

**RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**  
**August 17, 2022**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m. by Resource Management Committee Chairman Philip Curran.

**Roll Call:** P. Curran, A. Cyr, G. Barnes, G. Hanchett, J. Ricketts-Swales, P. Stockin, (Absent: D. Fanton)

**Other Attendees:** T. Boyde, C. Braack, A. Carrow, G. Hanchett, B. Harris, S. Havey, D. Healy, K. Hooker, L. Hunsberger, C. Jones, C. Knapp, T. Linn, B. Perkins, J. Ricci, B. Riehle, T. Ross, J. Rumfelt

**Approval of Minutes:**

A motion was made by Legislator Ricketts-Swales, seconded by Legislator Hanchett, and carried to approve the July 20, 2022, Resource Management Committee minutes.

**COUNTY HISTORIAN**

County Historian Craig Braack followed up with last month's topic on the number of times that Allegany County made the front page of the New York Times. Mr. Braack stated that he knew of three times, but was told later that there was a fourth time that requires more research. Mr. Braack stated that the second time Allegany County made the New York Times was in July of 1938 when the Sinclair Oil Refinery in Wellsville caught fire. Mr. Braack stated that some of those buildings still exist in dilapidated conditions, and some buildings are still in use by Alfred Stated College at the Wellsville campus on South Brooklyn Street. Mr. Braack stated that the fire burned for 3 days and had to be "snuffed out" with foam brought by a railroad car from a fire truck manufacturing industry in Elmira. Mr. Braack stated that at that time the DEC and EPA did not exist, and there was a tremendous amount of chemicals used during the refining process. Mr. Braack explained that the oil from our area is paraffin-based and requires a lot of chemicals to remove. Mr. Braack explained that the refining company deposited the byproducts from that process wherever they wanted, essentially creating the 6<sup>th</sup> worst cleanup site in the nation and the largest in New York State. Mr. Braack stated that cleanup of the residue from leaking oil tanks becomes the responsibility of the current owners and this is one of the problems facing many areas in Allegany County. Mr. Braack stated that he plans to take digital photographs of these areas to share in future committee meetings.

Mr. Braack stated that the first time the County made the New York Times was in 1927 in the Town of Caneadea. Mr. Braack stated that there is a monument at the New York State Troopers Barracks in Amity on Route 19 North honoring two New York State Troopers. Mr. Braack explained that this was the only time in New York State history where two Troopers were killed during the same incident on active duty. Mr. Braack stated that the monument was originally dedicated at the barracks on Bolivar Road outside of Wellsville and that he may bring his photographs of that dedication at a future committee meeting.

Mr. Braack stated that the third time the County made the New York Times was an unfortunate case involving the District Attorney. Mr. Braack stated that this was a very nasty case, and if anyone has questions for him outside of the meeting, he would be happy to talk with them.

**SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION**

Soil and Water Conservation Executive Director Scott Torrey was unable to attend the meeting but had previously submitted his monthly report to the committee for review.

**YOUTH BUREAU**

Youth Bureau Director Brian Perkins attended the meeting and submitted his monthly report to the committee for review and briefly spoke about each topic.

**CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**

Cornell Cooperative Extension Executive Director Laura Hunsberger attended the meeting and submitted her monthly report to the committee for review. Ms. Hunsberger stated that the Statewide Virtual Symposium for SNAP education went very well. Ms. Hunsberger stated that a Pasture Irrigation Workshop was currently in progress between 12:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. with information to manage pastures during a drought. Ms. Hunsberger stated that there is a Tree Care and Selection Workshop scheduled for Saturday, August 20, 2022, at Alfred State. Committee Chairman Curran asked if there was additional news with the food production fires around the Country. Ms. Hunsberger stated that she had not been informed of that. Committee Chairman Curran stated that he would like her to look into the situation and that he would call it an epidemic of fires with over 100 fires. Committee Chairman Curran stated that we need to keep our eyes open, farms across the world are being destroyed and Netherlands farmers are striking due to their government eliminating their use of fertilizer. Legislator Barnes asked if there was an update on their new home. Ms. Hunsberger stated that they are still in the process of looking at and determining how to fund it. Legislator Cyr took the opportunity to let Ms. Hunsberger know that he has heard others express how wonderful she and her staff are, and thanked her for the service they provide to the residents of Allegany County.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:16 p.m. following a motion by Legislator Cyr, seconded by Legislator Barnes, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany Linn, Confidential Secretary  
Allegany County Board of Legislators