

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT  
WESTERN NEW YORK STORMWATER COALITION**

This MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT, by and among owners and operators of small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems ("MS4s"), as follows: Town of Alden, Village of Alden, Town of Amherst, Village of Angola, Town of Aurora, Village of Blasdell, Town of Boston, Buffalo Sewer Authority, Town of Cambria, Town of Cheektowaga, Town of Clarence, Village of Depew, Village of East Aurora, Town of Eden, Town of Elma, Town of Evans, Town of Grand Island, Town of Hamburg, Village of Hamburg, Village of Kenmore, City of Lackawanna, Town of Lancaster, Village of Lancaster, Town of Lewiston, Village of Lewiston, Town of Lockport, Niagara Falls Water Board, City of North Tonawanda, Town of Orchard Park, Village of Orchard Park, Town of Pendleton, Town of Porter, Village of Sloan, City of Tonawanda, Town of Tonawanda, Town of West Seneca, Town of Wheatfield, Village of Williamsville, Village of Youngstown, County of Erie, County of Erie - Sewer District #6, County of Niagara, State University of New York at Buffalo, hereinafter referred to as "Coalition Members," hereby creates the Western New York Stormwater Coalition, as of December 31, 2015.

WHEREAS, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Phase II stormwater regulations (40 C.F.R. Sections 9, 122, 123, and 124) require owners and operators of small MS4s in New York State to obtain permit coverage under the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's SPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from MS4s (GP-0-15-003); and

WHEREAS, the U.S. EPA Phase II Stormwater regulations require owners and operators of small MS4s who obtain general permit coverage to develop and enforce a stormwater management program designed to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable in order to protect water quality and to satisfy the appropriate water quality requirements of New York State's Environmental Conservation Law and the Clean Water Act; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. EPA Phase II Stormwater regulations, as administered by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, encourages owners and operators of small MS4s to cooperate when implementing their Stormwater Management Programs; and

WHEREAS, the owners and operators of small MS4s recognize that, because watersheds and separate storm sewer systems cross municipal boundaries and there are opportunities to save time, money, and energy by working collaboratively, the Coalition members should work together to meet the requirements of the U.S. EPA Phase II Stormwater regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Coalition members recognize the benefits of cooperation to achieve improved water quality and flood control, and;

WHEREAS, the Coalition members have met on a monthly basis beginning in February of 2001 to collaborate on a shared Stormwater Management Program and pool resources to meet the requirements of the U.S. EPA Phase II Stormwater regulations.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements hereinafter set forth, the parties hereto mutually agree as follows:

**1. TERM.**

The term of this agreement shall be for five years and shall commence on December 31, 2015 and terminate on December 31, 2020, unless extended or renewed.

**2. PURPOSE.**

To authorize the work of the Western New York Stormwater Coalition whose purpose it is to work collectively to:

- A. Facilitate the use of existing or future resources, organizations, and programs for the provision of services necessary to comply with the requirements of the U.S. EPA Phase II Stormwater regulations and the permit conditions of GP-0-15-003 issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for all of the Coalition members; and,
- B. Protect and/or improve the water quality of local surface water bodies (i.e., streams, rivers, lakes) in accordance with State, County, and local water quality regulations, planning documents and policies; and,
- C. Research and implement appropriate funding mechanisms to meet the financial needs of compliance with the Phase II Stormwater regulations and GP-0-15-003; and,
- D. Cooperatively prepare a template for submission of the Annual Report to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation on behalf of all Coalition members according to GP-0-15-003.

**3. MEMBERSHIP.**

- A. The Chief Executive Officer of each Coalition Member shall designate a permanent representative and one or more alternates (as it shall see fit) to serve on the Coalition. In the event no permanent representative or alternate has been designated, or no designated permanent representative or alternate is able to act, the supervisor of the town, or mayor of the village or city, or the Chief Executive Officer, as the case may be, or their designee shall serve as the representative on the Coalition.



- B. Each member of the Coalition shall have one (1) vote at all meetings.
- C. In order to take action the Coalition shall utilize the following quorum requirements:
1. 51% of the voting membership constitutes a quorum for all meetings. For approval of meeting minutes, treasurer's reports, voucher payments, annual reports, annual account designation, budgets, grant applications, plans, programs and related items, approval of 51% of those in attendance shall be required.
  2. For actions requiring a supermajority, voting may be permitted by proxy, email, video or teleconferencing.
  3. A supermajority of 75% of the coalition membership shall be required for approval of capital budgets, adoption of by-laws and future amendments thereto, including amendments to the annual membership fee.
  4. For entering into contracts, there must be 75% approval by the Coalition members, indicated by execution of a signature page.
- D. The Coalition shall elect a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, and Secretary and such other officers as it shall deem appropriate, and for such terms as it shall establish, and shall assign to such officers such responsibility and authority, consistent with this Agreement, as it shall deem appropriate. No member of the Coalition shall receive compensation for services as a member or officer of the Coalition, but members may be reimbursed for expenses previously authorized by the Coalition.
- E. The Coalition shall adopt by-laws relating to the conduct of its proceedings and such other administrative matters as it may deem appropriate.
- F. The Coalition may admit additional members upon execution of this Agreement to undertake all rights and responsibilities included in this Agreement, and further conditioned upon payment of the full annual membership fee for that calendar year.
- G. This Memorandum of Agreement and By-Laws shall be reviewed annually by Coalition Members at the annual meeting of the Coalition.

#### **4. FINANCIAL OBLIGATION.**

- A. Each Coalition Member shall pay an annual membership fee. Membership fees shall be used to fund activities required to fulfill the purposes of the Stormwater Coalition and shall serve as local match funds for federal and state grants awarded to the Coalition. The fee schedule is attached as Appendix A. Future fee schedules shall be established by the Coalition pursuant to Section 3.C.3 above.

- B. The Coalition Treasurer shall submit invoices for the annual fee to the designated representative of each Coalition Member no later than January 30 of each calendar year. If, after receipt of such invoice, any Coalition Member shall fail to pay such fee within 60 days (or, for fiscal years that begin later than January 1, within 60 days of the beginning of its next fiscal year), it shall thereupon cease to be a Coalition Member.
- C. The Coalition shall designate and authorize a qualified municipality to hold and manage a separate Account on behalf of the Coalition, where the annual fees shall be deposited. This account shall be identified as the "Western New York Stormwater Coalition." Such designation shall be reviewed and re-authorized on an annual basis at the Annual Meeting of the Coalition.
- D. The Coalition shall not incur any financial obligations in excess of the funds on deposit in the Coalition's account.
- E. The Coalition may not be dissolved until all accounts payable/receivable, grants or applications, works in progress, existing claims or liabilities by or against the Coalition be fully closed, completed, and/or settled and that upon such dissolution any existing Coalition funds shall be held in escrow for one year pending final settlement of any known existing Coalition obligations, accounts, or debts by the Treasurer who shall be authorized to pay and settle all such obligations, accounts, or debts. To the extent that any Coalition funds are then remaining, the Treasurer shall distribute such funds equally (or on a pro-rata basis depending on whether annual membership fees are equal or not) to the Coalition Members having representatives on the Coalition at the time of dissolution.
- F. Any Coalition Member may withdraw from this Agreement upon 60 days written notice to the Chairman of the Coalition. A Coalition Member which elects to withdraw shall be liable for its full annual contribution as provided in Section 4 of this Agreement of the calendar year in which withdrawal occurs.

## **5. TERMS AND CONDITIONS.**

- A. Staff from the Erie County Department of Environment and Planning (ECDEP) may act as contractors for providing administrative services to the Western New York Stormwater Coalition. Administrative services may include preparation of meeting notices, agendas and minutes; research and application for grant funding; contract oversight; and development of annual report templates and other guidance information to assist the individual MS4s in satisfying the requirements of GP-0-15-003. Additional services provided by ECDEP may include, but are not limited to, public education and outreach, public involvement initiatives, assistance with illicit discharge detection and elimination, assistance with construction site compliance oversight, and assistance with employee training. If ECDEP will act as a consultant to the Coalition, it must submit a proposed annual budget and work plan, including administrative services, to the Coalition on an annual basis for approval, beginning in January 2016. ECDEP staff time charges may be reimbursed by funds obtained through federal and state grants, unless otherwise approved by the Coalition. The Coalition shall not



incur financial obligations to ECDEP for any services outside of the workplan approved by the Coalition.

- B. This Agreement may be modified or amended only in writing duly executed by all Coalition Members, which shall be attached to and become a part of this Agreement.
- C. Each Coalition Member shall be solely responsible and liable for its own activities under this Agreement, for obtaining its permit coverage under the SPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from MS4s (GP-0-15-003) and for the preparation, implementation, operation and maintenance of its own stormwater management program including, but not limited to, the required minimum control measures.

#### **6. MISCELLANEOUS.**

- A. This Agreement constitutes the entire Agreement among and between the Coalition members and supersedes any and all prior Agreements between the parties hereto for the services herein to be provided. The Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of New York State without regard or reference to its conflict of laws and principles.
- B. If any provision, paragraph, sentence, or clause of this agreement shall, for any reason, be held to be invalid or unenforceable, the invalidity or unenforceability of such shall not affect the remainder of this Agreement and this Agreement shall be construed and enforced, consistent with its expressed purposes, as if such invalid and unenforceable provision, paragraph, sentence, or clause had not been contained herein.
- C. Each Coalition Member represents and warrants to the Coalition, and to the other Coalition Members, that it has been fully authorized to execute and to perform this Agreement, and that its execution and performance of this Agreement will not violate any legal duty or restriction.

#### **7. EXECUTION.**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have caused this Agreement to be signed by their duly authorized representatives on the date first written above.

# **WESTERN NEW YORK STORMWATER COALITION**

## **BY-LAWS**

### **ARTICLE I**

#### **ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSES**

##### **Section 1.1 Establishment.**

The Western New York Stormwater Coalition (the "Coalition") was created by a Memorandum of Agreement dated December 31, 2005, and renewed December 31, 2015, referred to as the ("Agreement").

##### **Section 1.2 Purpose.**

The Coalition shall coordinate and cooperate in efforts to meet the requirements of the Phase II Stormwater regulations (40 C.F.R. Sections 9, 122, 123 and 124 (1999), as amended) and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation ("NYS DEC") SPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from MS4s (GP-0-15-003) by those signatories to the Agreement ("Coalition Member(s)").

### **ARTICLE II**

#### **GOVERNANCE OF THE COALITION**

##### **Section 2.1 Representation.**

The Chief Executive Officer of each Coalition Member shall designate a permanent representative and one or more alternates (as it shall see fit) to serve on the Coalition. In the event no permanent representative or alternate has been designated, or no designated permanent representative or alternate is able to act, the supervisor of the town, or mayor of the village or city, or the Chief Executive Officer, as the case may be, or their designee shall serve as the representative on the Coalition. Unless otherwise indicated by the context, as used in these By-Laws the term "representative" or "representatives" shall include representatives or alternates.

##### **Section 2.2 Duties.**

Coalition Members shall carry out the purposes of the Coalition described in the Agreement and any activities deemed necessary to carry out the purposes as may arise from time to time.

##### **Section 2.3 Compensation.**

A representative to the Coalition shall not receive compensation from the Coalition but may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in connection with the performance of his or her duties, upon approval of reimbursement by the Coalition.



## ARTICLE III

### MEETINGS

#### Section 3.1 Annual Meetings.

Annual meetings of the Coalition shall be held during the months of January or February on such date and at such time and place as shall be specified by the Coalition, or if no date is agreed to by the Coalition, at such other date, time and place within those months as the Chairman may determine.

#### Section 3.2 Regular Meetings.

Regular meetings of the Coalition may be held each month on such date, and at such place and time as the Coalition shall determine. The Coalition shall adopt a schedule of regular meetings for the calendar year at the annual meeting, by motion of the Chairman, and may amend such schedules during the course of the year.

#### Section 3.3 Special Meetings.

Special meetings of the Coalition may be held at the call of the Chairman or upon written request of five members of the Coalition to the Secretary.

#### Section 3.4 Roberts Rules of Order.

The proceedings of meetings at the Coalition shall be governed by Roberts Rules of Order.

#### Section 3.5 Order of Business.

A. The usual order of business for Coalition meetings shall be as follows:

1. Roll Call (pass sign-in sheet)
2. Call to Order
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Correspondence/Report of Secretary
6. Report of Chairman
7. Report of Committees
8. New Business
9. Unfinished Business
10. Payment of Vouchers
11. Comments from Public
12. Adjournment

B. The above order may be amended on motion of any voting representative or the, Chairman, subject to objection by any voting representative of the Chairman. If objection be raised, suspension of the above order of business shall be determined by vote of the majority of the representatives present without regard to the provisions of Section 3.8.

Section 3.6. Open Meetings.

All meetings of the Coalition shall be open to the public, except as permitted to be closed by the New York Public Officers Law.

Section 3.7 Notice of Meetings.

The Secretary shall cause to be delivered by e-mail or sent by regular mail, to each participating Coalition Member, written notice of monthly meetings on an annual basis, and if special meetings are called, notice of such meetings shall be e-mailed or mailed to the Coalition Members at the addresses provided by the Members' representatives, no less than seven (7) days prior to the date of the meeting. Prior notification of each meeting may also be given to The Buffalo News, and to such local newspapers as may request such prior notification.

Section 3.8 Voting.

Each member of the Coalition shall have one (1) vote at all meetings.

In order to take action the Coalition shall utilize the following quorum requirements:

1. 51% of the voting membership constitutes a quorum for all meetings. For approval of meeting minutes, treasurer's reports, voucher payments, annual reports, annual account designation, budgets, grant applications, plans, programs and related items, approval of 51% of those in attendance shall be required.
2. For actions requiring a supermajority, voting may be permitted by proxy, email, video or teleconferencing.
3. A supermajority of 75% of the Coalition membership shall be required for approval of capital budgets, adoption of by-laws and future amendments thereto, and establishment of an annual fee.
4. For entering into contracts, there must be 75% approval by the Coalition members, indicated by execution of a signature page.

Section 3.9 Additional Alternates.

The governing body of any participating Coalition Member may authorize the town supervisor or village or city mayor, as the case may be, to designate an alternate other than one previously designated, to represent the participating Coalition Member at any Coalition meeting or meetings in such kinds of contingency situations as the governing body may deem appropriate, and subject to such voting limitations, if any, as it may specify. Such alternate may be a representative or alternate for another participating Coalition Member. The designation of such alternate shall be communicated in writing or by facsimile transmission to the Secretary of the Coalition prior to the transaction of business by the Coalition at any meeting or meetings to be attended by the alternate.



## ARTICLE IV

### OFFICERS

#### Section 4.1 Officers.

The officers of the Coalition shall be a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.

#### Section 4.2 Qualification for Office.

An officer shall be an official or employee of his or her respective Coalition Member. Only one officer can be elected from any one Coalition Member.

#### Section 4.3 Elections.

All officers shall be elected by the Coalition at the annual meeting.

#### Section 4.4 Term.

Each officer shall serve a term of one year or until the next annual meeting of the Coalition and the election and qualification of their successors. Officers may serve consecutive terms.

#### Section 4.5 Duties of Officers.

- A. Chairman. The Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the Coalition, convene special meetings of the Coalition in accordance with these By-Laws; appoint the members, and the chair of each Coalition Committee; represent the Coalition in its relations with elected officials and other official bodies, groups and organizations; and carry out any additional duties as may be assigned by the Coalition.
- B. Vice Chairman. The Vice-Chairman shall, in the event of absence or disability of the Chairman, perform the duties and exercise the responsibilities of the Chairman; assist the Chairman in disseminating information to the public concerning activities and proceedings of the Coalition; sign checks in the event of the absence or disability of the Treasurer; and carry out any additional duties as may be assigned by the Chairman or the Coalition.
- C. Secretary. The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Coalition and distribute a summary report of each Coalition meeting; give and serve all notices as required by these By-Laws; assist the Chairman in attending to all official correspondence of the Coalition, keep a written record of attendance; maintain the records of the Coalition and serve as the Coalition's records management officer; distribute approved minutes to the clerk of each participating Coalition Member; and carry out any additional duties as may be assigned by the Chairman or the Coalition.
- D. Treasurer: In conjunction with the chief fiscal officer of the Coalition Member designated to hold the "Western New York Stormwater Coalition" account, the Treasurer shall have care and custody of the funds of the Coalition; sign all checks; and keep full and accurate books and records of all financial matters; invoice Coalition Members for the annual fee, and carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the Chairman of the Coalition.

Section 4.6. Vacancies.

In the event of a vacancy in the office of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman shall automatically become the successor and serve the balance of the term. Vacancies occurring in the offices of Vice Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer shall be filled for the balance of the term by the Coalition at the next meeting of the Coalition.

ARTICLE V

COMMITTEES

Section 5.1 Executive Committee.

The Stormwater Coalition Executive Committee shall consist of seven Coalition Members including the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, one Village member, one Town member, and one agency or special district member. Members of the Executive Committee shall be elected at a regularly scheduled Stormwater Coalition meeting or the Annual Meeting. Members of the Executive Committee shall serve one year terms.

The Executive Committee shall meet a minimum of two times per year at a date and time established by the Chair. The meetings shall be open for attendance by any interested Stormwater Coalition Member. The Executive Committee shall act on behalf of the Coalition between scheduled meetings based upon decisions by the full Coalition; act on tasks delegated by the full Coalition; make recommendations to the full Coalition regarding the work plan, projects, fees and disbursement of funds toward the purposes of the Coalition. Recommendations of the Executive Committee shall be based upon a majority of those members present at the meeting.

Section 5.2. Ad Hoc Committees.

The Chairman shall establish such ad hoc committees or subcommittees as the Coalition deems necessary to promote the purpose and carry on the work of the Coalition.

Section 5.3 Appointment of Committee Members.

The members of each committee or subcommittee and the chair thereof shall be designated by the Chairman.

Section 5.4 Ex Officio Membership.

The Chairman shall be an ex officio non-voting member of all committees or subcommittees created pursuant to these By-Laws.

ARTICLE VI

Section 6.1 Audit.

The payment of all bills and claims shall be subject to prior approval by the Coalition. Audits may be conducted as determined by the Coalition at the Annual Meeting.



#### Section 6.2 Administrative Services.

Staff from the Erie County Department of Environment and Planning (ECDEP) may act as contractors for providing administrative services to the Western New York Stormwater Coalition. Administrative services may include preparation of meeting notices, agendas and minutes; research and application for grant funding; contract oversight; and development of annual reports and other documentation required by NYS DEC to satisfy the requirements of GP-0-15-003. Additional services provided by ECDEP may include, but are not limited to, public education and outreach, public involvement initiatives, assistance with illicit discharge detection and elimination, assistance with construction site compliance oversight, and assistance with employee training. If ECDEP will act as a consultant to the Coalition, it must submit a proposed annual budget and work plan, including administrative services, to the Coalition on an annual basis for approval, beginning in January 2016. ECDEP staff time charges shall be reimbursed by funds obtained through federal and state grants, unless otherwise approved by the Coalition. The Coalition shall not incur financial obligations to ECDEP for any services outside of the workplan approved by the Coalition.

### ARTICLE VII

#### ADOPTION AND AMENDMENT

##### Section 7.1 Adoption of By-Laws.

These By-Laws shall be adopted by affirmative vote as provided by Section 3.8 of these By-Laws, and may be amended in the same manner.

##### Section 7.2 Adoption of Amendments.

The wording of any proposed amendment to these By-Laws shall be included in the notice of the regular or special meeting at which the amendment is to be considered. Any proposed amendment shall be tabled at the meeting at which it is introduced, and may not be voted upon sooner than the next regular meeting.

**APPENDIX A  
TO  
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT  
WESTERN NEW YORK STORMWATER COALITION**

The Fee Schedule commencing January 1 and ending on December 31, shall be \$1,250 per Coalition Member.



TOWN OF PENDLETON

BY: Resolution 52-16

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_