

Organization River Area Council of Governments

Board Executive Board

Date and Time Tuesday, January 25 2000 at 7:00 PM

Place Village of Carthage Municipal Building, 120 S Mechanic St., Carthage NY 13619

Contact [Chris Vargulick](#) Town Clerk Phone (315) 493-3240 Fax(315) 493-2900

Minutes

TO: Mayors/Supervisors and Boards of the T/Champion, T/Wilna, V/Carthage and V/West Carthage and Kevin Smith

FROM: Chris Vargulick, Recorder

DATE: January 26, 2000

RE: Minutes from January 25, 2000 Inter-Governmental meeting

Present: M. Astafan, T. Buckley, M. Bezanilla, J. Ferris, L. Gerber, D. Getman, W. McIlroy, Ken Smith, Kevin Smith, T. Stewart, and H. Watkins

Kevin Smith introduced Gary Sproul and Monica Papagni, Jefferson Community College, who discussed the installation of high-speed diffusion telecommunication lines and equipment as part of a grant administrated by Bell Atlantic. The speakers highlighted the potential of the improved telecommunications to area institutions and businesses.

Kevin Smith presented the draft of the intermunicipal agreement to form the River Area Council of Governments.

Mr. Buckley distributed copies of an article from the Office of the State Comptroller-Division of Municipal Affairs that discussed the possibilities of intermunicipal cooperation. Mr. Buckley reported that grants are available through the State (SMART Growth) that could allow the Council to hire a shared planner.

Mr. Getman suggested the four communities develop a master plan to provide a goal-oriented focus.

The attendees discussed the make up of the membership for the Council. Mr. Buckley favored the formation of sub-committees with specific focuses (ie. downtown revitalization, West Carthage Industrial Park, conform planning and zoning laws...)

Ken Smith suggested that Deferiet and Herrings be included in the Council. Kevin Smith stated that he intentionally suggested the title "River Area Council of Governments" to describe the Council in an effort to accommodate all of the possible partnerships with adjacent communities.

Mr. Watkins recommended forming the Council with the Towns of Champion and Wilna and the Villages of Carthage and West Carthage. He also reiterated his position that membership on the Council should include the chief official, an additional elected official and the planning board chairman from each municipality.

Mr. Buckley and Kevin Smith counseled organization flexibility suggesting that meetings should have purpose and that sub-committees should be re-organized as necessary to achieve the identified goals. Mr. Smith stated that the planning specialist from the Tug Hill Commission recommends a review of the administration of planning, zoning, and building permits in each municipality with the intention of conforming the procedures within the four municipalities.

Mr. McIlroy suggested that each Board review the draft agreement and that any desired changes be shared with all Boards prior to the next meeting of the Council.

Mr. Astafan emphasized the need for the identification and prioritization of the goals and objectives of the Council. Kevin Smith reminded the Council that some objectives were outlined in the consolidation study. Members resolved to list the priorities of their communities and Boards for consideration at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 15, 2000 at 7:00PM at the Carthage Municipal Building.