



**January 27 Minutes of the Meeting
Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission**

TIME: 10:00 a.m.
DATE: January 27, 2022
PLACE: Prallsville Mills, Stockton, New Jersey

ATTENDING COMMISSIONERS:

Vice-Chairman Bruce Stout; Deputy Director of Parks and Forestry Robin Madden, designee for Commissioner of Environmental Protection Shawn LaTourette; Commissioner Chris Shoffner; Commissioner Douglas Palmer; and Commissioner John Reiser; participated via online platform and teleconference.

STAFF: Executive Director John Hutchison and Ms. Erica Vavrence were present in the Commission conference room; Commission Engineer Joseph Ruggeri, Communications Director Darlene Yuhas, and Deputy Attorney General Jason Kane participated via online platform.

GUESTS: Bob Barth, D&R Canal Watch; Linda Barth, D&R Canal Watch; Robert von Zumbusch, Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission Master Plan Advisory Committee; Patricia Kallessen, Superintendent, Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park; Michael Sellar, New Jersey Water Supply Authority (NJWSA); Kathy Hering; Bryan VanderGheynst; Matthew Kolodziej, PSE&G; Mark E. Wilson; Steven Cohen; Kyle Kavinski; Joseph Accardi, PSE&G; Mike Magee; Vicki Chirco, Historian, Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park; Karen A. Jeziorny, Princeton University; Thomas O' Shea, Van Note-Harvey Engineering; Ricki Massand.

Since Commission members were participating via telephonic device pursuant to Article III, Section 4 of the Commission Bylaws, Vice-Chairman Stout directed the Executive Director to call the roll:

Vice-Chairman Stout	Present
Deputy Director Madden	Present
Commissioner Reiser	Present
Commissioner Lubitz	Absent
Commissioner Shoffner	Present

Commissioner Palmer Present

Director Hutchison stated that a quorum was present.

Vice-Chairman Stout announced that this was a monthly meeting of the Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission and that the provisions of the “Senator Byron Baer Open Public Meetings Act” (OPMA) had been complied with in the scheduling of the meeting.

Vice-Chairman Stout announced that the meeting was being taped pursuant to the exception set forth at Section C.(1) of DEP Policy & Procedure 2.85 “Prohibition of Recording in the Workplace” Policy adopted on September 18, 2019.

Administrative Items

Confirmation of February 16, 2022, Meeting Date

Vice-Chairman Stout stated that the next Commission meeting would be held on February 16, 2022. Deputy Director Madden indicated that she would not be available to attend, but that a designee for Commissioner LaTourette would attend the meeting pursuant to the provisions of Administrative Order No. 2020-11.

Election of Commission Officers for Calendar Year 2022

Vice-Chairman Stout stated that the Commission would elect its officers for calendar year 2022. The Vice-Chairman asked members of the Commission for nominations for the position of Vice-Chairman. Commissioner Reiser nominated Vice-Chairman Stout. Deputy Director Madden seconded the nomination. The Vice-Chairman asked for further nominations, and hearing none, he directed Director Hutchison to call the roll:

Vice-Chairman Stout	Abstain
Deputy Director Madden	Yes
Commissioner Reiser	Yes
Commissioner Lubitz	Absent
Commissioner Shoffner	Yes
Commissioner Palmer	Yes

The motioned carried.

The Vice-Chairman asked members of the Commission for nominations for the position of Treasurer. Deputy Director Madden nominated Commissioner Lubitz. Commissioner Shoffner seconded the nomination. The Vice-Chairman asked for further nominations, and hearing none, he directed Director Hutchison to call the roll:

Vice-Chairman Stout	Yes
Deputy Director Madden	Yes
Commissioner Reiser	Yes
Commissioner Lubitz	Absent

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Commissioner Shoffner	Yes
Commissioner Palmer	Yes

The motion carried.

Minutes

Vice-Chairman Stout inquired if Commissioners wished to offer comments or corrections on the December 15, 2021, meeting minutes. Hearing none, the Vice-Chairman called for a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Reiser made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Commissioner Shoffner. Vice-Chairman Stout directed Director Hutchison to call the roll:

Vice-Chairman Stout	Yes
Deputy Director Madden	Yes
Commissioner Reiser	Yes
Commissioner Lubitz	Absent
Commissioner Shoffner	Yes
Commissioner Palmer	Yes

The minutes were approved.

Review Zone Projects

Zone A Projects

21-5357A	14 Lambert Lane – Fence (Lambertville City)
21-5707	PSE&G North Brunswick 69kV Upgrade Project (Franklin Township)
21-5772	15-17 Bridge Street – Proposed Exterior Renovations (Lambertville City)

Vice-Chairman Stout inquired if any Commissioner wished to consider any of the listed Zone A projects separately. Hearing no comment, he requested a motion on the Review Zone A projects. Commissioner Reiser made a motion to approve the projects, which was seconded by Commissioner Palmer. Vice-Chairman Stout asked for comment on the Zone A projects from the Commissioners and then the public.

Mr. Barth wished to discuss DRCC #21-5707 – PSE&G North Brunswick 69kV Upgrade Project. He stated that he found the proposed project to be intrusive, and that it would have a huge visual impact on the Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park at Demott Lane. He stated that while the proposed mitigation to upgrade the Five Mile Lock parking area was acceptable, it was not enough mitigation. He recounted a recent visit to the park at Demott Lane where he observed damage from Tropical Storm Ida to the stonework of the historic stop gate (a gate which divides long stretches of a canal into smaller lengths in the event of a canal break). He stated that the stonework on both walls of the canal had sustained damage near an indent where the gates originally hung. He opined that repairing the stonework would not be a big project.

Mr. Barth also stated his concern that the new utility poles would perhaps be 80 feet in height, and thus taller than the present poles that were only 20-30 feet high. He also noted his concern that the proposed project called for removing many mature trees on the park property.

Executive Director Hutchison stated that the staff stood by the analysis and recommendation of approval set forth in the staff report, and he offered an analysis of Mr. Barth's comments and provided the Commissioners with corrections to certain misstatements of fact claimed in the Canal Watch correspondence on the project that was received at 4:29 p.m. on January 25. First, the Director observed that when Canal Watch objects to the "loss" of canal property arising from the impervious surface created by the project, some perspective was required. The Director noted that existing electric transmission lines at Demott Lane have been in place since 1959 and that their presence predates the Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park. Also, the Director noted that the additional impervious surface proposed by the project amounted to 40 square feet, or an area slightly larger than a standard sheet of plywood.

Second, the staff report clearly stated that four wood poles ranging between 70 and 84 feet in height were proposed within the Demott Lane right-of-way (ROW), and one 86.5 foot-tall, laminated wood pole would be installed for the crossing over the Delaware and Raritan Canal and Raritan River. The poles proposed for removal are approximately 40 feet and 60 feet in height.

Third, the Director corrected the misstatement that the Commission was being asked to approve the project in violation of the visual, historic and natural quality impact review standards at N.J.A.C. 7:45-10, and thus in violation of the Commission's regulations. This objection failed to apprehend the distinction between compliance with the visual, historic and natural quality impact review standards at N.J.A.C. 7:45-10 and of those standards to the provisions of the Commission's regulations at N.J.A.C. 7:45-12.3, which specifically authorizes the Commission to grant waiver of strict adherence with the Commission's regulations based upon the finding of the existence of a "compelling public need." The Director further noted – and the staff report explained in detail – that the applicant had met the criteria in the regulations for granting such a waiver.

Director Hutchison then addressed the demand proffered by Canal Watch that the replacement poles be constructed on the Rutgers Preparatory School property. The Director noted that such a scheme would require PSE&G to take under eminent domain that portion of the school's property presently used for athletic fields pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-17.6. The Director observed that even if the poles were constructed on the school property, they would still present a nearly identical visual impact upon the park, since they would be visible overhead as they spanned both the canal and the Raritan River.

The Director also stated that an important consideration that was absent from the Canal Watch commentary was that PSE&G had performed an alternatives analysis for the project, which examined eight different sites to the proposed project. All the alternatives were found to be inadvisable for technical or other reasons detailed in the staff report.

Lastly, the Director noted that left out from the Canal Watch commentary was the fact that PSE&G proposed mitigation for the visual and other impacts of the project pursuant to the criteria at N.J.A.C. 7:45-12.7(d). This mitigation would consist of a project to rehabilitate the public access area at Five Mile Lock in Franklin Township, approximately 1.5 miles from the Demott Lane site. The Director noted that the Five Mile Lock site was historically significant and heavily used but was in a state of serious disrepair. He also noted that mitigation at Demott Lane would be extremely difficult to

accomplish due to site constraints at the property and the location of multiple historic structures onsite, including the presence of the historic Van Wickle House and a Colonial-era cemetery at the Easton Avenue entrance to the property.

He also noted that the alleged number of trees being removed as part of the project was inaccurate, and that four trees – some of which suffer from multiple wounds and cavities – would be removed and that eight trees would be planted as compensation, thus satisfying the provisions of N.J.A.C. 7:45-10.4(d)5.

Finally, the Director reported that in an effort to amicably resolve the concerns expressed in the Canal Watch correspondence, he discussed additional mitigation with PSE&G. In response to those discussions, PSE&G proposed to pay for the creation and installation of didactic signage at Five Mile Lock using research and graphics that were originally prepared for and approved by the Park Service, but never installed at that site.

Mr. von Zumbusch stated that he agreed with Mr. Barth that additional mitigation was justified in the case of the project, that the proposed work constituted a major intrusion upon the park, and that the restoration of the stop gate at Demott Lane proposed by Mr. Barth should be required as mitigation for the impact of the project.

Mr. Accardi stated that PSE&G worked with the Commission to identify the mitigation projects noted in the staff report. He noted that these include a rehabilitated parking lot at Five Mile Lock, replacement of the removed trees at a 2:1 tree ratio, and that PSE&G had acted in good faith and agreed to additional mitigation in the form of the proposed didactic signage once the concerns of stakeholders has been made known. He further stated that PSE&G had examined alternatives to the project site and found that replacement of the utility lines within the existing ROW was the best alternative, and that the line would be sufficiently high above the tree line that park users would not notice it.

Mr. Accardi noted that four trees would be removed within the park, one of which was in poor condition. The trees would be replaced at a 2:1 ratio, for a total of 8 trees, with a two-year survival guarantee. Mr. Accardi stated that PSE&G believed the proposed mitigation to be proportionate to the scope of the project and reiterated that this proposed project was the best choice among the alternatives explored. Vice-Chairman Stout stated that an overview of the alternatives analysis could be found in the project staff report.

Superintendent Kalleser also noted that the proposed mitigation was planned and agreed to prior to Tropical Storm Ida; therefore, it would not have been possible to anticipate the alternative mitigation project proposed by Canal Watch. The Superintendent also noted that such a project, while no doubt commendable, was not a simple undertaking. First, any project with a cost in excess of \$150,000 would need to be administered by the Department of the Treasury, Division of Property Management and Construction (DPMC), rather than by the DEP Office of Resource Development. Second, because the project entailed construction to the canal embankment, review and approval by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) would be required. This review would almost assuredly require a historic mortar analysis of the stop gate stonework and possibly archaeological studies.

Additionally, the Superintendent noted that review and approval from the NJWSA and the U.S. Army

Corps of Engineers (USACE) would also likely be required, as any repair to the stop gate would implicate the prism of the canal, which is considered by USACE as a “navigable water of the United States” pursuant to the “Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899” (33 U.S.C. §404). The Superintendent remarked that none of these requirements had been referred to in the Canal Watch proposal, and that all of them taken together would result in a capital construction project of a scope that would easily run into “six digits.”

Mr. Barth agreed that PSE&G has acted in good faith, but that the project nevertheless resulted in an encroachment and a negative impact on canal. He stated his feeling that going forward, and taking the Superintendent’s comments into account, the Commissioners needed to consider that the State is losing the canal history piece by piece. He stated it was unfortunate that the mitigation had been outlined and agreed upon before damage caused by Tropical Storm Ida occurred. He stated the damage to the stop gate needed to be stabilized, and that the proposed mitigation at the Five Mile Lock Parking Lot was not sufficient. He stated he would appreciate it if Commission would think hard about his request before voting.

Seeing there were no further comments from the Commissioners or the public, Vice-Chairman Stout directed Director Hutchison to call the roll for the motion all three of the Zone A projects:

Vice-Chairman Stout	Yes
Deputy Director Madden	Yes
Commissioner Reiser	Yes
Commissioner Lubitz	Absent
Commissioner Shoffner	Yes
Commissioner Palmer	Absent

The motion was approved.

Zone B Projects

- 21-2441PP Princeton University – Environmental Studies and School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (Municipality of Princeton)
- 21-2551E Skillman Park – New Maintenance Building (Montgomery Township)
- 17-4995 Birch Glen at Somerset – Residential Subdivision (Franklin Township)
- 20-5567 PSE&G Sand Hills Substation – Proposed Upgrade/Expansion (South Brunswick Township)
- 21-5658 BREIT Industrial Canyon – Proposed Warehouse (Franklin Township)

Vice-Chairman Stout inquired if any Commissioner wished to consider any of the listed Zone B projects separately. Hearing no comment, he requested a motion on the Review Zone B projects. Deputy Director Madden moved to approve the projects, which was seconded by Commissioner Palmer. Vice-Chairman Stout asked for comment on the Zone B projects from the Commissioners and then the public.

Mr. Massand stated that 21-2551E Skillman Park – New Maintenance Building will be an improvement to county facilities, and he appreciated the detailed staff report.

Vice-Chairman Stout then directed Director Hutchison to call the roll:

Vice-Chairman Stout	Yes
Deputy Director Madden	Yes
Commissioner Reiser	Yes
Commissioner Lubitz	Absent
Commissioner Shoffner	Yes
Commissioner Palmer	Yes

The motion was approved.

Executive Director's Report

The Director reported on the monthly workload by stating that in addition to the projects listed on the agenda, the staff completed: 19 deficient staff reports; 4 jurisdictional determinations; 6 certificates of approval; two general permits; sent 1 estoppel letter; and completed the review of a project for the February Commission meeting.

In addition to preparing the meeting documents, staff also organized and conducted 19 pre-application meetings for proposed projects, which the Director considered was an indication that the number of applications being submitted to the Commission remained strong. He also reported that he conducted four site inspections during the prior month to examine visual and stream corridor impacts of proposed projects. As of January 26, there were 25 active projects undergoing staff review.

Mr. Hutchison reported that fee deposits for the preceding month totaled \$68,750. Deposits for Fiscal Year 2022, which began on July 1, 2021, now totaled \$358,351. Thus, with five months remaining in the fiscal year that ends on June 30, 2022, the Commission remained on schedule to meet or exceed its anticipated appropriation of \$450,000.

The Director informed the Commission that he was contacted by the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) Office of Landscape Architecture on January 10 to inform him that the proposed plantings on N.J. Highway Route No. 29 (Route 29) from milepost 14.47 north to milepost 14.68 would be starting soon. The NJDOT "Good Neighbor" program would plant 38 trees along Route 29, which would be a continuation of the plantings installed by PSE&G starting at the Moore's Station public access area and southward. The project would use the same species of trees *Cornus Florida* (Appalachian Snow Dogwood) and *Amelanchier x grandiflora 'Autumn Brilliance'* (Autumn Brilliance Apple Serviceberry) as the PSE&G project and would be spaced in the same manner, thus creating a visually cohesive landscape of native trees and shrubs for that portion of Route 29.

The Director also reported that on January 6 he was invited to participate in the first stakeholder meeting for the current update to New Jersey's Comprehensive Statewide Historic Preservation Plan. SHPO is leading a process to update to the Comprehensive Statewide Historic Preservation Plan by the spring of 2022. The plan will be a wide-reaching document that addresses the treatment of the historic and cultural resources across the state, identifies challenges and opportunities, and communicates a renewed vision for historic preservation in New Jersey. Additionally, it will serve as a guide for planning and

decision making by the SHPO, municipalities, agencies, nonprofit organizations, and others who may affect these resources.

On January 11 the staff was informed by the DEP/ORD that the project to repair the mortar foundation of the Commission office was put out to public bid on Thursday, January 13, and responses should be received by the end of next week. The Director thanked Mr. Bill White for his assistance in moving the project toward a successful completion.

On January 25 ACCSES NJ, the State contract vendor for scanning services, picked up five boxes of Commission files for scanning at their facility. This represents a milestone in the Commission staff's effort to bring the Commission into compliance with State recordkeeping regulations and policies. Specifically, ACCSES NJ and its affiliate, Easterseals New Jersey (ENJ), will work alongside the staff to complete this project in accordance with agreed upon process that staff negotiated with the vendor. ACCSES NJ/ENJ will provide the Commission with scanning services in accordance with N.J.A.C. 15:3-3 (Standards for Microfilming of Public Records) and N.J.A.C. 15:3-4 (Image Processing of Public Records). The ACCSES NJ affiliate will use the boxes picked up on January 25 to do a test using the agreed upon process. ENJ will pick up boxes approximately once per month in batches of 12 boxes per trip for a period of approximately four years. It is estimated that scanning of the 578 boxes of Commission files presently stored at the DEP warehouse will cost \$377,998.53. The Commission staff completed and obtained approval of a purchase order in the amount of \$100,000 to initially fund the project.

Concurrently, staff is working with ACCSES NJ to have the Commission certified and compliant with the Division of Revenue and Enterprise Services (DORES) Records Management Service. This process will certify that the Commission's image scanning and retention policies and disaster prevention and recovery policies are compliant with State law and will result in the scanned records being considered legally equivalent to paper documents.

The Director stated that these actions were an important next step in the process to ensure that the Commission's records retention and storage policies are compliant with State regulations, and that a permanent electronic library of the Commission's project documents be created. At the conclusion of the four-year process, Commission staff will have records of prior projects in electronic format at their disposal, which – given the need to assess impervious surface cumulative to 1980 – is essential to a determination of Commission jurisdiction and the scope of review of future projects. The staff will also be able to quickly respond to OPRA requests relating to past Commission projects. Finally, the electronic library of Commission project documents will be secure from natural disaster, fire, flood, and thereby provide continuity of government and continuity of operations advantages.

The Director stated that on January 18 he and Superintendent Kalleser met remotely with Somerset County Engineer, Mr. Matthew Loper, to discuss pedestrian safety in those areas where the park multiuse trail crosses county roads and municipal streets. The conversation arose from an inquiry from the residents of the "Canal Walk" residential development in Franklin Township, which has a macadam trail on its property that terminates at Weston Canal Road. The residents of the development would like to see pedestrian access made easier in the area where the Manville Causeway connects to West Canal

Road at the site of the semi-derelict bridgetender's house. The conversation touched upon issues of jurisdiction, and of the site constraints at the intersection, which the Director noted are considerable.

Finally, the Director informed the Commission that on January 25 he had a conversation with Andrew Nowick, the newly inaugurated mayor of the City of Lambertville. The mayor requested information about the status of repairs to the park multiuse trail in the area of Niece Lumber north to the pedestrian bridge located on the aqueduct, which conveys the Feeder canal over the Alexauken Creek. The Director pledged the Commission's assistance with any questions he might have as his community recovers from the damage sustained during Tropical Storm Ida.

Park Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Kalleser reported that the Moore's Creek public access area improvement project, which was mitigation project undertaken by PSE&G for project DRCC#21-5560, was moving forward subject to weather conditions.

The Superintendent reported that at the end of the week it was anticipated that the NJDOT contractor would complete repairs to the entry driveway into the Prallsville Mills complex. Superintendent Kalleser also reported that borings had been taken over the past month near the railroad trestle at the mill complex, which conveys the park multiuse trail over the Wickecheoke Creek. The borings were being taken to assist DEP/ORD with the planned repairs for the erosion and consequent collapse of approximately 25 percent of the park multiuse trail at a section immediately north of the trestle abutment.

The Superintendent noted that as part of the park's recovery from damaged sustained in Tropical Storm Ida, a new heating system was installed in the Kingston Locktender's House. Additionally, storm-related repairs to the multiuse trail at Quaker Road in the vicinity of Port Mercer have been completed.

Superintendent Kalleser reported that agency orders for the top five priority areas of the multiuse trail have been identified, and that the DEP/ORD would contact NJDOT to repair those areas. She stated that the timeline for re-rolling of the multiuse trail would depend upon weather conditions, and that Park Service staff would coordinate this work with the repairs of the Landing Lane Spillway in New Brunswick.

The Superintendent reported that the Park Service had met internally to discuss costs, flooding concerns, and supply chain issues related to the septic system replacement project at the Port Mercer Canal House in Lawrence Township. She noted that although it was originally proposed to replace the failed system with a new mounded septic system, cost and resiliency considerations have made the Division of Parks and Forestry reconsider this approach, and to instead re-examine the feasibility, costs and benefits of connecting the house to the Ewing-Lawrence Sewerage Authority system.

Finally, the Superintendent reported that longtime Delaware and Raritan Canal Park Maintenance Supervisor Colleen Ruzicka was retiring after 40 years of dedicated service. She expressed her gratitude to Colleen for the leadership, mentoring and guidance she provided her during her tenure. Vice-Chairman Stout asked the Superintendent to extend the Commission's warmest congratulations to Colleen. Director Hutchison noted that Ms. Ruzicka had been enormously helpful with day-to-day

physical plant issues at the Commission office, including assistance with snow removal, gutter cleaning, recycling, and lock removal, to name only a few items, and he wished her happiness in her well-deserved retirement.

Vice-Chairman Stout inquired if the northern section of the Bull's Island Recreation Area was on schedule to be reopened in the spring. Superintendent Kalleser reported that it was and that she and Park Naturalist Stephanie Fox were working toward completing the comprehensive reforestation planting plan with the NJDOT "Good Neighbor" landscape program, and that the DEP Watershed Ambassador assigned to the Delaware and Raritan Canal State was working on an understory planting plan that would be executed in conjunction with the planting of trees. She noted that, in partnership with Kingwood and Delaware Townships, the park had applied for a \$5,000 grant to assist with the plan.

New Jersey Water Supply Authority (NJWSA) Report

Mr. Sellar reported that the NJWSA Landing Lane Spillway project would be able to proceed, since the NJDOT had completed an in-kind repair project for the nearby bridge over the canal. He anticipated that construction would commence in the spring and continue into the summer months. He also reported that permit applications to the relevant approving agencies had been submitted for the project to rehabilitate the culvert, which carries Six-Mile Run under Canal Road, the canal and the multiuse trail, located approximately 1,000 feet south of Blackwells Mills Road in Franklin Township, Somerset County.

Mr. Sellar stated while the project to dredge the 10-mile section of the Delaware and Raritan Canal between N.J. State Highway Route No. 27 in Kingston and Amwell Road in East Millstone was complete, the NJWSA and the contractor were monitoring an area on Weston Canal Road in case the repaired pipe crossing needed to be readdressed.

Mr. Sellar also reported that 2021 year-end Hydrilla monitoring by NJWSA staff revealed that no tubers had been found in the Delaware and Raritan Canal, and that the planned 2022 fluridone herbicide treatment program would proceed for approximately 60 days, and that the herbicide would be applied at a rate of 2.0-2.5 parts per billion (ppb), which would be a reduction from the previous years' 120-day schedule applied at a rate of 3.0 ppb.

Mr. Sellar reported that NJWSA was working with a consultant to advance Phase 1 of the planned rehabilitation project for the Stockton embankment. He reminded the Commission that Phase 1 includes the removal of the existing tarps, the resurfacing of the multiuse trail, and earthwork and stonework activities on the riverside of the canal embankment. Phase 2 would include the permanent structural repairs to the damaged embankment sections. Vice-Chairman Stout requested that Mr. Sellar report on the progress of the project at the February Commission meeting, and that he elaborate on the proposed schedule for the completion of Phase 1.

Mr. Sellar reported that the damaged lock gate in South Bound Brook Borough had been successfully replaced, but the contractor needed to provide a shorter stem for the gate.

Finally, Mr. Sellar also reported that materials dredged from the canal, deposited as a result of Tropical Storm Ida flooding, were being hauled to the NJWSA storage site south of the U.S. Highway Route 202 bridge in Lambertville. Mr. Sellar reported that staff was currently dredging the outlet side of the

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culvert, which runs under the multiuser path and canal in the vicinity of Niece Lumber property in the City of Lambertville. NJWSA staff were also preparing to work at the Port Mercer finger dike.

Old Business

Vice-Chairman Stout reported that two recently adopted Commission resolutions related to personnel matters had been implemented by the DEP Human Resources Office. He expressed his gratitude on behalf of the Commissioners to Deputy Director Madden and Director of Human Resources Juliet DelValle. He noted with regret that the resolution to adopt a special project blanket for the Commission engineering staff had not been approved by the Civil Service Commission, and he thanked the engineers for their continued patience and good will.

New Business

None.

Public Comment

Mr. von Zumbusch expressed his appreciation to Superintendent Kalleser for resolving the heating issue at the Kingston Locktender's House and assisting with problems related to the chimney. He also invited Commissioners and members of the public to attend a lecture to be hosted by the Kingston Historical Society titled, "Why is Kingston Here?" on February 8 at 7:30 p.m. Information on the event can be accessed on the society's website at: www.khsnj.org.

Written Public Comments

None.

Adjournment

There being no other business, Vice-Chairman Stout entertained a motion to adjourn. Deputy Director Madden moved to adjourn the meeting, which motion was seconded by Commissioner Reiser. Vice-Chairman Stout called for a vote on the motion to adjourn, which was unanimously approved by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



John Hutchison, Secretary