

Organization River Area Council of Governments

Board Executive Board

Date and Time Thursday, February 16 2012 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
February 16, 2012**

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

Absent: H. Watkins

Others: K. Amyot

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

Motion by T. Buckley, seconded by P. Smith to approve the minutes for October 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 submitted and reviewed her annual report including information for discussion. W. McIlroy acknowledged the value of RACOG but recommended revising the meeting schedule. K. Amyot questioned if the Council wanted the Circuit Rider to continue to report on a monthly basis. The Council agreed, by consensus, that the Circuit Rider's monthly reports should be limited to the actual activities during a given month. Status reports should be limited to a quarterly/annual basis. Ms. Amyot questioned if the Management Study, dated July, 1999, is still relevant. The Council agreed that the objectives of the study are no longer relevant - that they have either been accomplished or dismissed. The Council directed the Circuit Rider to focus on current opportunities to improve or enhance the RACOG communities. T. Buckley acknowledged the RACOG Cooperative ZBA as one of the most successful initiatives of RACOG. He recognized the Board for their professionalism and their high standard of excellence.

Old Business

W. McIlroy questioned the status of the grant application for a ball field in Natural Bridge. K. Amyot reported that the state changed the focus of the funding to give preference to those projects that emphasized job creation. T. Buckley asked about the cost of the land for the proposed ball field. P. Smith responded that the owner is asking \$25,000 plus a parcel of Town owned land.

P. Smith discussed the clean-up and restoration of the former Crown Cleaners site. The T/Wilna is encouraging the NYSDEC to completely restore the site.

New Business

The Council reviewed the original RACOG IMA. Motion by S. Burto, seconded by R. Vary to readopt the IMA. Ayes-7, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by T. Buckley, seconded by S. Burto to adopt the following meeting schedule: January, May, and September. Ayes-7, Nays-0. Motion carried. The Council reserves the right to schedule special meetings as necessary.

K. Amyot shall prepare draft goals for the Council's review and action.

Motion by S. Burto, seconded by R. Vary to disband the ad hoc recreation committee. Ayes-7, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by P. Smith, seconded by M. Franchini to nominate and elect the following RACOG officers: W. McIlroy, Chairman; S. Burto, Vice-Chairman, and C. Vargulick, Secretary/Treasurer. Ayes-7, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by S. Burto, seconded by M. Franchini to support the THC Local Government Conference in the amount of

\$200.00. Ayes-7, Nays-0. Motion carried.

W. McIlroy discussed a problem that the V/Carthage is having regarding dog control. The Village's former dog control officer did not receive civil service approval. Jefferson Dog Control has informed the Village that their agreement with the Towns does not include enforcing locally adopted leash laws. Council members were encouraged to contact their County Legislator to discuss the level of service.

S. Burto discussed a new emergency public notice program that V/West Carthage Police Chief Pustizzi is administering. Residents are invited to sign-up, at no cost, online to receive emergency notifications by cell phone and/or email.

Motion by M. Bigness, seconded by M. Franchini to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:59pm.

Christina Vargulick
Christina Vargulick
RACOG Secretary/Treasurer