



Central New York Regional Planning & Development Board
126 N. Salina St., 100 Clinton Sq., Suite 200, Syracuse, N.Y. 13202 • Tel. (315) 422-8276 • Fax 422-9051
Paul Vickery, Chairman David V. Bottar, Executive Director

AGENDA

April 2007 Meeting Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board

Wednesday, April 18, 2007
Noon – 1:30 p.m.

CNY RPDB
Lower Level Conference Room
100 Clinton Square, Syracuse, New York

Chairwoman Kathleen Rapp, Presiding

1. Call to Order K. Rapp
2. Approval of Day's Agenda and Minutes from the February 28, 2007 Meeting K. Rapp
3. Feature Presentation:
**Water Quality Improvements in Central New York
"The State of Onondaga Lake"** K. Bertuch
D. Coburn
A. Labuz
4. Executive Director's Report D. Bottar
5. Old / New Business K. Rapp
6. Adjournment K. Rapp



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MINUTES

CNY Regional Planning and Development Board Board of Directors Meeting April 18, 2007

126 North Salina Street, Suite 200
Syracuse, New York

ATTENDANCE

Board Members: Lawrence Baker, Daniel Dineen, David Elleman, Mark Lynch, Mary Ann Messinger, Jack Miller, Vijay Mital, James Murphy, Ann Petrus, Kathleen Rapp, Danny Ross, Clarence Rycraft, Daniel Schuster, Donal Spaulding, Frederick Talbot, Walter Tennant, Mike Treadwell, Paul Vickery, and Stephen Zabriskie.

Guests: Annette Durnack, Greater Syracuse Chamber of Commerce; Christa Glazier, Office of U.S. Congressman James Walsh; Clyde Ohl; Rosemary Painter, Office of NYS Assemblywoman Christensen; Christine Slocum, Office of NYS Assemblyman Stirpe; Kaii Torrence, Office of NYS Assemblyman Magnarelli.

Staff: Gerald Aloi, Kathleen Bertuch, David Bottar, Carol Faucher, Stephanie Harrington, Bruce Keplinger, Kristy LaManche, and Anne Saltman.

BUSINESS MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Kathleen Rapp called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. at the conference room of the CNY Regional Planning & Development Board and stated that a quorum was present.

2. **APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA/FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES**

The first order of business was a review of the day's agenda and minutes from the February 28, 2007 meeting. Chairwoman Rapp asked if Board members had any changes to the day's agenda and minutes from the February 2007 meeting. Hearing none, Chairwoman Rapp asked for a motion to accept the day's agenda and minutes as presented; so moved Mr. Dineen; seconded by Mr. Mital; unanimously approved.

3. **FEATURE PRESENTATION**

The next order of business was a presentation on water quality improvements in Central New York. Chairwoman Rapp introduced CNY RPDB Water Resources Program Manager Kathleen Bertuch who briefly highlighted work being conducted on various lakes in Central New York including Onondaga Lake, Oneida Lake, Owasco Lake, and Lake Neatahwanta. Ms. Bertuch then introduced Mr. David Coburn, Director of the Onondaga County Office of the Environment. Mr. Coburn highlighted the environmental condition and economic benefits of Onondaga Lake. The Onondaga Lake Partnership (OLP) was established in 2000 to promote cooperation among government agencies and other parties involved in managing the environmental issues of Onondaga Lake and the watershed. The OLP consists of federal, state, local, public, and private entities. The OLP coordinates the development and implementation of projects for the environmental restoration, conservation, and management of Onondaga Lake. U.S. Congressman James Walsh was instrumental in securing \$139 million to implement the cleanup efforts.

Continuing his presentation, Mr. Coburn stated that in 1998 an Amended Consent Judgment (ACJ) was signed to ensure full compliance with the federal Clean Water Act by 2012. The ACJ requires Onondaga County to update its sewage treatment plant and construct new facilities and conveyances to comply with state permits and water quality standards. Water quality has been significantly improved due to increases in dissolved oxygen levels and decreases in salinity, bacteria, and sediment loads. To date, 27 of 30 projects required under the ACJ have been completed including remedial investigation and feasibility study, nonpoint pollution, and habitat restoration. In addition, a management plan was prepared to provide a plan of action for restoring the ecological health and recreational uses of the lake. In conclusion, Mr. Coburn summarized the current status of restoration efforts including a decrease in ammonia concentration, phosphorus, bacteria, and salinity levels, an increase in dissolved oxygen levels, and improved water clarity.

Ms. Bertuch then introduced Mr. John McAuliffe, Senior Program Director for Honeywell International who opened his presentation by stating that the Honeywell International has contributed approximately \$500 million dollars on restoration efforts. Working in cooperation with SUNY Environmental Science and Forestry, Greater Syracuse Chamber of Commerce, and the Metropolitan Development Association, a creative core partnership was developed to address renewable energy, water quality, and development of a green building. Mr. McAuliffe stated that Onondaga Lake is a major asset to the community and that Honeywell is committed to all restoration efforts. Honeywell constructed a 1.5-mile barrier to prevent additional contaminants from entering the lake. The groundwater treatment plant removes water from the barrier along the lakeshore and sends it to a holding tank at the

central treatment facility where metals, ammonia, and mercury is removed from the water. In closing, Mr. McAuliffe briefly described a biomass willow production being developed by SUNY ESF which would offer plentiful biofuel.

Ms. Bertuch then introduced Mr. Alfred Labuz from Honeywell International who continued briefing the audience on Honeywell's efforts to clean and restore Onondaga Lake. Mr. Labuz described innovative remediation measures being used to remove mercury from the contaminated soil at the Lake's upland sites. Honeywell International has also developed a soil washing process at the former LCP plant. New plants and vegetation has been planted at the once contaminated wetlands around the lake.

At the conclusion of the three presentations, Messrs. Coburn, Labuz, and McAuliffe responded to several questions from the audience.

4. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director David Bottar announced that program committees would meet on May 16th. Below is the schedule for each committee:

9:00 a.m.	Environmental Management
10:30 a.m.	Community Development
12:00 noon	Executive Committee
1:30 p.m.	Economic Development

The next full Board meeting has been scheduled for June 20th, which will include a presentation from Lockwood Green, a site consultant firm, who prepared a regional assessment that identifies target industries to be pursued for economic growth in the region. Also on the agenda will be the annual update of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. The August 22nd Board meeting will be held at Greek Peak Resort in Virgil, New York.

Continuing with his presentation, Mr. Bottar announced that the CNY RPDB was selected by the NYS Energy Research and Development Authority to be the CNY Regional Energy Smart Coordinator. This grant will allow Energy Program Manager Gerald Aloï to devote time to develop an array of energy projects for various communities in Central New York.

On April 25th, Mr. Bottar and other Directors from the NYS Association of Regional Councils will be meeting with Marty Mack, Deputy Secretary for Intergovernmental Affairs, to discuss planning initiatives in New York State and a potential partnership with Governor Spitzer's administration.

The CNY Water System Task Force continues to meet monthly at the CNY RPDB. The next meeting has been scheduled for May 2nd. The task force was formed by Onondaga County Legislative Chairman Dale Sweetland to address water issues in Onondaga County and surrounding areas.

Mr. Bottar announced the resignation of Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council (SMTC) Director Mary Rowlands. After a nationwide search, the SMTC executive and policy committees unanimously approved the appointment of James D'Agostino to serve as the new director.

5. **OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

Chairwoman Rapp stated that there was no old / new business to report.

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairwoman Rapp thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 1:45 p.m.