AM in the Brunswick Town Hall.

Attendees:

Linda von der Heide	Rensselaer County	Lvonderheide@rensco.com 518-270-2921
Bonnie Starr	DEC Reg. 4	Bonnie.Starr@dec.ny.gov
Norman Wiley	Castleton	Nwiley@nycap.rr.com 518-469-1595
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Nick Petramale	East Greenbush	NPetramale@eastgreenbush.org
Scott Gallerie	East Greenbush	SGallerie@eastgreenbush.org 518-477-6103
Mike Wager	Sand Lake	MWager@sand-lake.us
Mark Hendricks	Rensselaer	Mark.Hendricks@renselaerny.gov
Bill Bradley	Brunswick	WBradley@townofbrunswick.org
David Jaeger, Jr.	Rens. Co Soil & Water	David.Jaeger@ny.nacdnet.net 518-271-1740x2296
Brian Davidson	Schaghticoke	Codeenforcement@townofschaghticoke.org
Paul Barringer	Poestenkill	PBarringer@poestenkillny.com