

***Ontario County***  
**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES**  
**May 22, 2013**

**Committee Members:** *BAKER, Angelo, Huber, Evangelista, Sheppard, and Singer*

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Attendees: All committee members; Tom Harvey, John Garvey, Darlys McDonough  
Carla Jordan (**Casella Waste Management**); Kevin Voorhees & Luann Meyer (**Barton & Loguidice**)  
Dominick Vedora (**Geneva City Supervisor**); John Cowley (**Naples Town Supervisor**)  
Janet Ingalls-VanDine (**Seneca Lake Pure Waters Association**); Lynda Draper, Lawrence Karz  
(**Public**); David Shaw (**Finger Lakes Times**); Julie Sherwood (**Daily Messenger**)

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Chairman Baker called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion was made by Supervisor Evangelista, seconded by Supervisor Sheppard to approve the minutes of the May 1, 2013 meeting.

**Solid Waste Management Plan:**

***Barton & Loguidice – Draft review of SWMP responses to DEC comments:*** Ms. McDonough stated that the SWMP was sent to committee members via email for their review and she did not expect any action at this meeting. Mr. Voorhees and Ms. Meyer were present from Barton & Loguidice. Mr. Voorhees said that this Plan will probably generate more comments from the NYS DEC, which is typical. He reported that historically it takes a couple of rounds back and forth before it receives final approval. Mr. Voorhees is looking for approval from this committee to send it back to NYS DEC. He went on to say that they have filled in the gaps of information indicated in DEC's comment letter and have included the schedule listing the items which the DEC was encouraging the county to undertake. He explained that these are items for consideration over a ten year period, and that each programs would need individual approval by the EQC and full Board of Supervisors prior to being implemented. The document states that the county will consider and evaluate certain programs, and also identifies the decision making process of the county and balancing all the considerations of the county and its budget. Ms. Meyer said she and county officials (Mr. Garvey, Ms. McDonough, Mr. Baker) had a meeting with NYS DEC Region 8 staff and to review the document, to get a better understanding of the DEC's comments. Some modifications were made to the plan to address their major concerns. Ms. Meyer referred to page 90 of the Plan to see the overall expanded implementation schedule. There are three new areas that the DEC requested to have included, which are the last three implementation tasks: monitor management of animal mortality, support organics management, and perform biennial recycling surveys. Mr. Voorhees pointed out that completion of this SWMP is on the DEC checklist before they would move forward with the permit process at the landfill. Mr. Sheppard ask if it was this committee's intent to get affirmation from the board each time the plan was revised, and Chairman Baker said no. The final SWMP will go to the full Board for its approval and final submission to NYS DEC.

***Motion was made by Supervisor Sheppard to submit this plan to NYS DEC, seconded by Singer.***

Supervisor Huber stated that she has not had an opportunity to go through the Plan thoroughly and will not be supporting moving forward at this time. Supervisor Singer also indicated that although she has made some cursory notes, she would need additional time to do a thorough review. Supervisor Evangelista also indicated that he too would not support submitting the Plan at this particular time. He felt we are doing this to satisfy the DEC, and he would rather be doing what makes sense and benefits Ontario County. Mr. Evangelista felt we were not at the point of starting programs with regards to recycling and keeping garbage out of the landfill. As a county we are receiving a lot of money from having the landfill, and he felt that this money ought to be put towards programs that will benefit the county. Ms. McDonough pointed out that there need only be a process identified in the SWMP that would be put in place. She went on to say that the first steps during year one and two are to identify the issues, and then move forward within the following years with a more detailed plan.

***At this time, Supervisor Sheppard withdrew his motion to submit the Plan to DEC, second was withdrawn by Supervisor Singer.***

Supervisor Sheppard suggested consideration of a date certain from this committee of any changes to be made and sent back to the NYS DEC. Chairman Baker anticipated that action would be taken by the next committee meeting. He indicated that he would be reporting on the status of the SWMP to the full Board of Supervisors and supplying them with a copy of the Plan for their review. He will ask that any concerns or questions by supervisors be brought up to either Darlys McDonough or members of the EQC prior to their next committee meeting so that action can be taken at that time.

***No Cost Time Extension for Contract: Motion was made by Supervisor Huber, seconded by Supervisor Singer to approve the no-cost time extension contract with Barton & Loguidice until December 31, 2013. Motion carried.***

### **360 Expansion Permit**

***Next Steps:*** Ms. McDonough reported that the resolution accepting the finds of the SEQR review was distributed to the appropriate individuals/agencies. She is anticipating that more information will be available on the 360 permit itself at the next meeting.

### **Landfill Operational Update:**

Ms. Jordan reported that Mr. Fred Kober is no longer working at Casella Waste Management, and Mr. Robert Walls will be taking his place. She indicated that Mr. Walls is planning to attend the next EQC to introduce himself to the committee.

Supervisor Baker stated that he has not noticed odors, and Supervisor Evangelista and Supervisor Sheppard indicated that they have not noticed any odors as well. Ms. Jordan pointed out a few highlights from the annual report. In answer to Supervisor Sheppard's inquiry, Ms. Jordan stated that the Part 360 Annual Report is on the NYS DEC website, and is a public document that can be released. Supervisor Sheppard reported that the town of Seneca is conducting an annual audit and received a verbal response from the auditor that there are no discrepancies found with that audit. Supervisor Vedora inquired on the annual report as to what percentage of intake was sludge and whether Casella Waste Management stays within a certain percentage. Ms. Jordan responded that sludge intake was less than 10%, and that the landfill will not take in more than 20%. Ms. Jordan further pointed out that the sludge issue is more of a quality issue than a quantity issue.

**Award to Ontario County from NYS Federation of Lake Associations:**

Mr. Harvey reported that at the annual meeting of the NYS Federation of Lake Associations, Ontario County was the first county to be recognized by the Association for its efforts in preserving area lakes and watersheds. Mr. Harvey listed a few of the projects which included the Honeoye Lake Aquatic Vegetation Program, protection of the Canandaigua, Canadice and Hemlock lakes watersheds, as well as continuing funding to the Water Resource Council which has been effective in leveraging grants used toward erosion control and other significant projects. Mr. Harvey was asked by committee to convey this award to the full Board of Supervisors at the next meeting.

**Resolution Concerning Position on Inergy Corporation Liquefied Petroleum Gas Storage Project on Seneca Lake:**

Mr. Harvey explained that Inergy Corporation has purchased a former salt mine at the south end of Seneca Lake and has proposed to use the “caves” as storage for liquid fuels. The biggest concern is the uncertainty of the stability of the caverns, and the effects if there were to be a spill or dumping of brine in the fresh waters of Seneca Lake. Seneca and Yates Counties have adopted similar resolutions. *Motion was made by Supervisor Sheppard, seconded by Supervisor Huber to move the resolution identifying Ontario County’s concerns over the proposed LPG storage project in the Seneca Lake Watershed.* Question was asked if the solution is being stored directly in the cavern or whether there would be a container in the cavern. Mr. Harvey explained that the solution would be stored directly into the cavern. In answer to Supervisor Sheppard’s query, Mr. Harvey explained that the NYS DEC has had public hearings, and has sent back comments to Inergy for revisions. They are now waiting for that to go forward. Mr. Harvey noted that several attorneys are trying to get the NYS DEC to take some action on this. After discussion, *motion was carried.*

**Use of Hydrofracking Wastewaters:**

Ms. McDonough indicated that she spoke with Public Works Commissioner, Bill Wright, who assured her that the county is not using hydrofracking wastewaters on county roadways. The Public Works Committee also discussed this issue briefly and Mr. Wright indicated that he polled County Superintendent of Highways statewide about use of hydrofracking waste water. None of them had expressed interest in using this material, if for no other reason than the publicity alone. Mr. Evangelista, Chairman of Public Works Committee, indicated that the committee did not take any action; however, they noted their concern with towns who are receiving county funding for snow removal on county roads. Mr. Evangelista said that the Public Works Committee would take up this issue to determine whether there is support to prohibit use of hydrofracking wastewater on county roads by the towns receiving county funding for snow removal. The committee consensus was unanimously in favor of moving forward to support a resolution prohibiting the use of hydrofracking wastewater on county roads.

Chairman Baker asked members of the public in attendance if they wished to speak on a matter.

Mr. Lawrence Karz indicated he was present to listen to the discussion on the hydrofracking, and he felt it would be a fool’s choice to use hydrofracking fluid on roadways as it would be washed into the water systems.

Supervisor Cowley inquired whether the Ontario County landfill receives hydrofracking material, and asked if Ontario County had a radiation detector. Ms. Jordan responded that Ontario County does not accept hydrofracking waste at the Ontario County landfill, nor does it have a radiation detector. She

stated that drill cuttings are taken at other Casella landfills all of which have policy and protocols in place.

Ms. Ingalls-VanDine (Seneca Lake Pure Waters Association) stated that she lives in Pennsylvania and has a vacation home on Seneca Lake. She went on to say that she lives in one of the counties in Pennsylvania where there are a significant number of hydrofracking wells. She stated that Pennsylvania is trying to get rid of the waste to other states, and that it pleases her to hear that Ontario County is not going to accept hydrofracking material in its landfill.

There being no further business to come before the committee, motion was made by Supervisor Sheppard, seconded by Supervisor Huber, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 4:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Phillips, Deputy Clerk  
Board of Supervisors

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