

JEFFERSON COUNTY STORMWATER COALITION

*Towns of LeRay, Rutland, Watertown
Villages of Black River, Brownville, Carthage, West Carthage
City of Watertown
Jefferson County*

Minutes

Thursday, March 28, 2024, 1 p.m.

Village of Black River Office

1. Roll Call

Village of Brownville – None

Village of Black River – Matt Leary, Les Williams

Town of Rutland – Jenn Bossuot

Town of LeRay – Lee Carpenter

Town of Watertown – Randy Vaas

Village of Carthage - None

Village of West Carthage – Pete Crump, Brandon Chaffee

City of Watertown – None

Jefferson County – Michael Montigelli, Jim Lawrence

Jefferson County Planning – Andy Nevin

Jefferson County SWCD – George Birth, Sarah Trick

NYSDEC Great Lakes Program – Emily Fell

NYS Tug Hill Commission – Gabriel Yerdon, Katie Malinowski

2. Call to Order at 1:04PM by Lee C.

3. Approval of Minutes from December 21, 2023

- a. Motion by Randy V.
- b. Second by Mike M.
- c. All in favor, motion carried.

4. Treasurer's Report

- a. Town and county dues are due in January.
- b. Village and city dues are due in August.
- c. The Current Stormwater Coalition balance is \$156,541.54.
- d. 2024 Coalition dues for participating towns and Jefferson County were mailed in January.
 - i. No payment has been received by the town of Watertown.
 - ii. 2024 dues for participating Villages and the City of Watertown will be mailed August 1.
- e. Approval of \$19,905.58 invoice from the Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District for work performed in 2023.
 - i. Motion to approve by Pete C.
 - ii. Seconded by Mike M.
 - iii. All in favor, motion carried.

5. Correspondence/Report of Secretary

- a. None

6. Report of Chairman
 - a. None
7. Report of Committees
 - a. Education/Outreach Committee
 - i. 2/13/24 Education and Outreach Committee meeting updates (Sarah, Emily, Andy, Gabriel in attendance)
 1. Stormwater brochure updates
 - a. Members will collaborate to update the brochure and print a new version for coalition members to distribute.
 2. Drone Project
 - a. Members of the E/O committee discussed compiling a stormwater education video of the MS4 area of the Black River, featuring drone footage of water treatment infrastructure, outfalls, etc.
 - i. Andy Nevin and Gabriel Y. will look into it.
 - ii. The coalition may be able to contact CGI community video, similar to the River Area Council of Governments community tour video.
 - ii. E/O events planned for 2024
 1. Connect with Tree Watertown and the Watertown Noon Rotary Club and possibly do a presentation for them on stormwater.
 2. Consider an outreach campaign to local businesses that promotes actions they can take to improve water quality.
 - a. The chamber of commerce may be able to help with this.
 3. Continue sediment and erosion control trainings.
 - b. Approval of the stormwater coalition's education and outreach activities planned for 2024
 - i. Motion by Lee C.
 - ii. Second by Randy V.
8. New Business
 - a. Final State Stormwater General Permit Issued by DEC
 - i. 2024 timeline updates
 - ii. Jefferson County SWCD (SWCD) is working to fulfill the permit requirements on behalf of the coalition members.
 1. The SWCD needs a designated point of contact, with a phone number and email address, from each municipality for each of three categories including construction activities reporting contact, general illicit discharge contact, and general stormwater contact.
 2. Coalition members decided that their clerks, in general, will be their points of contact.
 - iii. Members discussed and confirmed that individual members are responsible for stormwater violations, not the coalition as a whole.
 - b. 2023 Jefferson County SWCD invoice
 - i. The SWCD is able to assist the coalition members with all requirements of the new general permit other than providing points of contact for each individual member.
 - ii. The coalition members reiterated, as in past meetings, that their labor force is overwhelmed.

1. They are ready and willing to pay more to the SWCD if the SWCD can fulfill their reporting requirements.
 2. Two-way communication is needed between the District and the coalition members, in order to have an optimally functioning partnership.
- c. SWCD training sessions on new permit requirements
 - d. Grant application ideas
 - i. [New York State Pollution Prevention Institute \(NYSP2I\)](#) grant opportunity

9. Old Business

- a. 2023 Jefferson County SWCD proposal – outstanding municipal approvals
 - i. 2024 Jefferson County SWCD proposal not yet submitted
- b. IMA finalized- all signatures received
- c. Vacuum Truck
 - i. Jim L. provided updates on the vacuum truck.
 1. The vacuum truck was purchased with a grant that was awarded to the stormwater coalition. The purchase price exceeded the grant amount, and the difference was covered by Jefferson County.
 2. Mechanics and several other county employees have been trained on the vacuum truck.
 3. The county will maintain ownership and operate the vacuum truck. Other municipalities can access the vacuum truck via a shared services agreement. The county will be responsible for all operation, repairs, and upkeep of the equipment, and will handle scheduling dispatch of the vacuum truck to requesting municipalities. The county is already taking requests and scheduling work. The county will establish an hourly price for use of the vacuum truck. Coalition members will be charged 50% of that price and non-coalition members will be charged full price. Any balance that is not covered by the long-term shared service agreement will be paid to the county. That revenue will go into a fund to be used for fuel, maintenance, etc. of the vacuum truck.
 - a. Motion to approve the shared service agreement for the vacuum truck, as proposed by Jefferson County.
 - i. Motion by Mike M.
 - ii. Second by Lee C.
 - iii. All in favor, motion carried.

10. Adjournment

- a. Motion to adjourn by Lee C.
- b. Second by Pete C.
- c. All in favor, motion carried.

NEXT MEETING JUNE 20, 2024 1PM – Village of Black River Office