

Oneida County Land & Water Resource Management Plan 2020-2029 Public Hearing

Conservation/UW-EX Education Committee

June 5, 2019

Minutes

Committee members present: Chairman-Bob Mott, Alan VanRaalte, Mitch Ives, and Jim Winkler.

Others present: Michele Sadauskas, Karl Jennrich, Fred Heider, Eileen Lonsdorf, Dave Noel, Sarah and Merry Lehner.

Call to order: Chairman Mott called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was properly posted and the facility handicapped accessible.

Approve Agenda: Motion by VanRaalte/Winkler to approve today's agenda with the order of the items at the Chair's discretion. All ayes; motion carried.

Public Hearing on the Oneida County Land and Water Resource Management Plan (LWRM) 2020-2029:

Karl Jennrich, Oneida County Planning & Zoning read the notice of public hearing and proof of publication. A list of email recipients sent (23 individuals plus three Committee Members) on May 17. Oneida County supports a locally led process that enhances decision-making during their current revision of the 2020-2029 Land and Water Resource Management Plan. The County is in the process of identifying land and water resource concerns and prioritizing work tasks into a five-year work plan. Copies of the draft plan are available upon request from Land & Water Conservation or on-line at www.ncwrpc.org/oneida/lwrm or www.oclw.org/land-water-resource-management-plan-lwrm.html.

Committee Discussion:

Heider and Sadauskas provided a summary and background of the LWRM plan as a locally led process. Heider reviewed how the two resource advisory committee meetings helped them create their goals and objectives for the LWRM Plan. Heider and Sadauskas then updated the data and work plan for the next ten years in a draft, which ultimately will be adopted by Land and Water Board at DATCP, on August 6, 2019. Today the oversight committee will make final comments, on any changes. The public has this opportunity to make comments for any changes at this public hearing, today, as well. If adopted by DATCP, the final plan will be presented for approval to the County Board. The plan is now open officially now for public comment. They introduced and discussed three new supplemental documents. Sadauskas did not receive final comment from DATCP and the DNR and the plan will not be approved tonight. Mott asked what the steps will be once approved. They will present at the Land and Water Board on August 6, 2019. The Committee meets on June 10, 2019. Sadauskas noted her schedule conflicts prior to June 10. Jennrich will work with Heider the next few days on any requested changes.

Public Comment:

Three individuals made public comments on the 2020-2029 Oneida County Land and Water Resource Management Plan draft. Their comments are included as documents, which will be included with the public hearing minutes, posted on the county website.

Dave Noel, a Sugar Camp Resident, a retired engineer, made a comment on the risks of sulfide mining.

Eileen Lonsdorf, a Lake Tomahawk resident and a retired registered nurse commented on mining concerns

Sara Juon, of Rhinelander, commented on citizen votes against the Lynne deposit issue and if the plan will reflect the wishes of voters.

One written public comment from the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Tribe stated that tribe representation should have been involved before and during the plan development as a resource advisory group member. The 2020-2029 Oneida County Land and Water Resource Management Plan excludes Tribal Consultation, Coordination, or involvement. The Tribe's participation was not requested by Oneida County nor from the Conservation & UW Extension Committee.

The staff will take into consideration the public four comments. VanRaalte asked that it be clarified that the concern is over Sulfide mines. Winkler concurred that there should be much stronger language used without violating state law. The mining ordinance is under the Planning and Zoning Committee, and not in the hands of the CUW committee. There should be an emphasis on protection and best practices language used in the plan. Sadauskas would appreciate the input from the committee.

Sadauskas requested an additional CUW meeting to review public comments and, if possible, integrate them into a revised plan. A second meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 24, at 1:00 p.m. at the Airport to include the public comments. The Conservation-UW Extension Committee will not approve the DRAFT of the 2020-2029 Oneida County Land and Water Resource Management Plan today. If possible, proposed changes will be submitted to the CUW Committee meeting on June 10.

Adjournment:

Mott adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Merry Lehner, Recording Secretary

Bob Mott, Committee Chair