



**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

*9:30 A.M., Thursday, November 19, 2020*

*via Zoom Videoconference*

**Meeting Minutes**

**1) Open Meeting**

Voting Members in Attendance: Richard Williams, Sr. (Town of Patterson) and as alternate for Ken Schmitt (Town of Carmel); Chris Burdick (Town of Bedford); Warren Lucas (Town of North Salem); Peter Parsons (Town of Lewisboro); Vincent Tamagna as alternate for MaryEllen Odell (Putnam County); JoAnne Daley as alternate for James Schmitt (Town of Pawling)

Others in Attendance: Christine Chale (Corporate Counsel); Patrick Logan (Corporate Counsel); Millie Magraw (Westchester County); Vincent Giorgio (NYCDEP); Kevin Fitzpatrick (EOHWC); Joanne Tavino (EOHWC); Linda Matera (EOHWC); Cory Lapidus (EOHWC)

**2) Approve Meeting Minutes of October 22, 2020**

Motion by Director Burdick, seconded by Vincent Tamagna to approve the meeting minutes of October 22, 2020; all in favor.

**3) Financial Update**

Joanne Tavino reported that the October 31<sup>st</sup> fund balance was \$18.3 million of which \$11 million is FAD funds, \$4.4 million Westchester funds and \$2.9 million Putnam funds. Checks written for the month of November total \$205,336, of which \$20,180 is FAD expenditures.

**4) Project Update**

Kevin reported that many projects are in the process of wrapping up to close out by the end of the year. Several projects have been submitted to New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) for credit. The Project Update spreadsheet total has been updated to 604 kilograms. We expect another 20 kilograms of credit once the NYSDEC reviews our documents and the engineers wrap up their certification letters.

Two weeks ago at Leonard Park (MK-NC-22) a private resident drove their car into one of our sand filters. The filter installation was complete and we were basically down to grass seeding. The vehicle's tires sunk approximately a foot deep into one of the filters that had a 6 inch protective layer. Both the police and insurance companies were notified. The incident has also been reported to our insurance carrier as well and there's no reason to believe that the claim is going to go through our insurance or that it will increase our cost. The individual who drove their car through the filter has been working with Legacy Supply, LLC as well as their own insurance company. The extent of the damage amounts to approximately \$80,000. This incident will delay the closure on the project because we will not front any of the funding for the retrofit to be fixed so we are at the mercy of the insurance process for Legacy to get out there and possibly have to re-construct that portion of the project. We're expecting a full re-construction of that individual

filter. At this point, there is no action we can take while we wait. Director Williams asked how we can prevent this from happening in the future. Kevin said that this particular filter is reasonably far away from the road and all parking. It is in an area where no cars are authorized to access it. Other East of Hudson Watershed Corporation (EOHWC) projects containing filters that are adjacent to the road and parking have a wooden guard rails to prevent this from happening. On this particular project, vehicles are not authorized to be near the tennis courts and baseball field where the filter has been installed. Although this seems like an isolated incident, we could start investigating further safety measures if members of the Executive Committee feel it is necessary. Director Lucas inquired if it is visually clear that vehicles are driving into an area where they shouldn't be. Kevin stated that the signs cannot be missed because they are posted by the Town of Mount Kisco Recreation Department that no unauthorized vehicles are permitted beyond that point. Director Burdick expressed that he shares the same thought as Kevin that it is an isolated incident and if we were to try to implement safety measures that would make this less likely to occur, it could increase project cost. If the insurance is covering it, why increase the project cost. Director Williams pointed out that there is nothing there that says that is the location of the sand filter. It may be a good idea to put up 1 or 2 red signs that say "Stop, Sand Filter", so everyone is aware. The cost for a couple of big, red signs would not be expensive. Kevin agreed with Director Williams' suggestion and further added that the sign should identify it as a stormwater retrofit project which can then be used as an educational tool to provide additional knowledge on its purpose along with a general map of everything we've installed at Leonard Park. Director Lucas added that installing a plaque with the Corporation's name on it along with the cost and benefit to the community would also be appropriate. Kevin said it's a solution that can solve multiple issues because he and Cory Lapidus have been looking into how they can get useful signage into the retrofits across the entire watershed. Kevin will do further research and provide more information at a future meeting.

##### **5) SEQRA Determination/SE-EB-715**

The project to be installed at Scolpino Park (SE-EB-715) in the Town of Southeast is currently in the permitting process. The SEQRA Determination is on the agenda for approval today. We had hoped to move ahead with construction in early January but with an early Executive Committee meeting in December that may be a challenge to accomplish. The plan is to have it installed before the park opens for recreation in the spring. While we do not have a hard date yet from the Town of Southeast on spring park openings, baseball and little league activities usually start close to the beginning of March or April. Once all permits are in hand, we will schedule the installation with the Town of Southeast to make sure we have ample time to complete the project. If it does not time out as planned, construction will be postponed until later in the year so that recreational use of the area is not affected.

Motion by Director Burdick, seconded by Director Lucas to approve the SEQRA Determination for stormwater retrofit project SE-EB-715.

**WHEREAS**, EOHWC is considering undertaking the installation of a stormwater retrofit project in the Town of Southeast involving surface sand filters to be installed at Scolpino Park in the Town of Southeast, NY; and

**WHEREAS**, the Executive Committee of EOHWC has reviewed the Short Environmental Assessment Form dated 11/19/2020 and all relevant environmental information related to the proposed project;

**NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the East of Hudson Watershed Corporation that it:

1. Classifies the project as an unlisted action under the SEQRA; and
2. Determines that the proposed action will not result in any significant adverse impacts on the environment and that a Draft Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

Motion passed; all in favor.

R-1119-01

### **7) Checks and vouchers**

Monthly vouchers were signed. No action taken.

### **8) Other business**

Director Burdick announced that he will be moving on to the New York State Assembly but would like to continue to work with EOHWC to expand the role of the Corporation. In addition to what we are already doing, it will be helpful if Christine Chale can help us accomplish this goal without violating our agreement and use of funds. Once we have amended the Certificate of Incorporation and other documents to expand the authority of the Corporation, it would be a good idea to visit the municipalities to get a sense of the needs within each one and look at any cost estimates they may have, especially as it relates to the FAD. In speaking with David Warne at New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYCDEP) he mentioned that if there is any possibility of funding, it would be in the FAD area. The process is going to take time so we should get the discussion started and see where it takes us. Then we can decide on the next steps. We should talk to the counties as well and see what funding is available. There is the possibility that in the coming administration there may be federal funds that can assist with infrastructure projects like this.

Director Lucas announced that he received notice from George Rodenhausen that he will be retiring. He said we are in good hands with Christine. George was very instrumental early on in pulling a lot together for Westchester and deserves many thanks for all he has done. Vincent Tamagna was also notified by George and suggested recognizing him with a formal resolution. Director Lucas also suggested getting a proclamation or a plaque, especially because we cannot get together at this time to recognize him. Christine thanked everyone on George's behalf and added that environmental law and issues have always been his passion. Director Lucas asked that Christine extend appreciation to him on behalf of the Corporation for his guidance and the support he gave us early on because we would not be here today without it. Director Williams will work with Joanne Tavino to come up with a way to recognize George's work with EOHWC. Director Burdick added that George was a major force in both the establishment and evolution of the Corporation and we owe him a great debt of gratitude for all he's done.

**9) Adjournment - Motion to adjourn by Vincent Tamagna, seconded by Director Lucas; all in favor. Adjourned 9:53 AM.**



## East of Hudson Watershed Corporation

2 Route 164, Suite 2  
Patterson, NY 12563

### PRESIDENT'S CERTIFICATE

I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the November 19, 2020 meeting minutes approved by the Executive Committee.

Richard Williams, Sr., President

Date

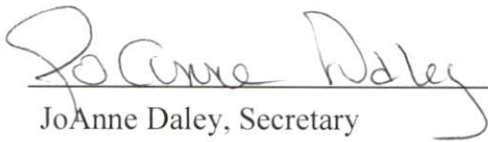


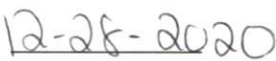
# East of Hudson Watershed Corporation

2 Route 164, Suite 2  
Patterson, NY 12563

## SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE

I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the November 19, 2020 meeting minutes approved by the Executive Committee.

  
JoAnne Daley, Secretary

  
Date