

**CATSKILL WATERSHED CORPORATION
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
June 13, 2013 @ 2:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call of Directors

Present: Donald “Mike” Brandow, Martin Donnelly, James Eisel, Jeff Graf (*New York City DEP*), Thomas Hynes, Berndt Leifeld, Georgianna Lepke, Wayne Marshfield, Tina Molé, Richard Parete, Robert Pelham, and Michael Triolo.

Excused: Deborah DeWan, Innes Kasanof, and Thomas Snow, Jr. (*NYS DEC*).

Staff: Timothy Cox, Diane Galusha, Leo LaBuda, James Martin, Barbara Puglisi, Alan Rosa, and Frieda Suss.

Others Present: Aaron Bennett (*Ulster County Department of Environment*), Bridget Pelham (*Representative, Honorable Chris Gibson*), Beth Reichheld (*NYC DEP*), and Geoff Samuels (*Catskill Mountain News*).

III. Presentation of Resolution

A motion to approve Resolution Number 2320 was made by Richard Parete and seconded by Michael Triolo.

June 13, 2013

RESOLUTION NO. 2320
BOARD SUPPORT FOR LOCAL FLOOD HAZARD MITIGATION ANALYSIS AND
PLANNING PROGRAM SCOPE OF SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Catskill Watershed Corporation(CWC) is a not for profit local development corporation whose members include all forty-one towns wholly or partially in the West of Hudson Watershed; and

WHEREAS, in October 2011, as a result of the devastation caused by Hurricanes Irene and Lee, the Delaware County Board of Supervisors requested New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYCDEP) allocate additional funding from the Land Acquisition Program to support flood mitigation that will reduce the long-term risk from pollutant loading caused by major flood events; and

WHEREAS, numerous other municipalities subsequently passed similar resolutions requesting NYCDEP to allocate additional funding to support flood mitigation; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Director of Environmental Protection Agency Region 2, Judith Enck, convened a meeting in December 2011 of stakeholders, including representatives from State, City, environmental organizations and watershed municipalities to discuss flood mitigation; and

WHEREAS, discussions among stakeholders resulted in a September, 2012 document entitled “Flood Hazard Mitigation Program” wherein NYCDEP committed to fund a new Flood Hazard Mitigation Program with monies separate and apart from the Land Acquisition Program; and

WHEREAS, as described in the September 2012 Flood Hazard Mitigation Program report, communities will be offered funding to complete studies (“Flood Hazard Mitigation Analysis”) to identify projects that could alleviate flood hazards; and

WHEREAS, as described in the September 2012 Flood Hazard Mitigation Program report, for projects identified by the Flood Hazard Mitigation Analysis, local communities would be eligible to apply to various funding sources to implement certain projects; and

WHEREAS, as described in the September 2012 Flood Hazard Mitigation Program report, NYCDEP has committed to establish a new fund to be known as the “Flood Hazard Mitigation Implementation Fund” that would provide local communities with funds to implement certain types of projects identified by the Flood Hazard Mitigation Analysis; and

WHEREAS, NYCDEP and other stakeholders have discussed a role for CWC in managing the Flood Hazard Mitigation Implementation Fund; and

WHEREAS, CWC and NYCDEP have begun reviewing draft program rules for a new Flood Hazard Mitigation Implementation Fund but have not yet reached consensus on the draft program rules or program funding agreement; and

WHEREAS, NYCDEP’s Stream Management Program contracting agencies and NYCDEP drafted a Scope of Services to define the Flood Hazard Mitigation Analysis and Planning effort that will identify projects that may be eligible for funding; and

WHEREAS, NYCDEP requested CWC’s review and comment on the Scope of Services; and

WHEREAS, in a Committee of the Whole, CWC identified certain concerns with the Scope of Services, primarily related to home rule and the authority of a town/village board (rather than an advisory committee), to identify certain areas and issues for study as well as to identify and prioritize projects that could be funded by various programs including, but not limited to, the proposed Flood Hazard Mitigation Implementation Fund; and

WHEREAS, in addition the Scope of Services identified one additional project category of pollution prevention for funding and NYCDEP committed to consult with the Stakeholders Group regarding the additional funding category; and

WHEREAS, in response to concerns identified by CWC, NYCDEP proposed numerous revisions to the Scope of Services; and

WHEREAS, CWC Stormwater/Wastewater Committee recommends CWC Board acknowledge its support for the attached Draft Template Scope of Services for Local Flood Hazard Mitigation Analysis (LFHMA) and Inundation-Related Flood Hazard Mitigation Planning; and

WHEREAS, CWC Board must still review and approve a funding agreement and program rules for the CWC Local Flood Hazard Mitigation Program as it evolves; and

WHEREAS, CWC anticipates that additional administration funding and staff will be necessary to administer the CWC Local Flood Hazard Mitigation Program to provide services and regional education and approach to the forty-one member watershed towns as the Local Flood Hazard Mitigation process moves forward.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the CWC Board of Directors expresses its support for the attached Draft Template Scope of Services for Local Flood Hazard Mitigation Analysis (LFHMA) and Inundation-Related Flood Hazard Mitigation Planning (Attached Hereto).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CWC Board authorizes Executive Director to review with NYCDEP proposed program rules and a program agreement for the Local Flood Hazard Mitigation Implementation Fund that shall include sufficient funding to meet additional staffing needs and educational responsibilities of CWC under the program for future consideration by the CWC Board.

Voice Vote, carried unanimously

IV. Announcements from the Chair: None

V. Board Member Discussion: None

A motion to adjourn was made by Wayne Marshfield and seconded by Donald Brandow.

Voice Vote, carried unanimously

VI. Adjournment: 2:10 p.m.