

**SOLID WASTE & ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE**  
**MCCARTY, KENNEDY, KOUTNIK, LAPIN, FARWELL**  
**August 20, 2019**

Also Present: Bailey Gano

**OTSEGO COUNTY CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION (OCCA)- BAILEY GANO**

Bailey Gano, Assistant Environmental Planner, presented on the Butternut Watershed Protection Plan. The presentation included the following information, including but not limited to:

- OCCA is the leading science-based organization in Otsego County
- partners in the plan include the Butternut Valley Alliance, NYS DEC, Otsego Land Trust, Otsego County Soil & Water Conservation District (OCSWCD), and Otsego County
- funding for the project includes a NYS DEC grant in the amount of \$25,000, related to the Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grant (CBIG) Program
- a map of the Butternut Creek watershed
- reasons for the plan include to help meet the 2025 Chesapeake Bay cleanup targets and to help residents and visitors establish a connection with the watershed
- the planning process: identify stakeholders and engage the public, gather data, estimate pollution loads, assess challenges and capacity to address challenges, identify best management practices and prioritize projects, implement the plan
- a targeted date for the plan implement phase is December 2020
- the Butternut Creek watershed covers 11 municipalities in Otsego County

Ms. Gano closed the presentation by requesting the Board of Representatives endorse the Butternut Watershed Protection Plan steering committee and to appoint four Board Representatives to the steering Committee.

Representative Lapin said the Butternut Creek Watershed Management Plan will work in conjunction with the Otsego County Soil & Water Conservation Districts stream sediment and buffer programs, help document an estimated financial value of best management practices, and be used to create future proposals and projects.

**SOLID WASTE- KAREN SULLIVAN**

Karen Sullivan requested approval for the following budget transfer:

Transfer from:	Heat & Lights	8160-4150	\$1,000
Transfer to:	Other	8160-4800	\$1,000

This transfer is to cover the cost associated with Household Hazardous Waste Day 2019. Representative Koutnik moved to transfer the funds. Seconded, Farwell. Total: 2,201. Ayes: 2,201. Motion carried.

Karen Sullivan requested approval to declare the Solid Waste & Environmental Concerns Committee as lead agency for the Tiny Homes Geothermal project, classify the project as an unlisted action, and make a determination the proposed action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts. The Committee reviewed the files, including the Environmental Assessment forms Parts 1-3. Representative Farwell moved to approve the actions listed above. Seconded, Kennedy. Total: 2,201. Ayes: 2,201. Motion carried.

**OTSEGO COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT- JORDAN CLEMENTS AND SKYLER GIRARD**

Jordan Clements, District Manager, introduced the District's intern Skyler Girard. Mr. Clements reviewed his monthly report, discussing the following, including but not limited to:

- Upper Schenevus Watershed Prescribed Grazing & Buffer project is complete
- submitted 3 non-point source grants, will be notified results in October
- working on AIS grant, in partnership with OCCA, to identify and pull invasive species
- buffer operation and maintenance in progress
- working to place flood gauges throughout the County
- working on the Butternut Creek Watershed Protection Plan
- monthly meeting with the Ag & Farmland Protection Committee
- Farm Tour Day is scheduled for October 11, 2019

Mr. Clements noted he made changes to the 2020 proposed budgets in the lines discussed during the July meeting and he has been in touch with the County Treasurer in regards to the proposed request for funding.

**SOLID WASTE- KAREN SULLIVAN, SHANE DIGAN, AND CASELLA REPRESENTATIVES LONNIE O'BRYAN AND RICK HOMAN**

Karen Sullivan presented and reviewed the following reports:

- Solid Waste Totals—3,945.27 tons of solid waste collected in July (up 339.47 tons from last year), \$1,773.05 credit to the County
- Recycling Costs for Otsego County—395.40 tons collected in July at an average cost of \$151.47 per ton (up 46.28 tons from last July), total costs of recycling including labor for July is \$59,890.52
- Mattress collection for July 2019 was 218 mattresses

Karen Sullivan and Lonnie O'Bryan updated the Committee of the status of the Northern Transfer Station permit, including but not limited to the following: earlier in 2019, Casella worked to re-permit the Northern Transfer Station with NYS DEC, a staff person bundled the renewal permit with the permit modification for additional hours of operation, however NYS DEC required the permitting renewal and modification documents to be re-submitted separately. This has resulted in the additional hours of operation (Tuesday and Thursday only) being temporarily suspended while the permitting issue is resolved. Ms. Sullivan said the Northern Transfer Station is still receiving bagged garbage and recycling on those days (Tuesdays and Thursdays) at the entrance to the Transfer Station, however commercial haulers are not currently accommodated during those times. Ms. Sullivan and Ms. O'Bryan have contacted the appropriate parties and expect the permitting issue to be corrected within the next month.

Karen Sullivan reported that as of September 1, 2019, the Transfer Stations will be collecting cardboard separately from the single stream recycling because she has found a less expensive way to recycle it. Ms. Sullivan said that she has found a local business who is willing to take the cardboard material at a lower cost than recycling it with the regular single stream material. Ms. Sullivan noted there are now separate bins available to put cardboard in.

Shane Digan reported on voluntary food waste collection planned to start at the Transfer Stations. There will be a container available at each site for residents to put their food waste in. Items not accepted in the food waste include meat bones, paper and other items. Mr. Digan said he will prepare an educational flyer regarding what are acceptable materials to go in the food waste collection and what are not acceptable materials, in order to educate the public and ensure the compost is breaking down correctly. Mr. Digan also said the department is pursuing bids for a compost turner.

Karen Sullivan reported that due to changes at NYS DEC, municipalities will no longer have access to a 50% grant reimbursement for the costs associated with recycling e-waste. The Committee discussed the volume and the costs associated with recycling e-waste. Representative McCarty moved to establish a \$10 per unit fee for CRT and other television or computer monitor screens, and a \$5 per unit fee for all other acceptable e-waste items. Seconded, Koutnik. Total: 2,201. Ayes: 2,201. Motion carried.

Karen Sullivan noted e-waste will still be taken for free at this year's Household Hazardous Waste Days, scheduled for September 20-21, 2019 at the Meadows.

Lonnie O'Bryan and Rick Homan exited the meeting and Representative McCarty declared a break.

The Committee reconvened.

### **SOLID WASTE- KAREN SULLIVAN**

Karen Sullivan reviewed the proposed 2020 budget and reviewed specific budget items.

Karen Sullivan and the Committee discussed increasing the tip fee.

There being no further business to discuss, the Committee adjourned until Monday, September 23, 2019 at 9:00am in the Meadows.