

SOLID WASTE & ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE
MCCARTY, KENNEDY, KOUTNIK, LAPIN, FARWELL
April 16, 2019

PLANNING/SOLID WASTE –KAREN SULLIVAN/TAMMIE HARRIS

Karen Sullivan requested approval to change the Household Hazardous Waste Days for 2019 to September 20th and 21st. Representative Koutnik moved for approval. Seconded, Kennedy. Total: 2,201; Ayes: 1,853; Absent: 348- Lapin. Motion carried.

Karen Sullivan stated that anyone that is interested in free paint can call the Planning Department at 607-547-4225 to be placed on the list.

Karen Sullivan stated that they are accepting orders for the rain barrels/compost bins until 4/28/19.

OTSEGO COUNTY SOIL AND WATER- JORDAN CLEMENTS

Jordan Clements, District Manager for Soil & Water reviewed his monthly report discussing the following including but not limited to:

- Ag Non-Point Source Grant: Otsego County Buffer Project II-designs for buffer for the farms are complete and planting will take place later this Spring
- Lower Wharton Creek Buffer Project: forest buffer will be planted on stream found on the surrounding property
- Upper Schenevus Watershed Buffer Project: will commence later this Spring, 2/3 of the project is completed
- Climate Resiliency Grant: RFP was out 2/26, are due back on 4/19- currently working on 4 applicants
- Upper Susquehanna Coalition (RCPP)- NRCS Funds, 2 applications submitted, should hear by late Spring on awards, working on application through USC for an intern to work out of the office to do site checks and maintenance on existing planted forested buffers
- NYSDEC AIS Grant: teaming with OCCA to provide an emergency response team to invasive species and try to eradicate them within existing forested buffers
- Ag & Farmland Protection Committee: moving forward with monthly meetings
- Ag Plastic: working on trying to secure a buyer for plastic- working with Montgomery County to try and team up with their buyer- the company is out of Alabama
- Cover crop and Soil Health Class- taking place today from 10:00-2:30 p.m. at SUNY Oneonta, no charge- speakers include Quirine Ketterings, Peter Marx, Steve Groff, and Carl Czymmek

- 2019 Tree & Shrub Program: orders are complete, there were 130-140 orders which is about average
- 2019 Fish Program: a few orders, it is hard as there is local competition
- Leatherstocking Envirothon: will be held on 4/24/19 from 8:00-2:00 p.m. at Gilbert Lake State Park, volunteers are needed, there will be 11 teams from 9 area schools and 5 subject areas
- New Employees: Karl Giroux is the new Conservation Technician and will help run the Agriculture Environmental Management program. Mark Kugler is the new Stream Technician and will run the Buffer Program as well as the stream program.
- Emergency Services: working with Bob Satriano to place 20-22 flood gauges through the County
- Highway Calibration Class: working with NYSDOT to provide a class in October to teach Highway Superintendents how to properly calibrate sanders
- Training: working with Emergency Services to provide CPR/First Aid to staff by the end of April, the OSHA safety training will be done in June, and NYCAMH will be doing a training this fall on logging/chainsaw safety
- Phase III WIP: meeting held on 4/10/19 for NYSDEC, 20 people attended, reviewed what goals had been set for farmers by the EPA to be completed by 2025, June 1st deadline for public comment

Representative Lapin entered the meeting.

Jordan Clements continued discussion on the Phase III WIP stating that 371,000 acres need to be in nutrient management lands by 2025 and right now there is 71,000, as well as the need for 7,500 acres of forested buffers and there is currently 2,500.

Jordan Clements stated that Senator Charles Schumer attended an Emerald Ash Borer presentation given by Joe Sweeney, Forest Technician for Otsego County Soil and Water, on Monday, at the Hartwick Bat Company noting it was a good presentation and good partnering.

Jordan Clements and the committee discussed a County Wide tire collection including but not limited to:

- purchase a tire splitter (could do a shared services agreement with Montgomery or Schoharie County)
- deadline for this to take affect is on hold, trying to figure this out economically for the farmer
- look for funding
- cut the tires vs. collecting them
- chip/grind the tires, use as road base

PLANNING/SOLID WASTE –KAREN SULLIVAN/TAMMIE HARRIS

Karen Sullivan presented and reviewed the following reports:

- Solid Waste Totals—2,598.44 tons of solid waste collected in March (down 117 tons from last year), \$1,192.52 credit to the County
- Recycling Costs for Otsego County—293.74 tons collected in March at an average of \$93.95 per ton (down 47 tons from last March), total costs of recycling including labor for March is \$25,519.33
- Mattress collection for March 2019 was 86 mattresses
- Solid Waste Expenditures for March- everything is on track and they are keeping within the budget

Karen Sullivan discussed the Climate Smart Communities Program noting that she received the contract; it is now up with NYSERDA for signature. Karen Sullivan stated that a task force needs to be set up along with a Coordinator. Representative McCarty moved for approval for a Resolution to appoint Representative Danny Lapin and Representative Gary Koutnik to the task force and for Tammie Harris to be appointed as the Coordinator for the Climate Smart Communities Program. Seconded, Kennedy. Total: 2,201; Ayes: 2,201. Motion carried.

Karen Sullivan gave an update on Pace financing and the changes that have been made to the program which include that the County is no longer the financial host of the funding so no more billing for the County and no more taking on any of the risks. Karen Sullivan stated that Energize NY and the Capital provider will now be responsible so there will need to be a new Local Law passed with these changes.

Karen Sullivan discussed the compost meeting that was held on April 9, 2019 including but not limited to:

- concerns with the cost of processing food waste
- City of Oneonta will collect and grind material and Seward Sand and Gravel will periodically pick it up to bring to compost facility
- In September will start a voluntary collection program of food waste at the 2 transfer stations, Casella has receptacles and will bring the food waste to Seward

Karen Sullivan gave an update on her meeting with the DEC that was held on 3/27/19 regarding the State updating “Beyond Waste” noting that the plan came out 8 years ago and will need to be updated in 2 years. Karen Sullivan gave the following link for more information:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2019/03/22/business/cardboard/.html?action=click&module=Top%20Stories&pgtype=Homepage>

Karen Sullivan discussed new legislation on plastic bag ban noting there is a webinar on 4/24/19, the County can set a charge of 10 cents per bag for paper bags if they choose to, this will take affect on 3/1/20, its not clear who is going to enforce this, and there are some exemptions to this ban.

Karen Sullivan stated that the Northern Transfer Station Permit is up for renewal noting it will be changed to 6 days a week instead of 4, a permit modification will need to done to change the hours, and it will be changed to 100 tons per day with no more than 600 tons per week.

Karen Sullivan gave an update on the landfill oversight meeting she attended last week noting that it was a good meeting, there was discussion on the Amsterdam Landfill and putting in a sewage line to cut transportation costs in half and using CFA funding to cover the project. Karen Sullivan asked for the committees support on this noting it will be less liability and reduction in transportation. Representative Kennedy moved for approval. Seconded, Farwell. Total: 2,201; Ayes: 2,201. Motion carried.

Karen Sullivan noted that the 3 Counties are looking at what to do in the future and the possibility of shared services as we already jointly own a landfill.

Karen Sullivan gave an update on the Plastic Bag recycling competition noting that it was very successful, 13 schools participated, total collection was 4,000 lbs, and Gilbertsville-Mount Upton school was the winner with 700 lbs of plastic collected.

Karen Sullivan gave an update on the Planner Trainee position noting that she received 3 respondents and may re-post the position.

Karen Sullivan gave an update on the status of the recycling densifier grant with the ReUse store noting that it has been purchased and will be installed soon.

Karen Sullivan discussed a concern with the recycling bin in Unadilla as there is no one monitoring it as required in the agreement. Karen Sullivan asked for approval to remove the Unadilla Recycling Bin off of the County's list noting that people can still recycle at WRE and she will reach out to the Town to let them know. Representative Koutnik moved for approval. Seconded, Lapin. Total: 2,201; Ayes: 2,201. Motion carried.

Representative Lapin gave an update on the Cornell Cooperative Extensions Dairy and Field Crop team noting that Don Smyers came to the Health and Education meeting on Monday and asked for an emergency

appropriation to remain in the field team as there was a budget shortfall and there was a \$10,000 increase for Otsego County to be apart of the team. Representative Lapin noted that the team will be presenting to the full Board on May 1st. The Committee asked for Cornell to provide more data for justification for an increase and asked that the Committee secretary email them the 2015 Cornell Cooperative Extension contract for review.

Representative McCarty stated that Richfield Springs in interested in having an Electronic Collection day like last year. Karen Sullivan stated that she will reach out to the Town Supervisor to set that up.

Karen Sullivan requested an executive session for the purpose of discussing proposed, pending, or current litigation. Representative Koutnik moved for approval. Seconded, McCarty. Total: 2,201; Ayes: 2,201. Motion carried.

The committee reconvened.

Representative Koutnik moved to come out of executive session. Seconded, McCarty. Total: 2,201; Ayes: 2,201. Motion carried.

The committee agreed to grant permission to NYS DEC, subject to review of DEC access agreement, to access county properties located at 108-114 Farone Drive, to conduct preliminary investigation of the former Town of Otego landfill Representative Kennedy moved for approval. Seconded, Koutnik. Total: 2,201; Ayes: 2,201. Motion carried.

There being no further business to discuss, the committee adjourned until Tuesday, May 14th at 9:00 a.m. at the Meadows Building.