

**Central New York Stormwater Coalition Meeting**  
**May 8, 2012**  
**Onondaga County Department of Water Environment Protection**  
**Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant Operations Center, Syracuse, NY**

**Attendees:**

Kathleen Bertuch (CNY RPDB)	Jason Hoy (Town of Van Buren)*
Jessica Breiten (HOCCPP)	David Kubek (CNY RPDB)
Mark Burger (Onondaga County SWCD)	Mark Lafaver (Town of Salina)
James Conlon (Town of DeWitt)*	Paul Legnetto (Onondaga County)
Mary Ann Coogan (Town of Camillus)*	William Morse (Town of Geddes)
James Craw (Village of Fayetteville)*	Mark Parrish (O'Brien & Gere)
Anthony DeStefano (Village of Solvay)*	Jason Perkins (Town of Salina)*
Ronald DeTota (C&S Engineers)	Tom Petterelli (Village of Minoa)
Pamela DiCarlo (Village of North Syracuse)*	William Reagan (Village of Marcellus)*
John Dunkle (Dunn & Sgromo Engineers)	Ronald Russell (Village of East Syracuse)*
Tom Dussing (O'Brien & Gere)	Anne Saltman (CNY RPDB)
Ellen Hahn (NYS DEC)	David Tessier (Village of Manlius)*
Kristy Harris (CHA)	Kay Wakeman (CNY RPDB)
John Houser (Town of Marcellus)	Doug Wickman (Town of Cicero)*

**Non-Registered Attendees:**

Mary Robison (City of Syracuse)\*  
Al Yager (Town of Lysander)

*\*voting representatives*

**Action Items:**

The following action items and responsible parties were identified:

- Develop year-5 education and outreach service proposal (CNY RPDB)
- Monitor responsiveness summary regarding Onondaga Lake Watershed TMDL (D. Coburn, CNY RPDB)
- Monitor release of draft EPA Final Stormwater Rule (D. Kubek)
- Present package of templates and supporting documents for maintenance agreements and use of drainage districts to MS4 Planning Departments for discussion and possible use (ALL)

**Herkimer-Oneida Counties Comprehensive Planning Program (HOCCPP) Presentation:**

Jessica Breiten gave a presentation regarding HOCCPP's stormwater sewershed and system mapping program. She discussed the regulatory context and intent behind the mapping requirements, as well as the rationale of completing system mapping and outfall mapping first to make subsequent sewershed mapping easier and more accurate. She also presented information on the mapping protocol and specific issues encountered in mapping of various features, as well as development of a GIS database containing information on all features.

**Call to Order of Regular Meeting and Approval of February 7, 2012 Minutes:**

D. Tessier opened the regular meeting with introductions at 1:45 PM. The minutes of the February 7, 2012 meeting were reviewed. J. Craw made a motion to approve the minutes. A. DeStefano seconded the motion; 11 designated representatives were in favor, with 0 opposed and 0 abstentions.

#### **MS4 Audits:**

E. Hahn discussed some general observations concerning the recent MS4 audits, and suggestions for improvement of the MS4s' Stormwater Management Programs (SWMPs). She highlighted the importance of soliciting both public input and participation in stormwater program activities, and the need for further assistance to improve sewershed and system mapping. Regarding construction, she expressed the need for improved follow-up and tracking of inspection results with actions taken in response to deficiencies. Also, precise documentation of the locations of all facilities and their condition is critical in preventing major failures that could lead to property or infrastructure damage. Concerning pollution prevention in municipal operations, she emphasized the importance of training all staff and identifying problem locations such as areas of high sedimentation. She highlighted the need for increased detail in effectiveness evaluations and the requirement to regularly update SWMP Plans. M. Burger noted that critical area seeding by SWCDs should also be tracked in MS4 documentation. J. Breiten also commented that use of the SWMP Plan template available through Digital Towpath, which is used by the Town of Salina, can be very helpful in managing data and updating the SWMP Plan.

#### **Onondaga Lake Watershed TMDL Subcommittee:**

P. Legnetto summarized the April 12 Onondaga Lake Watershed TMDL Subcommittee meeting. The Committee found that the draft TMDL does not impose discrete load reduction allocations for individual MS4s, only for the group of watershed MS4s collectively, and assumes that the new law prohibiting the use of phosphorus fertilizer will be responsible for much of the required 18 percent reduction in phosphorus load from urban stormwater runoff. It also does not impose a specific requirement for retrofits, but does indicate that green infrastructure improvements might be used to supplement other efforts; it takes an "adaptive management" approach allowing flexibility in the implementation plan according to the future response in lake water quality. The timeframe for full attainment of the required load reduction of 18% is reasonable (i.e., by 2025, or 13 years after issuance of the final TMDL). A Watershed Improvement Strategy must be completed within three years from finalization of the TMDL. P. Legnetto stated that the Committee should next meet after the completion of the "No Net Increase" modeling of Pollutants of Concern being done through the existing EPF grant. E. Hahn emphasized the importance of MS4s in the watershed working together, through a Regional Stormwater Entity if possible, and noted the importance of planning what other measures might be taken to reduce phosphorus loading other than the fertilizer law.

#### **Stormwater Banking and Credit System:**

D. Kubek introduced the concept of a stormwater banking and credit system as described in the 2010 MS4 General Permit. Such a system, which would most likely be applicable in the Onondaga Lake watershed, would allow one pollutant source to meet its regulatory obligations by using pollutant reductions created by another source with lower pollutant control costs. The benefits of a banking and credit system might include making it easier for developers to meet the higher water quality and runoff reduction volumes imposed through the Enhanced Phosphorus Removal standards, and the possibility of trading among stormwater retrofits if they are required by the TMDL. Such a program would require a 2 to 1 ratio of offsite credit to required treatment, would need to be approved by NYSDEC, administered by a third party, and define the exact pollutant unit of trade. P. Legnetto stated that it would be premature to discuss such a system in further detail now because the Pollutants of Concern modeling, which may identify phosphorus hotspots, is not yet completed.

### **Progress Updates:**

**Finance Committee:** D. Tessier reported that after three meetings, the Finance Committee concluded that it recommends a \$3600 fixed-rate fee based on the projected budget for Coalition services submitted by CNY RPDB. The cost is similar to the education cost charged in previous years, yet includes a wider scope of services including assistance with administration of the Coalition. A. DeStefano made a motion to accept the Committee's report, which was seconded by J. Conlon. 12 representatives voted in favor with none opposed and no abstentions. It was determined after the vote that there were an insufficient number of designated representatives from voting Coalition members present to form a quorum.

**Outreach and Education Program:** K. Bertuch reported that the annual report pages summarizing CNY RPDB activities in the 2011-2012 reporting year had been distributed. She listed the items that had been completed, including staffing of a booth at the CNY In Bloom show in March, completion of the Post-Standard stormwater pullout page piece, a stormwater management program development and assessment workshop for municipal officials and staff (held April 23 at the Clay Fire Hall), and the completion of two contractor workshops at Homebuilders and Remodelers Association of CNY (May 2) and Syracuse Builders Exchange (May 8). A workshop will be held on development of a pollution control program and assessment of its effectiveness, to be presented by Andy Sansone (Monroe County Stormwater Coalition). The program will include a short IDDE training that is approved for one hour of continuing education credit for Code Enforcement Officers.

K. Bertuch reported that CNY RPDB is in the process of distributing stormwater educational brochures through the Onondaga County Public Library System. Efforts will be made to distribute the same materials through branch libraries in Oswego and Madison Counties. The Coalition's stormwater display will be used at the Onondaga County Planning Federation Symposium on June 7, as well as at the Onondaga County Department of Water Environment Protection open house. It is available for local events for any interested MS4s. Preliminary planning is underway for a CNY Stormwater Conference and Trade Show to be held in 2013. Such an event has potential to generate revenue for the Coalition.

### **NYS Supreme Court Decision regarding the 2010 MS4 Stormwater Permit:**

K. Bertuch reported that the portion of the NYS Supreme Court's decision to annul the 2010 MS4 General Stormwater Permit has been reversed. As a result, the 2010 permit remains in effect. MS4s should proceed as usual with their Stormwater Management Programs and should file their Annual Reports.

### **New Business:**

No new business was initiated.

### **Executive Committee Meeting Date:**

D. Tessier indicated that the Executive Committee would meet June 14 at 1:00 PM at the Manlius Town Hall.

### **Next Full Coalition Meeting:**

D. Tessier stated that the next meeting is scheduled for 1:00 PM on Tuesday, August 7, 2012. The meeting location will be finalized closer to the meeting date. The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 PM.