**dratJefferson County Stormwater Coalition**

*Towns of LeRay, Rutland, Watertown*

*Villages of Black River, Brownville, Carthage, West Carthage*

*City of Watertown*

*Jefferson County*

Agenda

Thursday, January 9, 2025, 1 p.m.

Village of Black River Office

1. Roll Call
   * Village of Brownville – Pat O Conner, Mike Walrath, Steve Mott
   * Village of Black River – David Daily
   * Town of Rutland – Claude Phelps
   * Town of LeRay – Lee Carpenter, Nathan Toutant
   * Town of Watertown – Randy Vaas
   * Village of Carthage – None
   * Village of West Carthage – None
   * City of Watertown – Meredith Griffin, Aaron Harvill, Angel French
   * Jefferson County – Andy Nevin, Jim Lawrence, Andy Makuch, Samuel Wilson
   * Jefferson County SWCD – Patricia Shulenburg, Sarah Trick
   * NYSDEC Great Lakes Program – Emily Fell
   * NYS Tug Hill Commission – Jillian Lee
2. Call to Order 1:00 pm by Chair Patrick O Conner
3. Approval of Minutes from September 26, 2024
   1. Motion by Lee Carpenter
   2. Seconded by Mike Walrath
   3. All in favor, motion carried.
4. Treasurer’s Report
   1. Town and county dues are due in January.
      1. 2025 membership dues were sent out and are due January 9, 2025
   2. Village and city dues are due in August.
   3. The stormwater account has a total of $111,174.73 as of 12/31/24
5. Correspondence/Report of Secretary – None
6. Report of Chairman – None
7. Report of Committees
   1. Education/Outreach Committee
      1. Education and Outreach Committee meeting updates
         1. Education and Outreach Activities for 2025
            1. SW CARES will take place again this year, reached out to a new school in West Carthage, should have the same number of students
            2. 4-hr erosion and sediment control workshop training to be held in March (free to collation member staff- goal is to have at least one staff member certified from each municipality)
            3. Outreach at Tree Planting Events – shared brochures and will continue in 2025
            4. The Tug Hill Commission is putting together the Black River Initiative newsletter, which will be published soon
            5. Emily can set up a meeting to talk about initiatives or anything else to be set up in 2025
            6. Targeted education—By year 3, the Coalition/SWCD needs to map out areas of interest and develop actions to meet each area. Businesses are slightly harder to map out in the region.

Rt 3, Fells Mills Creek— junkyard was mentioned. It’s been there for years. It used to be nice for trout fishing, but you need to be careful about safety if you go there.

* + - * 1. Rain barrel workshop – SWCD is looking for a better venue for the workshop.

Possibly the Watertown City Library

1. New Business
   1. JCSWCD 2024 final invoice
      1. Final invoice for 2nd half of last year: $9,729
      2. Motion by Andy Nevin
      3. Seconded by Lee Carpenter
      4. All in favor, motion carried.
   2. Stormwater Coalition Agreement Renewal
      1. The agreement is good until 2026.
      2. Asking to increase the rate to $65/hour (still less than what is billed to state grants which is $70/hour), but the total will not exceed $35,000 without coalition approval
      3. Total for 2024: $38,000
      4. Hoping for slightly less work in 2025
      5. Motion by Lee Carpenter
      6. Seconded by Mike Walrath
      7. All in favor, motion carried.
      8. JC SWCD will email out a PDF version for people to sign – on behalf of county or towns
   3. 2025 Elections
      1. Chairman (elected)
         1. Mike Walrath nominates Pat Connor
         2. Mike Walrath motions
         3. Randy Vaas seconds
         4. Motion carried forward
      2. Vice Chairman (elected)
         1. Lee Carpenter nominates himself
         2. Andy Nevin seconds
         3. Motion carried forward
      3. Secretary (elected)
         1. Mike Walrath nominates Gabriel Yerdon
         2. Lee Carpenter seconds
         3. Motion carried forward
      4. Treasurer (appointed)
         1. Will be appointed at a later date.
   4. Black River Watershed Conference
      1. To be held in Watertown, likely in June
2. Old Business
   1. Black River Initiative
      1. The newsletter is being drafted and reviewed. It should be available by the next meeting.
      2. Sarah (JCSWCD) took water samples last year and the data assessment report is almost finalized. DEC needs to approve the data and then it can be discussed.
      3. BRAM project identified– 3 sampling sites – testing for total phosphorous, total dissolved phosphorous, dissolved oxygen, total dissolved solids, temperature, conductivity, and nitrogen more information at: <https://tughill.org/projects/black-river-projects/watershed-initiative/>
   2. State Stormwater General Permit requirements
      1. Outstanding reporting requirements
         1. Jefferson County: Still waiting on the county attorney to determine if local stormwater laws or an Enforcement Response Plan is necessary. JCSWCD needs to modify Construction oversight procedures to fit the county’s unique system
         2. Black River: Received staffing plan and street sweeping plan, still need Enforcement Response Plan, construction oversight procedures, and post-construction inspection and maintenance procedures
         3. Brownville, Carthage, and West Carthage are fully compliant
         4. LeRay: Still need construction oversight procedures and post-construction inspection and maintenance procedures signed
         5. Rutland: Need updated street sweeping form, construction oversight procedures, and post-construction inspection and maintenance procedures
         6. Town of Watertown: Waiting to hear if there are any new open construction sites since July. Also need construction oversight procedures and post-construction inspection and maintenance procedures approved
   3. Vacuum Truck shared services agreement
      1. County reimbursement
         1. Reimbursed 75% ($257,634) of the total cost of the vacuum truck ($343,512)
         2. County Highway Department paid the remaining 25% ($85,878)
         3. Trained 4 people on the sweeper
         4. The sweeper has had maintenance performed, and it's been winterized already.
         5. The goal is to not charge coalition members in 2025 for use of the vacuum truck.
            1. Non-coalition villages and towns will be charged.
         6. Jefferson County will pick up training and maintenance; coalition members will not be charged.
            1. Coalition members will need to communicate with Jefferson County to set up a schedule for using the vacuum truck.

Twice a year is great

Once a month is unrealistic

* + - * 1. The vacuum truck will work on both curbed and uncurbed streets.

However, municipalities can use a sweeper truck for uncurbed streets.

* + - * 1. The vacuum truck can be used in municipal-owned parking lots as well.

Waiting to see if it gets extended to schools

If it gets extended to schools, it could be part of the education requirements – meet with schools, students learn about a vacuum truck and what it does, benefits, DPW careers, etc.

* + - * 1. One comment about the street sweeping policy is the template is geared toward someone who owns street sweeping equipment. Maybe a one-policy fit for all members would be better.
  1. Other Comments
     1. Congratulations to the Town of Watertown for their $1 million DEC WQIP grant.
     2. CORE Grant – Community reforestation grant program – expand, restore, and create naturally urban forested areas, $15 million available in grant money
     3. DEC Freshwater Wetland Regulation updates will take effect in 2025. A webinar will be held on Jan 15th for information.
     4. Tug Hill Commission Winter Wildlife Webinar Series – January 21 – Sea Lamprey
     5. Community environmental education grants, up to $3 million
     6. It was suggested that someone from Brookfield Renewables be invited to meetings.

1. Adjournment
   1. Lee Carpenter motioned
   2. Andy Nevin second
   3. Motion carried at 1:45 pm

**NEXT MEETING: March 13, 2025 at 1:00 pm**