



AG/Planning/Environmental

Committee Meeting

~ Agenda ~

60 Central Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045
<http://www.cortland-co.org>

Sandra Price
607-835-6711

Thursday, July 12, 2018

9:00 AM

Room 304

CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Present	Absent	Late	Arrived
Board Member Donnell Boyden	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Committee Chair, Sandra Price	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Vice Chair Christopher Newell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Board Member Douglas Bentley	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Board Member Beau Harbin	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Board Member Kelly L. Fairchild-Preston	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Board Member Michael K. Barylski	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

MINUTES

Thursday, June 14, 2018

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Cooperative Extension

Planning Department

Soil & Water Conservation District

1. **Discussion Item (ID # 5672)**

Presentation - Boat Steward Program - Soil & Water Conservation District

2. **Discussion Item (ID # 5701)**

Monthly Report - July 2018

ATTACHMENTS:

- update 07 2018 (PDF)

Real Property - Solar Exemption Options

3. **Discussion Item (ID # 5699)**

Progress Report - Local Law "A" -Establishing an Agreement for Commercial Solar Energy Systems in Cortland County

7 Valley Health Coalition

ADJOURNMENT



AG/Planning/Environmental

Committee Meeting

~ Minutes ~

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Thursday, June 14, 2018

9:00 AM

Room 304

CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Donnell Boyden	Board Member	Present	
Sandra Price	Committee Chair,	Present	
Christopher Newell	Vice Chair	Present	
Douglas Bentley	Board Member	Present	
Beau Harbin	Board Member	Present	
Kelly L. Fairchild-Preston	Board Member	Present	
Michael K. Barylski	Board Member	Present	
David Rutherford	Cortland Cooperative Extension	Present	
Dan Dineen	Director of Planning	Present	
Karen Howe	County Attorney	Present	
Amanda Barber	Soil & Water Conservation District	Present	
Ann Hotchkin	7 Valley Health	Present	
Hannah Bistocchi	Cortland Voice	Present	
Nick Graziano	Cortland Standard	Present	
Karen Fuller	Deputy Clerk of the Legislature	Present	
Ronald J. Van Dee	Board Member	Present	
Wendy Franklin	County Attorney's Office	Present	

Cooperative Extension

Mr. Rutherford said the summer camp is going well with more participants this year than previous. He is working with Lime Hollow and is trying to keep expenses reduced as much as possible. Today will be the last farm tour for students from Cortland Enlarged and Homer Central Schools.

Other items of interest include:

- Last week the Extravaganza was held at the fairgrounds and included 13 stations. He expressed appreciation to Ms. Barber of the Soil & Water Conservation District for their assistance.
- The agency has submitted a grant for a program to assist grandparents that are raising children called the Relatives as Parents Program. This program is designed to help connect to various resources available.
- A decision was made not to follow through on the proposed purchase of the old Dollar Store building due to a lack of funding and other opportunities available. In addition, the relationship with the county and the associated funding in that relation was taken into account when making the decision. They will continue to work with the Seven Valley Health Coalition with regard to the Farmers Market.

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Jun 14, 2018 9:00 AM (MINUTES)

MINUTES

Thursday, May 10, 2018

RESOLUTIONS

Planning Department

1. Resolution 246-18

Amend 2018 Budget - Accept Department of Health State Medicaid SFY 2017-2018 Rural Transit Assistance Funding - Planning Department

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Mr. Dineen explained this funding is what the State determined to provide in order to offset the forty percent reduction in revenue due to shifting services from the transit buses to other transportation methods for medical appointments. He noted this does not save expenses to the County or State, it simply is to enable maintaining of transit services due to the loss of revenue.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Christopher Newell, Vice Chair
SECONDER:	Kelly L. Fairchild-Preston, Board Member
AYES:	Boyden, Price, Newell, Bentley, Harbin, Fairchild-Preston, Barylski

2. Resolution 247-18

Authorize Application for Accelerated Transit Capital (ATC) Program Grant Funding - for SFY 2018-2019 - New York State Department of Transportation - Planning Department

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

The grant being applied for is to provide funds for projects with a ten-year life span. It is anticipated that if awarded the funds would be placed in a reserve account to go toward a new building for First Transit.

Mr. Barylski spoke of the smaller portion of money coming in from the State; Mr. Dineen said the amount is based on ridership. Mr. Sudbrink noted that other State programs such as Raise the Age will also present financial problems locally.

Ms. Hotchkin, Seven Valley Health Coalition, spoke of the previous discussions regarding the Greyhound/Trailways bus stop changing locations. Although the Community Center was thought to be an option they have declined having it moved to their location. She said there are potentially other sites being reviewed.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Beau Harbin, Board Member
SECONDER:	Christopher Newell, Vice Chair
AYES:	Boyden, Price, Newell, Bentley, Harbin, Fairchild-Preston, Barylski

Monthly Report

Mr. Dineen said there will be representatives from NYSERDA to speak about solar PILOT

agreements and what municipalities can do to restrict them.

The preliminary census work (LUCA) is finishing up and there have been several thousand addresses that had been missed on information provided. It was noted this is not unusual as the information is not always automatically corrected in the data bases.

Mr. Dineen spoke of a report he heard that states Cortland County is 100 percent covered for broadband service, which is not the case. The Southern Tier Regional Economic Council is preparing a letter to the Governor that will specify the areas lacking service.

Mr. Dineen has received verbal notification that an approval has been made to hold an IRT Training in 2019. In response to the question regarding using this for construction, Mr. Dineen said he would have to prepare a separate application to be considered.

The Farmland Protection projects are moving forward. There are a few issues that Agriculture and Markets has regarding the Slade Farm project being worked out and the Underwood Farm project should be completed shortly.

The Committee briefly spoke of the banners and signs that can be used for advertising purposes on the First Transit buses. Several Committee members felt that it would be good to place informational signs on the inside of the buses that provide information on services available during periods that others have not requested paid advertisements. Ms. Hotchkin stated a belief that it would require the County to provide funds for the advertising and that the Transportation Advisory Council (TAC) should be informed and discuss this. Mr. Sudbrink would like to utilize the space and said it would be good to let them know, however, as the County owns the buses it should not require TAC approval. Mr. Harbin looked up the previous resolution relating to advertising and noted it states the County could place signs when no paid advertising exists and would not have any charge to do so.

Ms. Hotchkin noted the previous IRT event was overbooked and most likely would not require extensive advertisement.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Soil & Water Conservation District

Discussion Item (ID # 5634)

Soil and Water Conservation District Report - June 2018

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Ms. Barber spoke of the recognition given to McMahon's E-Z Acres as an Outstanding Dairy Farm in Sustainability at the seventh annual U.S. Dairy Sustainability Awards. She said there will also be septic maintenance seminars; the first on June 14 at the Willet Town Hall and the second July 21 at the Preble Town Hall.

Ms. Barber stated more needs to be done to control run-off of water and they are in the process of studying this area. Also, she noted there is a lot of trail information being compiled for future use.

Tully Lake has expressed a desire to have the weeds harvested and the agency is looking into utilizing weed mats for Little York Lake.

The agency is in the process of completing grant applications to bring in more revenue to do work within the County.

Ms. Price spoke of an e-mail she had received from Ms. Homer relating to the use of Roundup and other pesticides. Ms. Barber said she reviewed the e-mail and responded. She referenced a groundwater study that did not find any residual of the chemical within the County. These studies have been completed in 2003, 2006, 2013 and 2014. Ms. Barber said Roundup has a very short half-life; other studies outside of the County looking at accumulation in the soil indicated more is being transported than thought and further studies will take place. Ms. Price asked about the use of Roundup in public places and Ms. Homer asked that Mr. Miller, Building and Grounds Superintendent and Mr. Krey, Highway Supervisor, be asked if it is used.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Soil and Water Conservation District Report - June 2018 (PDF)

RESULT: COMPLETED

County Attorney

Cleanup of Properties

Ms. Howe said Mr. Gary Bowitch has been contacted to provide information regarding the cleanup of contaminated foreclosed properties. He has indicated a willingness to come speak to Legislators if desired. The Committee expressed a desire to have him attend a future meeting. Ms. Price suggested starting at 8:30 a.m. to accommodate what may be on the next agenda.

Soil & Water Conservation District - Continued

Ms. Barber stated she would like to provide a presentation of the Boat Steward Program at the next meeting.

7 Valley Health Coalition

Discussion Item (ID # 5639)

Rideshare Agreements (Cortland County and Finger Lakes Rideshare Coalition) (Cortland County and EAN Services, LLC/Zimride) - Planning Department

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

It was noted that further discussions had occurred with Mr. de Aragon and others, during which it was noted the contract with Tompkins County with Zimride allows others to come in. Zimride said they would not amend the contract to provide the hold-harmless clause that was sought. The contract will expire at the end of the year and it is thought that the County could work with Mr. de Aragon to resolve this issue as part of a new agreement. Ms. Howe plans to reach out to Mr. Wood, Tompkins County's attorney to discuss this further.

RESULT: COMPLETED

Discussion Item (ID # 5655)

Proposed Solar Energy System PILOT Law

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

It was noted that the proposed solar agreement was sent to members ahead of the meeting for review. Mr. Barylski said there is some apprehension regarding the agreement as it did not provide basic

information that the Legislature may want to consider. He said some tax credits go to individual businesses and not municipalities. He believes it would be good to give the entire financial dynamics as well as the rate per kilowatt hour as well.

Ms. Howe explained this particular PILOT has to do strictly with taxes and what would potentially be lost in real property tax dollars. There are three ways to value the tax break: increased assessed value based on the installation, the kilowatt hours produced, and the cost of the project as it relates to the property. Ms. Price noted that depending on what is decided Abundant Energy may not wish to proceed with a project.

The discussion continued with varying opinions on how to best determine how to evaluate an installation, noting there are different levels that would help determine the best method. Ms. Franklin said when complete the Local Law would be provided for review.

It was MOVED by Mr. Harbin, seconded by Mr. Barylski, and unanimously approved by voice vote, to approve publication of a public hearing for the proposed Local Law on solar installations. MOTION CARRIED.

It was MOVED by Mr. Barylski, seconded by Mr. Newell, and unanimously approved by voice vote, to approve a resolution presenting the Local Law to the full Legislature following a final review with an understanding that if following review it is not acceptable it would be pulled from the agenda. MOTION CARRIED. [Subsequently the local law was not ready to submit to the full Legislature in June.]

ATTACHMENTS:

- Solar Local Law-draft (PDF)

RESULT:	COMPLETED
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ADJOURNMENT

On motion the meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.



Cortland County Soil and Water Conservation District

100 Grange Place, Room 202, Cortland, NY 13045
 Phone: (607) 756-5991 • Fax: (607) 756-0029
 www.cortlandswcd.org

SWCD - Celebrating 70 years of promoting the conservation and wise use of our county's natural resources

AGRICULTURE and PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

By: Amanda Barber, Manager

July 5, 2018

AGRICULTURE AND PRIVATE LAND CONSERVATION

We have had six farms express interest in submitting proposals under Round 2 of the CAFO Waste Storage and Transfer Program. We only had two farms express interest in pursuing funding after Round 1, and new applicants will need to be evaluated and ranked to determine eligibility. Proposals are due August 1, 2018.

Round 24 of the Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program grant was announced a couple weeks ago. Proposals are due to the Department of Agriculture and Markets by August 20, 2018.

We completed our QA/QC work for the year. Data on best management practices implemented in the Chesapeake Bay watershed was recorded into the data management tool. This will be submitted to EPA as part of aggregated data to report implementation in the New York portion of the watershed.

COMMUNITY NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING

We continue work with the Cortland-Onondaga Federation of Kettle Lakes Association to develop a natural shorescaping incentive program. The new Trees for Tribes grant program announced by the state may serve as a funding source.

Several communities have requested assistance with applying for grants through the WQIP program. Assistance with applying for funding to support salt storage and road/drainage structures will be provided. Applications are due July 27, 2018.

EDUCATION, PROGRAMS and ADMINISTRATION

The third and final septic maintenance seminar will be held July 21 at the Preble Town Hall. The last two sessions were attended by over 70 people with 51 certificates distributed to homeowners to redeem for \$100 toward completion of septic system repairs and/or maintenance work.

New York State's Water Quality Rapid Response Team, national experts and local stakeholders collaboratively developed Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Action Plans for twelve priority lakes that are vulnerable to HABs, are critical sources of drinking water, and are vital tourism drivers – these include Cayuga Lake and Skaneateles Lake. The District was a representative in developing these plans. Priorities to address HAB concerns identified in these plans include many District projects and practices such as road ditch and road culvert management, agricultural nutrient management, agricultural best management practice implementation, and stream stabilization. Future grant opportunities will prioritize HABs plans and related practices/programs.