

Organization River Area Council of Governments

Board Executive Board

Date and Time Tuesday, February 29 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: March 1, 2000

RE: Minutes from February 29, 2000 River Area Council of Governments Mtg.

Present: M. Astafan, M. Bezanilla, T. Buckley, J. Ferris, L. Gerber, D. Getman,

W. McIlroy, M. Sligar, J. Smith, Ken Smith, Kevin Smith, T. Stewart

Mr. McIlroy called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

All chief executive officers reported that their respective boards have approved the Intermunicipal Agreement. In response to questions, Kevin Smith suggested possible areas of focus for the Council including the Quality Communications Grant, use of future meetings, and a review of the management study.

Mr. McIlroy commented on an article in the Watertown Daily Times concerning a County request for economic grant funds for Black River communities.

The members discussed issues pertinent to the organization of the River Area Council of Governments. Motion by Ken Smith, seconded by Mr. Buckley to apportion membership to two (2) representatives per community- the chief executive officer of each component board and one additional member appointed by the respective board. Approved unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Ken Smith, seconded by Mr. Getman to appoint Wayne McIlroy Chairman of the River Area Council of Governments. Approved unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Getman, seconded by Mr. Gerber to set the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00PM as the meeting date and time. Approved unanimously. Meetings will be held at the Carthage Municipal Building.

The Council requested that C. Vargulick prepare copies of the Intermunicipal Agreement for signing at the March meeting.

Mr. Buckley suggested that member communities apprise their Planning and Zoning Boards of the progress made by the Council and direct those Boards and the Twin Village Recreation Commission to begin looking at areas of cooperation and prepare to report back to the Council at a future meeting. The Council further recommended that the Twin Village Recreation Commission study the feasibility of a swimming pool/recreation facility.

The Council discussed the feasibility of jointly bidding for electricity and natural gas. Some members have previously received Requests for Proposals (RFP) but savings were insignificant. The Council would like to revisit the proposal to consolidate purchases to demand more favorable rates.

The Council discussed options to facilitate planning. T. Buckley recommended that the Council invite Robert Quinn, Executive Director of the Tug Hill Commission to the March meeting. Mr. Buckley also suggested contacting Representative Nortz and Senator Wright to update them on the status of the recommendations from the management study (i.e. formation of Council).

Kevin Smith recommended inviting Jim Edmondson, JCIDA, to receive his input regarding the direction the Council may want to take to collaborate with County economic initiatives and to leverage funding as a result of the collaboration.

M. Sligar voiced his support for a model of collaboration that would include a circuit rider, a consultant and support staff.

Kevin Smith confirmed that many smaller, local communities find it difficult to afford additional staff. Mr. Smith distributed areas of possible focus for the grant application for a Quality Communities grant.

D. Getman questioned plans for the existing swimming facility with regard to maintenance and upgrade. All members supported the maintenance of the facility for the upcoming season but reiterated the need for a feasibility study.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, March 21st at 7:00PM

Motion by M. Sligar, seconded by T. Stewart to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:10PM.