

Organization River Area Council of Governments

Board Executive Board

Date and Time Tuesday, January 20 2004 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

**River Area Council of Governments
January 20, 2004**

Members present: T. Buckley, S. Burto, G. Caldwell, M. Franchini, W. McIlroy, P. Smith, T. Stewart and R. Vary

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

The meeting was opened for public comment. No one spoke.

Motion T. Stewart, seconded by G. Caldwell to approve the minutes for December 16, 2003, as presented. Ayes-8, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Reports

The Circuit Rider's monthly report was accepted as presented.

Updates

CDBG - Ms. Amyot reminded the Council that June 2004 is the deadline to fully expend grant monies. The Carthage Development Corporation (CDC) has proposed projects to utilize the remaining funds including a revolving loan fund and the Carthage Furniture store project. Ms. Amyot reported that she will be devoting a majority of her hours over the next weeks to preparing an amendment to the CDBG for authorization to re-focus the funds. T. Buckley urged Ms. Amyot to expedite the amendment application and commented on the importance of assisting the successful candidate for the EDCC economic development coordinator position in assimilating information relative to on-going initiatives.

Retail Committee - R. Vary commented on the status of the e-brochure. A formal presentation of the CD-rom companion to the printed brochure will be made at the "Business After Hours" presentation. J. Peck discussed information concerning brochure distribution including a quote from the Great Watertown Chamber of Commerce for access to their mailing list and bulk mailing, additional printing costs, and the cost of envelopes and postage. Mr. Peck estimates that approximately 1,100 brochures will be distributed in the initial mailing. Council members discussed the options and agreed by consensus to develop their own database and to bulk mail as a member of the Carthage Area Chamber of Commerce. The secretary was directed to forward a formal funding request to the Carthage Area Chamber of Commerce to offset a portion of the brochure printing costs.

Motion by T. Buckley, seconded by T. Stewart to authorize payment in the amount of \$96.23 to Dodge-Graphic Press for additional paper costs. Ayes-8, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by P. Smith, seconded by S. Burto to authorize the purchase envelopes for brochure distribution. Ayes-8, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Joint Recreation - Ms. Amyot reported on a presentation by THC personnel and Peter Walsemann, CCSD, relative to pedestrian trails. The presentation focused on the equipment and procedures for plotting the trails utilizing GPS and GIS technology.

New Business

Motion by T. Stewart, seconded by M. Franchini to co-sponsor the THC Local Governments conference to be held March 31, 2004 in the amount of \$250. Ayes-8, Nays-0. Motion carried.

The Council discussed appointing a RACOG ad hoc committee to make recommendations relative to the proposed multi-use recreational bridge. Motion by T. Buckley, seconded by S. Burto to appoint all individuals, now meeting informally to discuss a bridge project, to the committee and in addition to invite Carthage Area Hospital to send a representative. Ayes-8, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Chairman McIlroy appointed T. Buckley, as the RACOG representative, to the Tug Hill Commission committee charged with selecting an executive director to replace Robert Quinn.

K. Amyot proposed a presentation by NYSERDA to discuss regional energy conservation. Ms. Amyot was

authorized to facilitate the presentation at a date to be announced.

Empire Development Zones (EDZ) - T. Buckley reported that a new round of EDZ designation is planned and encouraged members to study and recommend particular areas for zone inclusion. He also reminded members that any revisions to previous applications should focus on benefits to the City of Watertown.

Motion by T. Stewart, seconded by M. Franchini to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:02PM.

The next meeting of the River Area Council of Governments will be held on Tuesday, February 17, 2004 at 7:00PM at the Village of Carthage Municipal Building.

Christina Vargulick
RACOG Secretary/Treasurer