

Organization River Area Council of Governments**Board Executive Board****Date and Time Tuesday, May 20 2003 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**

Members present: M. Bezanilla, T. Buckley, M. Franchini, W. McIlroy, P. Smith, T. Stewart, and R. Vary**Member absent:** J. Smith

Chairman McIlroy called the meeting to order at 7:03PM at the Village of Carthage Municipal Building.

Motion M. Franchini, seconded by T. Buckley to approve the minutes for April 15, 2003, as presented. Ayes-7, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Reports

- The Circuit Rider's monthly report was read and accepted.
- Status update-Tug Hill Commission staff is assisting in organizing a forum between RACOG and neighboring communities along the Black River. The forum is scheduled for June 25th at the Town of Champion Municipal Building at 5PM. Forum participants shall include representatives from the NYSDEC, Army Corps of Engineers, the Towns of Denmark, Lowville, and Croghan, and the Villages of Deferiet, Herrings, Castorland, Lowville, Glenfield, and Lyons Falls. Discussion will focus on improving access to the river to facilitate recreational activities including, but not limited to: fishing, boating, trail development, and scenic sights.
- A meeting has been scheduled for June 4th at 11AM at the Tug Hill Commission offices to define the work plan for the NYSDOT Transportation Grant. K. Amyot and Phil Street will meet with representatives from DOT's Albany office and Region 7.
- K. Amyot responding to an inquiry from T. Buckley, reported that the Carthage Furniture Store has been approved to receive funding through the Fa?ade Improvement program. An application from Thomas Goodwin is under review.
- Joint Recreation-Motion by T. Stewart, seconded by P. Smith to authorize the secretary to accept the beach use permit with Whetstone Gulf State Park. Ayes-7, Nays-0. Motion carried. Council members discussed staffing for the swim program. Motion by P. Smith, seconded by M. Franchini that the Village of Carthage hire two (2) certified lifeguards and submit the expenses for both to RACOG for reimbursement. Ayes-7, Nays-0. Motion carried. Maintenance at the Twin Village swimming area was discussed. It was the consensus of the Council that the Village of West Carthage continue to mow the facility and invoice RACOG for the expense. T. Buckley questioned the equity of the financial responsibilities of each municipality in regards to the swimming program. At this time, the Town of Wilna pays the highest amount. The Council agreed by consensus to set the amount due from the Town of Wilna at the same level as the Town of Champion. T. Stewart referred to the recommendation from the Joint Recreation Commission, to sell the Twin Village swimming area and commit the funds to recreational development. The Council took no action on the recommendation.

New Business

- C. Vargulick discussed an opportunity to access the local DSL service to connect the website. Motion by P. Smith, seconded by R. Vary to authorize the secretary to pursue the DSL connection and apply for any available grants for hardware/software to facilitate the connection. Ayes-7, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- Supervisor Smith announced that the Town of Wilna will host an open house at the new Town offices located at 414 State St., Carthage on June 7th from 10AM to 12PM.

Motion by M. Franchini, seconded by P. Smith to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:45PM.

The next meeting of the River Area Council of Governments will be held on Tuesday, June 17, 2003 at 7:00PM at the Village of Carthage Municipal Building.

Christina Vargulick
RACOG Secretary/Treasurer