

River Area Council of Governments
March 20, 2018

Members present: M. Bigness, B. Ferguson, W. McIlroy, S. Storms,
and T. Stewart

Absent: S. Burto, A. Peck, P. Smith, R. Vary and J. Zando

Others: M. Dietrich and P. Street (THC)

Chairman McIlroy called the meeting to order at 6:00pm at the V/Carthage Municipal Building, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by M. Bigness, seconded by S. Storms to approve the minutes of February 26, 2018 as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Mickey Dietrich, Circuit Rider, reported on the following: NY Alerts has reported that the system will not support town/village alerts. RACOG shall consider alternatives via the County or Tug Hill Commission; discussed a follow-up meeting with CEC regarding street lighting. Members agreed, by concurrence, to arrange a meeting with National Grid representative(s) to garner information related to a scheduled inventory update and street lighting replacement plans; Board members agreed to have the intern from MCC present the RACOG resource map at the May RACOG meeting; Board members agreed to invite Heather Tanner to present a status update for the Wilna-Champion Transportation Association at the April RACOG meeting.

Presentation

Todd Burker, CCSD Sustainability Corps advisor, presented information regarding the Carthage Central School's program to gather, sort, and manage waste from the school's meal program. He explained that meal by-products are collected from the high school and middle school programs. Trash is collected for disposal, food scraps and compostable paper is collected and managed in the school's compost bins located on the south side of the high school, and liquids are collected and disposed of through the sewage system. The program removes approximately 1000 lbs. of waste from the trash stream on a daily basis. The compost program produces approximately 8T of compost per year which is used to improve fertility on the school grounds including vegetable gardens producing fresh food for the meal program. Mr. Burker outlined ways that the program could be expanded through a partnership between the school district and the surrounding communities. B. Ferguson questioned the economics of the program. Mr. Burker noted the advantages for the environment. W. McIlroy discussed efficiencies based on size and single stream recycling.

New Business

Based on the addition of T/Lowville to RACOG, the Board considered an amendment to the by-laws Section 6-Meeting Quorum. Motion by M. Bigness, seconded by S. Storms to increase the minimum number of representatives to establish a quorum for a meeting to four (4) member towns and villages. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by B. Ferguson, seconded by M. Bigness to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:06pm.

Christina Vargulick

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RACOG Secretary