

WATER RESOURCE COUNCIL

January 16, 2026 at 9:30 AM

Board of Supervisors Session Room, 2nd Floor, 74 Ontario Street, Canandaigua, NY

Parking directly across the street

and Via WebEx <https://ontariocountyny.webex.com>

Meeting Number 2343 513 1979 Password: WRCregMTG

Alternatively, you can call into the meeting at: 1-408-418-9388

1. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Water Resources Council was called to order at 9:33AM at 74 Ontario St, Canandaigua, NY with Chairperson Russ Welser presiding.

2. Roll Call

Upon roll call, sign in sheet, the following members were:

Present:

Emily DeBolt (CLWA)
Bruce Gillman (Science Advisor)
Terry Gronwall (HLWTF)
Robert Holland (City of Rochester)
Betsy Landre (Ontario County Planning Dept.)
John Maier (City of Rochester, Hemlock Treatment Plant)
Kevin Olvany (CLWC) - left at 11:00 AM
Emily Royce (G/FLRPC)
Megan Webster (OCSWCD)
Russ Welser (CCE)
Ryan Wilmer (OCPB)
Dorothy Gronwall (HVA)

Present Not Voting or Virtual:

Nadia Harvieux (FLI)
Lynn Klotz (CLWA)
Ian Smith (SWIO)
Erin Holley (Ontario County Planning Dept.)
Kyle Ritts (Ontario County Planning Dept.)
Elaine Cook (HVA)
Ben Klein (SLPWA)

Absent:

Excused:

John Hornberger (NYSDEC)

Present, Voting 12, Present, Not Voting 7, Absent 0, Excused 1

Guests: Lindsay McMillan (FLLT), Max Heitner (FLLT), Casey Morey (Lighthouse Marine, LLC)

3. Approval of Minutes

Board Motion to approve the November 14, 2025, minutes **by** B. Landre, **seconded by** E. Royce. **Vote:**

Yes 12, No 0, Abstained 0. **The motion** Passed.

4. Treasurer's Report

Erin Holley — January 16, 2026, Treasurers report

ONTARIO COUNTY WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL	
Treasurer's Report — General Account Summary — January 16, 2026	
The year-end report for the 2025 fiscal year will close on 1-26-26.	
WRC CW ACCOUNT BALANCE	
Rollover Previous Years and Interest*	\$ 99,326.38
2025 Minigrants	\$15,590.00
2025 Implementation Grants	\$100,000.00
2026 Mini Grants (budgeted pending transfer)	\$15,590.00
2026 Implementation Grants (budgeted pending transfer)	\$100,000.00
Encumbrances — WRC Projects 2025 and Previous Years	\$ (146,545.00)
Projects Awarded Not Yet Encumbered	\$ 0.00
2025 Payments	\$ (62,123.23)
Available Funds 1/16/2026	\$121,838.15
Current interest accrued in 2025* (budgeted pending transfer)	\$ 3,069.51
Total available funds after budget roll for 2026	\$ 124,907.66

Board Motion: To Approve the January 16, 2026, Treasurers report. **Motion made by:** Megan Webster, **seconded by:** Emily Royce. **Vote:** Yes 12, No 0, Abstained 0. **The Motion** passed.

5. Presentation

Hemlock to High Tor Initiative, Lindsey McMillan, Project Director and Max Heitner, Director of Conservation, Finger Lakes Land Trust (FLLT). FLLT staff provided an overview of their work, including differing project types (e.g., conservation easements, acquisition and management of nature preserves with public access and partnership projects) as well as FLLT's focus area. A map of the Hemlock to High Tor Initiative project area (based on the USF & W Service Model) and rationale was discussed, highlighting ecological assets based on NY Natural Heritage Significant Communities,

corridor analysis, habitat connectivity, etc. The project area is a conservation priority for multiple stakeholders. FLLT recently held three focus groups with stakeholders to identify interests and priorities. Concern about recreational impacts from large-scale wind and solar developments emerged as a top response, as did interest in trails and water access for canoes and kayaks. FLLT is working through a network of partners to build upon conservation successes and further advance priorities in the Hemlock to High Tor project area. R. Welser encouraged FLLT to engage with CCE. FLLT clarified that their Conservation Easements on private lands typically do not allow public access to the conserved area. B. Gilman noted that the land use/ land cover data that details the NY Natural Heritage is available for the Hemlock to High Tor project areas on Ontario County's public data portal OnCor. The presenters were thanked for an interesting presentation and analysis.

6. WRC Active Projects

WRC Active Projects November 14, 2025				
Proj #	Title	Sponsor	Partners	Balance
Mini-Grants				
M 1-25	Sandy Bottom Park/3M Trail Forest Management Practices	T. Richmond Parks	DEC	\$ 2,500.00
M 4-25	Vernal Pool Project	OC SWCD	T. Geneva/FLLT	\$ 3,000.00
M 5-25	Managing Water Resources Outreach	OC SWCD		\$ 3,000.00
M 6-25	Building Water Quality & Flood Resiliency — Middle Cheshire Road	CLWC	T. Canandaigua	\$ 2,600.00
M 7-25	Gage Gully Hydrology & Hydraulic Model & Nature-Based Opportunities	CLWC	OCDPW	\$ 3,000.00
2-2024	Honeoye Lake Boat Cleaning System to Control Transport of AIS	OC Planning	DEC, OPRHP, FLPRISM, Towns	\$ 3,000.00
4-2024	Signage for Rain Garden Demonstration Project	CLWA	Wood Library	\$ 2,845.00
5-2024	Isolation and Genome Assembly of Toxic Benthic Cyanobacteria Honye & Cndga Lks	SUNY ESF	FLI, GLRC	\$ 3,000.00
7-2024	Sucker Brook Water Quality and Flood Resiliency Project	CLWC	City/Town of Canandaigua	\$ 3,000.00
4-2023	Characterization of Benthic Cyanobacteria/Toxin Production — Honeoye & Cdga Lkes	SUNY ESF	FLI	\$ 3,000.00

5-2023	Establishing Riparian Buffer Easement along Deep Run Stream — Town of Gorham	CLWC		\$ 3,000.00
1-2022	Downspout Planter Box Demonstration Project	T. Geneva	SWIO	\$ 2,600.00
	TOTAL ACTIVE MINI-GRANT PROJECTS			\$ 34,545.00
Implementation Grants				
IG 2-24	Building Flood Resiliency for V. Naples Water Treatment Plant/Reservoir Creek	CLWC		\$ 15,000.00
IG 1-25	Sandy Bottom Park Shoreline Stabilization	SWCD		\$ 15,000.00
IG 2-25	Jones Rd. Roadside Stabilization	SWCD		\$ 25,000.00
IG 3-25	Rocky Run Creek Erosion Control	SWCD		\$ 20,000.00
IG 4-25	Building Resiliency in the Sucker Brook Subwatershed	CLWC		\$ 40,000.00
	TOTAL ACTIVE IMPLEMENTATION GRANT PROJECTS			\$115,000.00
	TOTAL WRC ACTIVE PROJECTS			\$149,545.00
	Adjustments			\$ 0.00
	Pending contracts			
	Transfer to Planning Dept. budget — MG 2-2024			\$ 3,000.00
	NET			\$146,545.00
	Requesting Approval of Payment			
	Payment Approved and Pending			

7. Payments

Payment Requests

Final reports for each project were summarized by B. Landre (for I. Smith for 1-2022), K. Olvany, and M. Webster.

Payment Requests				
Project #	Title	Sponsor	Award Amt	Invoice Amt
1-2022	Downspout Planter Box Demonstration Project	T. Geneva	\$2,600.00	\$ 1,127.32
7-2024	Sucker Brook Water Quality & Flood Resiliency	CLWC	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00

MG 6-25	Water Quality & Flood Resiliency — Middle Cheshire Rd	CLWC	\$2,600.00	\$2,600.00
IG 1-25	Sandy Bottom Park Shoreline Stabilization	SWCD	\$15,000.00	\$12,469.98
IG 3-25	Rocky Run Creek Erosion Control	SWCD	\$20,000.00	\$19,601.73
IG 2-24	Building Flood Resiliency Reservoir Creek	CLWC	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00

Board Motion: To Approve requested payment for MG 1-22 Downspout Planter Box Demonstration Project, Town of Geneva. **Motion made by:** Megan Webster, **seconded by:** Kevin Olvany. **Vote:** Yes 12, No 0, Abstained 0. **The Motion** passed.

Board Motion: To Approve requested payment for MG 7-24 Flood Resiliency Sucker brook. **Motion made by:** Emily Royce, **seconded by:** Bruce Gillman. **Vote:** Yes 12, No 0, Abstained 0. **The Motion** passed.

Board Motion: To Approve requested payment for IG 2-24 Building Flood Resiliency Reservoir Creek, V Naples. **Motion made by:** Emily Royce, **seconded by:** Megan Webster. **Vote:** Yes 12, No 0, Abstained 0. **The Motion** passed.

Board Motion: To Approve requested payment for IG 1-25 Sandy Bottom Park Shoreline Stabilization, OC SWCD. **Motion made by:** Betsy Landre, **seconded by:** Emily Royce. **Vote:** Yes 12, No 0, Abstained 0. **The Motion** passed.

Board Motion: To Approve requested payment for IG 3-25 Rocky Run Creek Erosion Control, OC SWCD. **Motion made by:** Betsy Landre, **seconded by:** Robert Holland. **Vote:** Yes 12, No 0, Abstained 0. **The Motion** passed.

Board Motion: To Approve requested payment for M 6-25 Flood Resiliency Middle Cheshire Rd. **Motion made by:** Emily DeBolt, **seconded by:** Betsy Landre. **Vote:** Yes 12, No 0, Abstained 0. **The Motion** passed.

8. Mini and Implementation Grants

2026 Mini-Grant Proposals and Recommended Awards

Committee: M. Webster, I. Smith, B. Gilman, K. Ritts, B. Landre

#	Title	Sponsor	Partners	Request	Recommended Award
1	Marsh Creek Floodplain Restoration Design	FLI	SWIO / T. Geneva	\$ 2,500	\$2,500
2	Stabilization Project — Straw Mulcher Trailer	OC SWCD	T. Farmington	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
3	Sandy Bottom Park Lagoon Siltation Survey	T. Richmond Parks	OC SWCD	\$ 480	\$ 480
4	Youth Watershed Education in Honeoye Valley Region	HVA	CLWA	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
5	Water Quality Outreach	HVA		\$ 3,000	\$ 0.00

6	Expansion of Seneca Lake Open Data Platform	SLPWA	FLI	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
7	Deep Run & Gage Gully Sub-Watersheds - Sampling Equipment	CLWA	SUNY ESF	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
8	Understanding Canandaigua Lake HABs — Weather Stations	CLWA		\$ 3,000	\$ 2,400
9	Understanding Rainfall/Runoff - Weather Stations	CLWC	T. Canandaigua; T/V Naples	\$ 2,224	\$ 2,224
10	FLCC Educational Signs	CLWC	FLCC	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
	Total			\$ 24,204	\$ 20,604
	FUNDS AVAILABLE				
	2026 County Allocation to Mini-Grants	\$15,590.00			
	2025 Interest Accrued by review committee meeting (available in 2026)	\$ 2,598.28			
	Available Funds Rolled Over from 2025	\$ 244.30			
	HWS 5-2021 returned funds 11/25	\$ 750.00			
	T. Geneva 1-2022 returned funds 1/16/2026 (pending approval)	\$ 1,472.68			
	Total	\$ 20,655.26			

Board Motion: To Approve 2026 mini-Grant projects as presented. **Motion made by:** Ryan Wilmer, **seconded by:** Emily Royce. **Vote:** Yes 12, No 0, Abstained 0. **The Motion** passed.

2026 Implementation Grant Proposals and Recommended Awards, Emily Royce
Committee: J. Hornberger, E. Royce, B. Gilman, K. Ritts, B. Landre

#	Abbreviated Title	Sponsor	HUC 10 Watershed	Request	Total Cost	Recommended Award
1	Road Ditch Stabilization — Coxe Road Drainage Ditch Basin	CLWC	Canandaigua Lake	\$15,000.00	\$ 39,520.00	\$ 15,000.00
2	Cross Road Culvert Project to Reduce Flood Risk and Impacts	OCSWCD	Honeoye Lake	\$ 30,000.00	\$145,000.00	\$0.00

3	Cottage City Flood Resiliency and Water Quality	CLWC	Canandaigua Lake	\$ 30,000.00	\$332,800.00	\$ 30,000.00
4	Kashong Creek Streambank Stabilization	OCSWCD	Seneca Lake	\$ 20,000.00	\$130,000.00	\$ 12,780.00
5	Deep Run Water Quality Project	CLWC	Canandaigua Lake	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 58,991.00	\$ 20,000.00
6	Marsh Creek Phosphorus Reduction Project	OCSWCD	Seneca Lake	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 66,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
	Total			\$145,000.00	\$772,311.00	\$107,780.00
	FUNDS AVAILABLE 2026 (1/6/26)					
	Ontario County 2026 Allocation		\$100,000.00			
	Wilson Creek IG 3-24 (\$ previously returned)		\$ 5,253.85			
	Sandy Bottom Shoreline Stabilization IG 1-25 (\$ returned, pending approval of invoice 1/16/26)		\$ 2,530.02			
	Total		\$107,783.87			

Board Motion: To Approve 2026 Implementation Grant awards as presented. **Motion made by:** Bruce Gilman, **seconded by:** Robert Holland. **Vote:** Yes 12, No 0, Abstained 0. **The Motion** passed.

9. Election of Officers

The following slate of voting members was presented to serve as 2026 officers of the Water Resources Council:

1. Russ Welser – Chairperson
2. Megan Webster – Vice Chairperson

No additional nominations were presented.

By unanimous consent, the Secretary was directed to cast a single ballot for the re-election of the following slate of officers:

- 1. Russ Welser – Chairperson**
- 2. Megan Webster – Vice Chairperson**

The slate was declared elected.

10. Update to Civic Clerk

Erin Holley asked members to reach out to her with any questions, problems, or concerns with Civic

Clerk. She reminded members that Ontario County has fully transitioned to a new e- contracting system, Open Gov. Erin's contact info: erin.holley@ontariocountyny.gov or (585) 396-4455.

11. 2026 Meeting and Key Dates:

Water Resources Council Meetings: 1/16, 3/13, 5/15, 7/10, 9/11, 11/13

Mini-Grants due 12/4/26

Implementation Grants due 12/18/26

12. Round Robin

Round Robin was suspended to the next meeting due to time constraints.

A few upcoming events were recorded:

Genesee Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council's Local Government Workshop will be in Batavia, May 28.

NYSFOLA's statewide conference will be May 8-9 in Lake George, NY.

13. Upcoming Events/Conferences and Training Opportunities

- Jan 29. FLI conference. <https://www.hws.edu/centers/finger-lakes-institute/finger-lakes-research-conference.aspx>
- March 14 - Bob Brower Symposium. <https://www.owl.org/bob-brower-scientific-symposium>
- NYSFOLA Annual Conference. May 8 and 9th, Lake George, NY. <https://nysfola.org/conference/>
- COEHWS Annual Meeting. May 19-21. <https://healthywaters.org/annual-meeting/>
- Genesee Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council Local Government Workshop. May 28, Batavia. https://www.gflrpc.org/program_areas/local_government_workshops.php

14. Adjournment

Board motion to: Adjourn. **Motion made by:** T. Gronwall, **seconded by** B. Gilman, **Vote:** Yes 12, No 0, Abstained 0. **The motion** Passed. The Water Resources Council meeting was adjourned at 11:13 AM.