

**Organization River Area Council of Governments**

**Board Executive Board**

**Date and Time Tuesday, January 15 2002 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

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

**FROM:** Chris Vargulick, Council Secretary

**DATE:** January 16, 2002

**RE:** Minutes from January 15, 2002 River Area Council of Governments  
meeting

**Members present:** M. Bezanilla, T. Buckley, M. Franchini, W. McIlroy, M.  
Sligar, J. Smith, P. Smith, and T. Stewart

Chairman McIlroy called the meeting to order at 7:00PM at the Village of Carthage Municipal Building.

Motion by Mr. J. Smith, seconded by Mr. Franchini to approve the minutes for December 18, 2001 as presented.  
Ayes-8, Nays-0. Motion carried.

### Public Forum

Dave and Mary Wolf and Joyce Miller, representing the VEM food pantry, were present to explain the urgent need for a larger and more accessible location to operate the Carthage Food Pantry. The present location in the CAPC building is not handicapped accessible and storage is limited. The Council took the matter under consideration.

### Reports

The Circuit Rider's monthly report was reviewed and accepted. Ms. Amyot reported that the sub-recipient agreement with DANC has been approved and executed. Work on the environmental record is continuing and must be completed prior to any draw down.

The final report of the revitalization plan has been received and distributed to RACOG component boards. Motion by Mr. Sligar, seconded by Mr. Stewart to authorize the secretary to publish the plan on the RACOG website. Ayes-8, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Sligar, seconded by Mr. Buckley to make copies of the plan available to media and to waive the copy fee. Ayes-8, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Sligar reported that the consultant selection committee considered RFQ's from Environmental Design & Research, Main Street Group, and Peter J. Smith & Company. The search was narrowed to EDR and Peter J. Smith & Company. The committee elected to interview Peter J. Smith & Company since it had no prior experience with the firm. The committee recommends that the Council negotiate a contract Peter J. Smith & Company to perform the phase II tasks outlined in the Quality Communities Grant. Motion by Mr. Sligar, seconded by Mr. Stewart to negotiate a contract with the firm of Peter J. Smith & Company in an amount not to exceed \$20,000. Ayes-8, Nays-0. Motion carried.

The Council discussed a steering committee to assist the Phase II consultant. Motion by Mr. Sligar, seconded by Mr. Stewart to appoint the following members to the steering committee: Richard Novy, Lori Borland, Mark Keddy, Stefano Magro, Michael Bezanilla, Kathy Amyot, and Michael Sligar. Ayes-8, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Sligar, seconded by Mr. Buckley to authorize the chairman to execute the contract with Peter J. Smith & Company in an amount not to exceed \$20,000. Ayes-8, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Stewart reported that the Tug Hill Commission is coordinating a field trip to Cato-Meridian School District to tour their community's shared pool/gym facility.

Mr. Buckley reported that the NYS Route 3 Sewer Board has approved and forwarded the previously agreed upon amount for circuit rider services.

## **Old Business**

Mr. McIlroy questioned the status of the discussion concerning the development of the business park/industrial site in light of the release of the Black River Corridor Economic Adjustment Strategy report. Ms. Amyot reported that direction to proceed needs to come from the component boards.

## **New Business**

Kevin Smith was unable to attend due to inclement weather and will be rescheduled for the next meeting.

The Council discussed a request from the Tug Hill Commission to support the annual Local Governments Conference to be held at JCC on April 11, 2002. Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Smith to contribute \$200 towards sponsorship of the event. Ayes-8, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Mr. McIlroy reported on recent events that may have some bearing on energy costs and recommended that the Council re-study the idea of energy pooling. The Council will consider the proposal at a future meeting.

Mr. J. Smith spoke about the upcoming job fair being conducted by Stream International. Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Buckley to support the establishment of a technical support call center in the area. Ayes-8, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Franchini to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:12PM.

**The next meeting of the River Area Council of Governments will be held on Tuesday, February 19, 2002 at 7:00PM at the Village of Carthage Municipal Building.**

Christina Vargulick

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RACOG Secretary