

**Organization River Area Council of Governments**

**Board Executive Board**

**Date and Time Tuesday, February 15 2011 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  
February 15, 2011**

**Members present:** T. Buckley, S. Burto, M. Franchini, W. McIlroy, J. Peck (7:05), P. Smith and R. Vary

**Absent:** R. Peluso

**Others:** K. Amyot, J. Bartow, and T. Stewart

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 P. Smith, seconded by T. Buckley to approve the minutes for January 18, 2011 as presented. Ayes-7, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by P. Smith, seconded by M. Franchini to approve the February treasurer's report as presented. Ayes-7, Nays-0. Motion carried.

K. Amyot reviewed her monthly report including information regarding the recreation committee and assistance provided to the T/Denmark.

**Old Business**

S. Burto distributed a summary from Geri Wiesler, Twin Village Beach Director, regarding the 2010 swim program. Ms. Wiesler recommended extending the swim season. Members discussed staffing and participation. S. Burto suggested that the YMCA provide more opportunities for swim lessons by eliminating the afternoon open swim program and that hours/days at the Twin Village beach be expanded to provide more opportunities for recreational swimming. The Council referred the issue to the recreation committee for comment.

**New Business**

J. Bartow informed the Council that funding for the Tug Hill Commission (THC) has been eliminated in the Governor's 2011 State Budget. Individual municipalities and Councils of Government have drafted and adopted resolutions requesting the Governor restore the THC budget, subject to a 10% reduction in its 2010-11 personal services appropriation as recommended for most all State agencies, so that it may undergo review by the SAGE Commission. Members discussed the valuable assistance that RACOG communities receive from THC including: Local Government Conference and other training opportunities; infrastructure development; planning and zoning assistance; waterfront revitalization; JIMI project; and protection of the Black River resources. Motion by S. Burto, seconded by P. Smith to adopt the resolution requesting the restoration of the THC budget, subject to a 10% reduction in its 2010-11 personal services appropriation as recommended for most all State agencies and review by the SAGE Commission. Ayes-7, Nays-0. Motion carried.

A letter to the editor drafted cooperatively by all of the Councils of Governments in the Tug Hill area was distributed by S. Burto in response to an editorial published in the Watertown Daily Times. Motion by P. Smith, seconded by R. Vary to authorize the Chairman to sign the letter to the editor. Ayes-7, Nays-0. Motion carried.

J. Bartow distributed a letter requesting that the Mandate Relief Task Force consider the issue of authorizing town boards to designate low-volume and minimum maintenance roads. Motion by P. Smith, seconded by T. Buckley to authorize the Chairman to sign the letter requesting action on the issue of low-volume and minimum maintenance roads. Ayes-7, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by S. Burto, seconded by P. Smith to nominate W. McIlroy as Chairman for 2011. Ayes-7, Nays-0. Motion carried. Motion by P. Smith, seconded by M. Franchini to nominate S. Burto as Vice Chairman. Ayes-7, Nays-0. Motion carried. Motion by S. Burto, seconded by P. Smith to nominate C. Vargulick as Secretary-Treasurer. Ayes-7, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by S. Burto, seconded by P. Smith to adopt the 2011 RACOG budget as presented. Ayes-7, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by P. Smith, seconded by T. Buckley to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:16pm. The next meeting is scheduled for March 15, 2011.

Christina Vargulick  
Christina Vargulick  
RACOG Secretary/Treasurer