

**Salmon Rivers Council of Governments**  
**Minutes of Meeting – Wednesday, January 25, 2023**  
**2:30 p.m**  
**Albion-Altmar Municipal Building**  
**15 Bridge Street, New York**

**Present:**

**Albion** – Mike Faulkner, supervisor

**Amboy** – Larry Rayder, town council

**Orwell** – William Potter, supervisor

**Parish** (town) – Jim Bernys, supervisor

**Parish** (village) – (no representative)

**NYS Tug Hill Commission** – Matt Johnson, Katie Malinowski

**Salmon Rivers circuit rider** – Paul Baxter

Meeting called to order at 2:00 p.m., and attendees were introduced.

**Election of officers:** On motion by Jim Bernys and second by Mike Faulkner, the current slate of Salmon Rivers officers (William Potter, chair; Mike Faulkner, vice chair; village of Parish, fiscal agent) was re-elected unanimously.

**Local Government Conference co-sponsorship:** On motion by William Potter and second by Mike Faulkner, the council agreed unanimously to co-sponsor the 2023 Tug Hill Local Government Conference at the \$500 level.

**Identification of issues for COG leaders meeting with Tug Hill, January 30, 2023 in**

**Lorraine:** Issues identified through discussion were broadband access in the region; details of ARPA funding, spending, administration, and reporting; cybersecurity; wildlife management area (WMA) reimbursement by the state; Little Salmon River dam removal and salmon reintroduction; impacts of Micron and associated developmental pressures; and planning needs. Albion has identified a need for developing zoning; Parish needs zoning amendments.

Katie handed out information on cybersecurity from NYMIR.

On broadband, Oswego County is exploring the possibility of creating a countywide broadband authority.

No one has spent ARPA money yet out of concern about doing things properly. Mike Faulkner noted that municipalities might want to pass a resolution for ‘lost revenue’ as a basis for reimbursement using ARPA funds. William Potter noted that they had not received information from the Association of Towns yet. Amboy has designated LaBarge for handling administration and reporting requirements.

Katie and Matt have been “making the rounds” regarding WMA reimbursement. Katie distributed a background paper on the subject from 2018. Mike has spoken with State Assembly representative William Barclay.

Regarding the Little Salmon River, Katie shared a map and a list of dams, including their ownership and their hazard rating.

On Micron, area development may require infrastructure improvements such as water and sewer.

**Status of additional associate circuit riders:** Paul will meet with Heidi Tompkins on Thursday, January 26. Her resume was received and distributed to the group.

**Commission updates:** Katie mentioned the Local Leaders Survey. Commission meeting in 2023 in the North Shore/Salmon Rivers area will be at the Constantia town hall and in Albion on the occasion of celebrating the commission's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The local government conference is coming up in April.

Matt reminded attendees that he is available for group training or individual municipality planning and zoning training sessions.

**Community updates:** Orwell has a water project underway, with construction expected to be completed by the end of 2023. The project would connect Orwell to water from Richland.

**Next meeting:** Fall 2023

**Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 3:29 p.m

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul M. Baxter". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Paul M. Baxter  
Municipal Management Consultant