

**Organization River Area Council of Governments**

**Board Executive Board**

**Date and Time Tuesday, June 16 2009 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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**River Area Council of Governments  
June 16, 2009**

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

**Others:** K. Amyot and J. Harvill

Chairman McIlroy called the regular monthly meeting to order at 7:00pm. The meeting was opened for public comment. No one from the public spoke.

Motion by M. Franchini, seconded T. Buckley to approve the minutes of May 19, 2009 as presented. Ayes-8, Nays-0. Motion carried.

**Reports**

J. Harvill presented the draft Black River Watershed Management Plan. She distributed handouts to members for their review and summarized the reports including, prioritization of sites in the watershed in need of remediation and recommendations for protecting the resource. Members questioned the cause and impact of high nutrient levels and discussed potential projects including, riparian buffers, storm sewers, and decommissioning manure pits.

Ms. Amyot reviewed her monthly report noting that the Jefferson County Planning Board has planned a 239-M review of the RACOG Comprehensive Plan at their meeting scheduled for July 28<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm. The meeting will be held at the V/West Carthage Municipal Building. The recreation committee has scheduled a July meeting. The Council discussed the proposed swimming lesson schedule. The YMCA has scheduled two - four week sessions. The fee for each session is \$34/swimmer (\$17/swimmer for YMCA members). Open swim will be held Monday - Friday from July 6<sup>th</sup> through August 27<sup>th</sup>. Motion by S. Burto, seconded by G. Caldwell to limit payment for swimming lessons to Session I only. Ayes-8, Nays-0. Motion carried. S. Burto requested that the YMCA provides copies of the swimming lesson registrations to RACOG.

S. Burto reported that work is progressing at the Twin Village Swim Facility for its reopening. The bathhouse has been replumbed and will be repainted. The docks have been repaired. A limited number of boards have been installed in the dam. Trees have been removed to facilitate the installation of a sidewalk for safe pedestrian access.

**Old Business**

Chairman McIlroy reported that he had misstated the number of staff members that the V/Carthage budgeted for their summer recreation program. The program will employ four staff members including, one position supported by the Pratt-Northam Foundation. The Pratt-Northam funding was reduced which does cause a deficit in the Village's recreation budget. W. McIlroy asked if the Council wished to change the appropriation approved for the Village recreation program based on the new information. The Council agreed, by consensus, to make no change in the appropriation.

S. Burto questioned if there had been any progress on the Natural Bridge ball field. P. Smith responded that no action has been taken to date.

**New Business**

Motion by S. Burto, seconded by M. Franchini to cancel the July and August RACOG meetings. Ayes-8, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Chairman McIlroy discussed a request received from the Northern Corridor Transportation Group regarding support for a four-lane highway connecting Interstate 81 to Interstate 87. Council members agreed that the proposed highway would divert traffic away from NYS Route 3 and that it would have a negative effect on local businesses. The Council agreed, by consensus, to express no support for the proposed highway connection. S.

Burto recommended that Supervisors/Mayors contact their local legislator.

Motion by T. Buckley, seconded by T. Stewart to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:01pm. The next meeting is scheduled for September 15, 2009.

Christina Vargulick  
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RACOG Secretary/Treasurer