



# *Department of Planning and Development*

Monroe County, New York

**Maggie Brooks**  
*County Executive*

**Judy A. Seil**  
*Acting Director*

## **MINUTES**

### **Black Creek Watershed Coalition**

Wednesday, August 30, 2006

Present: Rochelle Bell, Monroe County Department of Planning and Development; Dorothy Borgus, Town of Chili; Joe Carr, Town of Chili; Bob Eichenberger, Town of Byron; William Glick, and John Glidden, Town of Bethany; Don Hoyt, LeRoy CAC; Charlie Knauf, Monroe County Department of Health; Heath Miller, Town of Chili and UB Law School; Robert Remillard, USDA NRCS Lakes Plains RC&D; Chuck Retting, resident, Town of Chili; Paul Richards, SUNY Brockport; Judy Spring, Town of Chili and Cornell Cooperative Extension – Monroe County; Nancy Steedman, Trustee, Village of Churchville; George Squires, Genesee County Soil and Water Conservation District; Pat Tindale, Town of Chili Conservation Board; Lyle Warren, ZBA, Village of Churchville; and Bob Wilkins, Town of Chili and Monroe County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board.

Action items are underlined throughout the minutes.

#### **1. Introductions, assignment of roles, questions about minutes.**

Bob Wilkins managed, Dorothy Borgus kept time and Charlie Knauf and Rochelle Bell scribed.

Changes were made to the minutes from the July 25, 2006 meeting; final minutes will be posted on the website.

Pizza, chips, pop and desserts were enjoyed by all. Thanks to everyone who contributed food, brought paper goods and helped clean up.

#### **2. Dr. Paul Richard's presentation on his topographically-based phosphorus transport path model**

Paul explained that the intention of the model is to identify sources of phosphorous and thereby maximize time, money and effort in choosing BMPs. The model is a "weighted flow accumulation" type. The project looks for internally drained areas. It uses an algorithm that calculates where the greatest PO<sub>4</sub> load to the stream occurs based on slope as well as land use, percent impervious surface and soil type. Field calibration was used to check the validity of the mode.

Limitations of DEMs, etc., led to many of the problems with accuracy. Rochelle will talk to MC DES about sharing Lydar with Paul.

The study suggests a prioritization of the sites. Copies of *GIS-Based Buffer Management Optimization for Phosphorous: A Field Test of Whether a Topographically-Based Phosphorous Model Can Be Used To Locate Best Management Practices* (paper and CD) by Paul Richards and Mark Noll are available upon request.

Charlie will share any PO<sub>4</sub> concentration data for Black Creek and address info with Paul.

#### **3. Black Creek in the Village of Churchville**

Nancy Steedman, Village of Churchville Trustee and Charette Chair, spoke to the group about the Churchville Charette and the role of Black Creek in their plan for the village. The Village of

Churchville contracted with the Rochester Regional Community Design Center to help them develop a visual plan for the village. The village is working with the Town of Riga on a joint Comprehensive Plan -- the visual plan that results from the Charrette process will dovetail with the Comp Plan.

Planning for the charette involved 2 meetings/month for nine months during which time important areas of the village were identified. The charette was held on May 5-6; the participants broke up into focus groups – one group focused on Black Creek.

There is a 3.8-acre brownfield site on Black Creek and its development will impact how the area along the east side of Back Creek is the village is managed. There is a developer who is considering purchasing the old Luster Coat site and working with DEC to do remediation. The developer is interested in putting up high-end housing, with some mixed use features and a public walkway along the creek. The Village Board will rezone this area to residential.

Ms. Steedman provided the group with a handout summarizing the discussion and drawings generated by the Black Creek Focus Group.

The Charrette generated some GREAT ideas and the Village Board is already moving ahead with some of them. The Mayor is talking with the Director of the Parks Dept, County Legislator Colby and State Senator Alesi about a walkway along the creek from the dam to Churchville Park and a boardwalk across the dam. The county may lease parkland on the south side of Black Creek to the village. The village is considering putting an amphitheater and community center there. The land the county leases to the village will be open to everyone, not just residents of the Village of Churchville or Town of Riga.

Three of the six original focus areas were selected to focus on in the post charrette phase, one being Black Creek. Draft plans will be presented to the community the week of October 23 and final plans by February 2007. Post Charrette meetings were/will be held either in the village office or at the Rochester Regional Community Design Center on the following dates: 8/24, 9/5, 9/14, 10/3, 11/08, 11/16, 12/5 and 12/14/06.

Bob Wilkins asked about the former village landfill on the west side of Black Creek at the bend. He wonders if this wouldn't be considered a "brownfield" and if it is polluting the creek. While Bob's concern was the potential for the old landfill to be leaching in to Black Creek, others mentioned potential impact of the site on hikers on a proposed trail over this site. The village is aware of it – it is not thought that a path would cause any harm to pedestrians using it. Other areas discussed include the fire station's location on the site of an old gas station and the fire stations inevitable relocation; the old railroad bed on the south side of the village and its possible future transfer from private to public ownership; the dam (who has jurisdictional responsibility; the origin of the dam; silt accumulation behind the dam, whether anyone has considered removing the dam (NO!)); the Ehrmentrout Farm; and the need to build more senior housing.

When asked if the group has any other concerns, George mentioned the fact that the Coalition often hears about limited access to the water and requests the village to keep public access in mind in their decision making.

#### **4. Grant updates**

Great Lakes Basin Program for Erosion and Sediment Control: Joe described the progress on the bank stabilization project in Chili. He met with Dave Lindsay and Fran Reese (from Lu Engineers, town engineer), Scott Jones (NYS DEC) and the Army Corps of Engineers. The next step in the project is to submit a preliminary, followed by a final application to NYS DEC and the ACOE. The project will be done next summer.

Water Quality Coordinating Committee (WQCC) Level I grant from the State Soil and Water Conservation Committee: \$1,000.00 is going to Black Creek watershed signs. There will be about six signs distributed on north-south roads in Monroe County.

At our next meeting we agreed to talk about where we go after money for small parts of the watershed plan or wait for the bigger pot of money. If we go after small implementation projects, what would those be? Roberts suggests we make a list of solid projects, where we have cost information, etc. at next meetings.

## **5. Map Guide**

Robert passed out a hand-out summarizing the work he has done for us to prepare a brochure and the map guide. Please review it – which things do you think should be on our map guide? You can forward your ideas to Robert at [Robert.Remillard@ny.usda.gov](mailto:Robert.Remillard@ny.usda.gov), view the information at [www.lakeplainsrcd.org](http://www.lakeplainsrcd.org) and we will be discussing it over the next few meetings.

Bob Wilkins suggested we add educational materials to make it more appealing to funders.

## **6. Display boards**

Pat has a small one in her office; George has the big one and a small one; one is at the Gillam Grant Center; one is at the Churchville-Chili high school.

Ideas for future displays: Oct. 21 FL-LOWPA conference; Village of Churchville post charrette meetings and Churchville/Riga draft comp plan meetings.

## **7. Black Creek Park wetland project update**

Herbaceous plugs will be planted in the large emergent wetland Sept. 11-15. A class from RIT will help plant on Thursday, Sept. 14. Contact Rochelle if you are interested in planting in the afternoon of the 14<sup>th</sup>.

## **8. Other items**

Don Hoyt suggested we offer to write letters of support for municipalities as appropriate. We can offer this to the municipalities as the cover to a future newsletter.

## **9. Plan next meeting (Thurs. 9/28) and review action items**