

Organization River Area Council of Governments

Board Executive Board

Date and Time Tuesday, October 18 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

**River Area Council of Governments
October 18, 2011**

Members present: M. Franchini, W. McIlroy, J. Peck (7:08), P. Smith and R. Vary

Absent: T. Buckley, S. Burto, and R. Peluso

Others: K. Amyot and J. Bartow

Chairman McIlroy called the regular monthly meeting to order at 7:05pm. The meeting was opened for public comment. No one from the public spoke.

Motion by P. Smith, seconded by R. Vary to approve the minutes for June 21, 2011 as presented. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by P. Smith, seconded by M. Franchini to approve the October treasurer's report as presented. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.

K. Amyot reviewed her monthly report and discussed efforts regarding information gathering relevant to the new state regional economic development councils.

Ms. Amyot reported that the EPA investigation of the former Crown Cleaners 9.8 acre site is wrapping up. W. McIlroy asked if the state has plans to straighten NYS Route 3 adjacent to the site. P. Smith responded that NYSDOT has no plans at this time. J. Bartow discussed recommendations to officials that they support a complete site clean-up.

Old Business

Council members discussed actions regarding the expired lease/PILOT agreement with Mohawk, Adirondack and Northern Railroad. The five-year agreement expired on December 31, 2006. C. Vargulick reported that the T/Champion has moved the railroad parcel within the Town from Roll Section 8 - Wholly Exempt to Roll Section 1 - Taxable for the 2012 tax roll. J. Peck reported that he had spoken to Don Alexander, JCIDA Executive Director, regarding the issue. Mr. Alexander suggested that the JCIDA was seeking agreement on a plan that would make the Lewis County rails available for recreation; maintain the rails within the Twin Villages for the benefit of local businesses that use the rail line; and maintain that portion of rail in St. Lawrence County as a railway line.

New Business

Council members reviewed and discussed the proposed 2012 budget. Motion by P. Smith, seconded by J. Peck to approve the budget as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

The Council reviewed the 2011 summer swimming program financial report.

P. Smith informed the members that the Lewis County Supervisors' Association had extended an invitation to attend a presentation regarding the new 2% Tax Cap to be held at the New Bremen Municipal Building on October 25th at 5:30pm.

J. Bartow shared information regarding the new state regional economic development councils including limited information about distribution of funding; strategic planning; competition for funding; project/endorsement criteria and public participation. Motion by P. Smith, seconded by J. Peck to authorize the Chairman to sign a letter of support for a funding application submitted by the T/Wilna.

P. Smith volunteered to serve as the representative of RACOG at the annual meeting of COG leaders.

Motion by P. Smith, seconded by R. Vary to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:12pm.

Christina Vargulick
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RACOG Secretary/Treasurer