

**MINUTES**  
**RARITAN & MILLSTONE RIVERS FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION**  
**JUNE 24, 2015**

Chairman Jurewicz called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

Secretary McCarthy read the following Open Public Meetings Act Statement:

“In accordance with Section 5 of the Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231, Public Law 1975, be advised that adequate notice of this Meeting of the Raritan and Millstone Rivers Flood Control Commission was made by the posting on the bulletin boards in the participating municipalities and transmitted to the officially designated newspapers, a list of dates, annually, indicating that this Meeting would take place at the Hillsborough Township Building, 379 South Branch Road, Hillsborough, NJ 08844 on June 24, 2015. In addition, a copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk in the Township of Franklin.”

**Municipalities Present:** Franklin, Hillsborough, Manville, Millstone, Montgomery, Somerville, Somerset County

**Municipalities Absent:** Bridgewater, Raritan, Rocky Hill and South Bound Brook

Everyone present participated in the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence led by Chairman Jurewicz.

**INTRODUCTION – OVERVIEW NOTES**

Chairman Jurewicz reviewed the contact information for the Raritan and Millstone Rivers Flood Control Commission. He announced there are no meetings in July and August. He announced the September meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 30, 2015 in Manville.

**SECRETARY’S REPORT**

**Approval of Minutes:**

A motion was made by Franklin to approve the minutes of May 27, 2015. The motion was seconded by Hillsborough and carried upon voice vote with Millstone and Somerville abstaining.

**Communications**

Chairman Jurewicz reported on correspondence the Borough of Manville regarding Special Flood Hazard Property Identification Cost. Said correspondence referred to Councilman Onderko’s understanding that the Flood Commission may consider assisting the Borough of Manville with the cost of preparing a data base of properties in Manville located within the Special Flood Hazard Area. It was indicated that Western Technologies Group in Somerville has the ability to locate and identify the owners of these properties. This information would allow the tracking of all flood prone properties and potential property owners’ access to the data base to determine if a property is flood prone. The annual cost of accessing the data base is \$1,000.00. Said correspondence asked the Flood Commission to consider said request.

Chairman Jurewicz reported on several emails that went back and forth regarding said request from the Borough of Manville. It was indicated that Western Technologies Group was to make a presentation at the June Flood Commission meeting.

Chairman Jurewicz reported on communications to and from American Water regarding the EarthCam. He stated that a link will be on the Commission's webpage. He spoke of a meeting with Rutgers and a meteorologist regarding the weather station.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Sluka presented the following Treasurer's Report:

- 1) Claims for Payment
  - a) Vella, Singer, Martinez - \$200.00 – Check #151
  - b) Ann Marie McCarthy - \$600.00 – Check #152
  - c) Gannett Advertising - \$855.00 – Check #153
- 2) Income (None)
- 3) Budget Encumbrances (None)
- 4) Donation of Gift to RMR FCC (None)

A motion was made by Somerville to approve the aforesaid Treasurer's Report. Said motion was seconded by Millstone and carried unanimously upon voice vote.

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Treasurer Sluka presented the following Finance Committee Report:

- The balance of the account as of approval of the aforesaid payments is \$8,860.06.
- The municipalities paid for 2015 are Franklin, Manville, Raritan, Somerville & South Bound Brook
- Outstanding Invoices were sent to Bridgewater, Hillsborough, Millstone, Montgomery, Rocky Hill & Somerset County.

A motion was made by Somerville to approve the aforesaid Finance Committee Report. Said motion was seconded by Hillsborough and carried unanimously upon voice vote.

### **LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Vice Chairman Dixon referred to last month's discussion regarding rain barrels and suggested the Commission contact all the municipalities and request legislation requiring rain barrels for all new single homes. Chairman Jurewicz stated there are organizations such as Rutgers and Duke Farms that hold seminars on rain barrels.

Chairman Jurewicz spoke on the Joint Flood Commission Bill involving Hunterdon, Somerset, Middlesex, Mercer and Warren counties. He stated the bill is still in the Assembly.

## **ENGINEERING COMMITTEE REPORT**

A discussion ensued regarding the flood data that the County has and each municipality may have in relation to the data base discussed in Communications. It was suggested to see what information is already out there and consolidate it so there would be no duplication.

Mr. Thomas spoke of FEMA and the GIS website – floodsmart.org. It was suggested to link this to the Commission’s website.

After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Commission to draft a letter to Hillsborough Township recommending not developing land that abuts the Royce Brook and leave it open space. This led into a discussion regarding detention basin requirements. It was recommended that the letter be drafted after plans have been submitted in Hillsborough. After further discussion, it was the consensus of the Commission to draft a letter to the Planning Board regarding this matter.

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS & COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

The questionnaire is ready to be distributed to the participating municipalities. It will be sent out to all the Clerks from each of the participating municipalities and collected by the Secretary of the Commission.

## **PRESENTATION/SPECIAL GUEST**

A presentation by Western Technologies Group, LLC regarding a database of homes and sites that have experienced flooding in Central Jersey (county-wide) was scheduled for this meeting. The company did not attend the meeting. No presentation was held at this time.

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

### ***Process of Relocating Historical Homes in Millstone (Millstone Mayor Raymond Heck)***

Vice Chairman Dixon reported on homes in Millstone Borough that are historical in which two homes are being relocated and four homes are being elevated. It was noted that if not done this year with funding received from FEMA (\$30,000 grant), they will lose the funding.

### ***Addition of Manville Homes to be elevated with DEP & FEMA grants***

A discussion ensued regarding Manville and the same grant of \$30,000 (insurance company match). The problem is that the grant program ends in 2015 (August). It was suggested to contact and/or visit representatives to express need of program being extended and to ask the question “Where do we go from here?” At the conclusion of the discussion, it was the consensus of the Commission to draft a letter to all federal-state-county representatives regarding the need for extending or new funding from FEMA. Information regarding this program should be posted on website and Facebook.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

A review of the River Cleanup/OEM Event was given. Pictures will be posted on the webpage. The event was a success and it will be discussed at a later date of the possibility of making it an annual event.

### **PUBLIC PORTION**

A motion was made to open the meeting to the public for any matter of concern by Franklin. Said motion was seconded by Millstone and carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

Jim Waltman, Executive Director, Stony Brook Millstone Watershed, announced his leaving the Watershed in July. He thanked the Commission for their partnership with the Watershed.

There being no comments from the public, a motion was made by Franklin to close the meeting to the public on any matter of concern. Said motion was seconded by Millstone and carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS**

Mr. Thomas spoke on dry wells and rain garden requirements regarding new homes and adding these requirements to existing homes. He stated Rutgers has a manual regarding this subject. Chairman Jurewicz asked Mr. Thomas to draft something that could be sent to the municipalities and to email him Franklin's ordinance.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Montgomery to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. Said motion was seconded by Millstone and carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marie McCarthy  
Recording Secretary