



A clean lake reflects well
on all of us.

(final)
ONONDAGA LAKE PARTNERSHIP (OLP)
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

August 1, 2007

1. ATTENDEES

Committee Members Present:

LTC John S. Hurley, District Commander, USACE, Buffalo District (VTC)
Mr. David Coburn, Director, Onondaga County Office of the Environment
(Alt. for Mr. Nicholas Pirro, Onondaga County Executive)
Mr. Kenneth Lynch, Regional Director, NYSDEC, Region 7
Mr. William Owens, Contract Compliance Officer, City of Syracuse
(Alt. for Mayor Matthew Driscoll, City of Syracuse)
Mr. Seth Ausubel, Chief, Freshwater Protection Branch, USEPA Region 2 (Teleconference)
(Alt. for Mr. Mario DelVicario, Chief, Community and Ecosystem Branch USEPA Region 2)
Mr. Charles Silver, Environmental Scientist, NYS Office of the Attorney General (Teleconference)

Others In Attendance:

Mr. Christopher Dere, Onondaga Lake Program Manager, USEPA Region 2 (Teleconference)
Mr. Steven Vriesen, OLP Project Manager, USACE, Buffalo District
Ms. Sue Miller, Deputy LIPO, Outreach Committee Chair
Mr. David MacPherson, OLP Program Manager, USACE, Buffalo
Ms. Julie Zielinski, OLP Recording Secretary, USACE, Buffalo District
Ms. Lindsay Speer, Joe Heath's Office, Onondaga Nation Representative

Committee Members Absent:

None

2. MEETING ARRANGEMENTS: The meeting was held on Wednesday, August 1, 2007 at 11:00 a.m.

3. AGENDA ITEMS: An Agenda was provided which included the following items:

- a. **Opening Remarks:** LTC Hurley welcomed everyone to the meeting. LTC Hurley and the partners offered condolences to the family of Mayor Driscoll on the loss of his father.
- b. **Executive Session:** An Executive Session was held from 11:10 a.m. through 11:50 a.m.
- c. **Approval of the June 1, 2007 minutes:** The minutes of the June 1, 2007 were unanimously approved as amended.

d. Action Items:

Action Item E07-6: In-progress. Mr. Lynch spoke with Mr. Ron Heerkins of NYSDOH. The bacteria issue is a complex issue. There are limited state regulations governing water bodies. Mr. Heerkins stated that he would like to review additional data from OEI, the Onondaga Nation as well as data from the county's AMP. Once he looks closer at the data and identifies what additional data is needed he may have more information to share with the OLP. Mr. Heerkins will meet with the City of Syracuse to discuss the issues further. Mr. Lynch reassured Mr. Owens that he is just as concerned as he is and will continue to work the issue.

Action Item E07-7: Complete. NYSDEC will chair the Project Committee. NYSDEC will need to transition with USACE and select a date for the transition.

Action Item E07-9: Complete.

Action Item E07-10: Remains in-progress

Action Item: E07-11: Remains in-progress

4. **Correspondence:** Ms. Zielinski reported that USACE had neither incoming nor outgoing correspondence to report.

5. Standing Committee Reports:

- a. **Outreach Committee:** Ms. Miller reported for the Outreach Committee meetings held on June 20, 2007 and July 24, 2007:

The following key items were discussed:

- 2007 Onondaga Lake Day was a big success and best attended to date. Activities included some as in the previous years and new activities including face painting and crafts done by ESF students. Interactive displays, free bike rental, and building blue bird houses were also popular. Congressman Walsh attended to unveil the new county DVD entitled "Urban Best Management Practices." The event received great press on June 3, 2007 in the *Post Standard*.
- The OLP Tabloid went out on May 29, 2007 to over 58, 000 households.
- Speakers Bureau has been slowing down for the summer, two speaking engagements have been scheduled for August 16 and August 22, 2007.

- OLP Mini Grants: Four applications have been received from the second announcement. To date the OLP has funded 33 projects for a total of \$125,731.26.
- Teachers Education Fund: The OLP has funded 18 grants from 2005-2007 for a total of \$7,061.51.
- Free Fishing Weekend was held on June 23-24, 2007 sponsored by the Izaak Walton League. Approximately 150 people participated in this year's event. The fishermen caught over 400 lbs. of Carp, a record number for the area.
- The OLP website is in the process of being updated.
- The joint Outreach/Project Committee meeting was both informative and helpful to the Outreach Committee members.

b. Project Committee: Mr. MacPherson reported on the Project Committee Meetings held on June 21, 2007 and July 24, 2007.

Highlights from the meetings were as follows:

- Lake Visioning Report: EcoLogic, LLC is expected to complete all remaining tasks by August 10, 2007.
- SOPs: Updated the Project Committee's Standard Operating Procedures.
- OEI Update: Received a monthly update from OEI describing their OLP-related activities.
- Onondaga Lake Watershed Progress Assessment and Action Strategies (PAAS) previously known as the Watershed Management Study. A proposal has been drafted and recommended for approval by the Project Committee.
- Project of the Month: Midland Avenue Regional Treatment Facility and Conveyances: Mr. Randy Ott from WEP gave an update on the progress of Phase 1, 2, and 3 of the project which is scheduled for completion in 2010.
- Joint Project/Outreach Committee meeting included presentations on the lake bottom, the county's Ambient Monitoring program, and the Tully Valley Brinefield Mudboil Connection Project.
- The next Project Committee meeting is scheduled for September 20, 2007.

6. Unfinished Business:

a. Onondaga Lake Day Success and Suggestions for next year: Ms. Miller had nothing to add to her standing committee report.

b. Project Committee Chair: Mr. Lynch informed the partners that NYSDEC is prepared to resume the chair position on the Project Committee.

7. New Business:

a. Project Committee Standard Operating Procedures: Mr. MacPherson explained the minor revisions made to the section pertaining to Conduct of Meetings and requested approval of the revised version. The following Motion was moved by Mr. Lynch, seconded by Mr. Coburn, and approved unanimously.

MOTION: The Executive Committee approves the updated Project Committee Standard Operating Procedures.

b. Onondaga Lake Watershed Progress Assessment and Action Strategies (PAAS)

proposal: Mr. Vriesen explained that the proposal is the result of a joint effort on behalf of the six partner agencies over a period of years to come to agreement on the path forward. Mr. Vriesen requested approval of the proposal recognizing that USACE is under time constraints to obligate the funding by the end of FY07. The partners made minor suggestions for revisions and requested that USACE provide a detailed account of the costs associated with the project management oversight of the project. The following Motion was moved by Mr. Ausubel, seconded by Mr. Lynch, and approved unanimously.

MOTION: The Executive Committee approves the recommendation made by the Project Committee to approve the Onondaga Lake Watershed Progress Assessment and Action Strategies (PAAS) proposal as amended.

c. OLP Resolution 2007-2: Mr. Dere explained that this resolution moves funds from the Groundwater Model Enhancement Drilling and Water Quality Assessment in the Onondaga Creek (FY03-2) to FY05-7 Modeling Over-pressured Ground Water Conditions in relation to mudboil activity. The following Motion was moved by Mr. Lynch, seconded by Mr. Ausubel and approved unanimously.

MOTION: The Executive Committee approves OLP Resolution 2007-2.

d. Annual Progress Meeting (APM): LTC Hurley explained that his schedule mandates his participation in the new personnel system evaluation board during the previously scheduled dates of Nov. 1-2, 2007 for the 2007 APM and After Action Review (AAR). Ms. Zielinski and Ms. Kreuzsch canvassed the partners schedules along with the hotel's availability in order to re-schedule the date. The re-scheduled date for the 2007 APM and AAR is October 22, 2007.

Ms. Miller requested input for a recommendation on the narration of the power point presentation for the APM. The partners were asked if they preferred to share the narration or to have one person narrate the entire presentation. The partners recommended approaching a professional local personality to narrate the presentation as well as moderate the question and answer session of the meeting.

8. Other Business:

a. Issues: Visioning Project: Mr. Silver requested clarification on the details of the roll out plan included the technical scope of services contract with EcoLogic, LLC. The remaining tasks are expected to be complete by August 2007. The roll-out plan for the Visioning report includes confirming the visions given by the original contacts and posting the report on line.

Any further direction from the OLP has not been addressed at this time. The partners discussed reviewing the final report before making a recommendation on the path forward. This item will be an Agenda item for the next meeting.

ACTION ITEM: The Project Committee will review the complete final report and provide a recommendation for approval ensuring that EcoLogic, LLC met their contractual obligations.

9. Public Comment: None.

0. ADJOURN: The next meeting is scheduled for September 5, 2007 at the Onondaga County Office of the Environment in Syracuse, NY.

Adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Number	Date of Origin	Due Date	Action Officer	Tasking	Status
E07-6	16-Jan-07	1 June-07	Lynch	Contact the State Department of Health for further information on the health risks associated with human contact with Onondaga Creek.	In-Progress
E07-7	16-Jan-07	May-07	Lynch	Provide a recommendation for Project Committee Chair.	Complete
E07-9	27-Apr-07	1-Jun-07	USACE	Contact Bill Coon of USGS for status update on calibration of the The Hydrologic and Water Quality Characterization and Modeling of the Onondaga Lake Basin data	Complete
E07-10	27-Apr-07		Resource Subcmte	Provide a recommendation for a long term solution for funding the continuing operation and maintenance of the tully valley mudboils.	In-Progress
E07-11	27-Apr-07	20-Sept-07	Project Committee	Provide a status report on total dollars spent on mudboil projects to date (OLP)	In-Progress