

Executive Committee

Robert Sauer, *Chairman*
John Doiron, *Vice-Chairman*
Betsy Mack, *Fiscal Officer*
Thomas McDonald, *Director*
Lawrence Mierek, *Director*

Municipal Projects Coordinator

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MINUTES

*Northern Oneida County Council of Governments
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
March 28, 2024
Town of Trenton Municipal Offices at 2:00 pm*

Present: NOCCOG Fiscal Officer, Betsy Mack (BM), Director Tom McDonald (TM), Director Larry Mierek (LM), THC Director of Community and Regional Projects, Jennifer Harvill (JenH), Associate Municipal Advisors, Lisa Bellinger (LB) and Joe Rowlands (JR), Town of Trenton Supervisor, Steve Godfrey, and Municipal Projects Coordinator, John Healt (JH).

Meeting called to order at 2:01 pm by Fiscal Officer, BM.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by TM seconded by LM to approve the December 14, 2023, executive board meeting minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

Financial Report

Motion by LM, seconded by TM to approve the fiscal officer's report as presented. All in favor, motion carried. Bookkeeping update presented by JH for the board's review. The 2024 Oneida County contribution was received.

Guest- Town of Trenton Supervisor, Steve Godfrey, discussed a number of projects and issues on which the town is working. The expanded water and sewer districts with a possible \$30 million price tag, black walnut issues at an Amish sawmill, and an unregistered junkyard.

Tug Hill Commission Updates - JenH

- The Tug Hill Commission met March 18th in Pulaski. New Director appointed, Bob Keller, from Boonville, and Jan B. was also reappointed.
- Newest staff member, Jillian Lee
- The Local Government Conference is May 1 & 2. The Camden Central School District is sending 5 students.
- NYSACC Conference, Sept. 18-20. It's a combination of virtual sessions on Wednesday and field trips on Thursday and Friday. The hope is to work with the Boonville Environmental Council and the Trenton Greenbelt. The event will coincide with the THC annual dinner at the Hayloft in Port Leyden.
- Recent workshops completed were Lead Service Line inventory, Birds, Red Flags. And the upcoming workshop is Brook Trout Conservation

Administrative Items

- **Membership Dues / Letters** - It was reported that letters and invoices have been sent. Some have been received. BM and JH are not sure where things stand with the Town of Lee. Sylvan Beach says their check from last year was never cashed.

Towns: *Annsville ~ Ava ~ Boonville ~ Camden ~ Floyd ~ Forestport ~ Lee ~ Remsen ~ Steuben ~ Trenton ~ Vienna ~ Western*

Villages: *Boonville ~ Camden ~ Holland Patent ~ Remsen ~ Sylvan Beach*

- **NOCCOG Annual Dinner Meeting** - Discussion regarding the 2024 venue and speaker- Woods Valley again? It was well received. Steve Smith from MVEDD as a possible speaker.
- **GPS Mapper Contracts** - There was a discussion regarding the hourly rate. Currently it's \$16.50/hour for Mike and Jacob, \$17.50/hour for Mark. It was agreed to increase Mike and Jacob to \$17.50/hour.
- **NOCCOG Directors/LCG** - JH mentioned that not all of the NOCCOG membership took advantage of the LGC registration covered by NOCCOG. With that in mind, he feels that NOCCOG should cover the cost of the executive committee attending, should they so want. It was agreed to cover the cost of the executive committee to attend the LGC.
- **Display Booth** - JH presented information and pricing on a display booth for the table at the Local Government Conference. After some discussion, it was decided to go with the less expensive option, Booth Pop. JH will order.

Program Updates

- **Training/Workshops** - JH stated there were a few that attended the Red Flags Workshop webinar. And while there has been no movement on a clerk's lunch and learn, there has been some interest regarding planning board training, as well as registrar of vital statistics. JH will research.
- **Town and Village Updates** - are still being compiled and shared.
- **GPS Program** - JH reported he will promote the program in the April announcements and reach out to the communities that were not finished last year or have expressed interest.
- **Drones** - continuing the program was discussed. The board still feels this is a viable resource to offer the NOCCOG membership. JR asked if Peter Healt, with the Oneida County Sheriff's Office would be interested in training the NOCCOG team. JH will check.
- **NOCCOG Scholarship** - JH stated all 4 schools are good to go. Only one letter from last year's winners was received after the first semester was completed, meaning only one scholarship has been paid. JH is not sure if the other students didn't complete their first semester, or they are waiting until the end of their first year at college. JH thought it's best to wait and then possibly contact the schools.
- **Quick Reference Guide** - JH stated there's been some progress, and a possible change in format. Instead of a tri-fold brochure, it was decided a binder may be better. That way pages can be added or removed without having to reprint the entire brochure. A sample was presented followed by a discussion of practicality and ease of use. JH will continue to work on the guide as time permits.
- **Website** - JH stated the website is still being updated with announcements and minutes. BM reported that she has not received a bill from Riverside Media as of yet.

Other Items

- **County Legislators** - JH addressed the Oneida County Board of Legislators on March 13th, giving them an update on what NOCCOG is, is doing, and has done this past year, stating that it went well. He was joined by LB and JR. It was discussed as something that should be done on a regular basis.
- **Mohawk Valley Institute for Learning in Retirement (MVILR)** - the Tug Hill Commission was contacted by Tom Kwasniewski last month about the possibility of doing a presentation on the Commission for the MVILR group. JH will be presenting at the Rome campus on April 3.
- **Genesis Group Membership** - last meeting the possibility of NOCCOG joining the Genesis Group was discussed. JH stated that MVEDD is a member, but MVEDD also helps businesses, not just municipalities. He felt joining would be a good way to get name recognition. No decision was made.

Next Meeting

Scheduled for Thursday, June 20, 2024, at 2pm, in person, at the Town of Trenton Municipal Offices.

Motion to adjourn made by LM, seconded by TM. All in favor. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 3:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
John Healt, Municipal Projects Coordinator