

**Energy, Environment and Sustainability Committee  
Special Meeting Minutes**

**DATE & TIME:** March 10, 2025 – 2:00 PM  
**LOCATION(S):** KL Binder Library, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, County Office Building, Kingston  
Livestreamed at <https://www.youtube.com/@UlsterCountyLegislature/streams>  
**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Chair Hewitt  
**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Lizvett Noriega, Legislative Administrative Assistant; Tyron Rogers, Legislative Technical Support Specialist  
**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Litts, Nolan, Stewart, and Walls  
**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None  
**QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes

**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency Board of Directors interviewees (in order of appearance): James Gordon, Vincent Joseph Mow, Claudia Joseph, Poppy Cannon-Reese, Laura Petit, Michael Warren (Zoom), Michael MacIsaac, David Gilmour (Zoom), Michael Baden

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Chair Hewitt called the meeting to order at 2:04 PM.

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Chair Hewitt stated the purpose of the Special Meeting of the Energy, Environment and Sustainability Committee is for interviewing and scoring candidates to make a recommendation to the Chair of the Legislature for consideration of appointment to the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency (UCRRA) Board of Directors.

Chair Hewitt explained to the Committee that interviews have been allotted 15 minutes per applicant, the committee has agreed upon seven (7) standard questions, and each of the Committee Members will take turns asking a question. Members were provided with scoring sheets and asked to complete their scoring sheets at the conclusion of each interview. Members were informed that discussion will take place in Executive Session and afterwards, the Committee will agree to a recommend top candidates which will be best suited for submission to the Chair of the Legislature, who will make the final decision to appoint to the UCRRA Board of Directors for the two (2) seats that are available.

Candidates appeared and were interviewed in the following order:

- 2:00 PM - James Gordon
- 2:15 PM - Vincent Joseph Mow
- 2:30 PM - Claudia Joseph
- 2:45 PM - Poppy Cannon-Reese
- 3:00 PM – Jeffrey Ashdown (scheduled and did not appear)
- 3:15 PM - Laura Petit
- 4:00 PM - Michael Warren (Zoom)
- 4:15 PM - Michael MacIsaac
- 4:30 PM - David Gilmour (Zoom)
- 4:45 PM – Michael Baden

The following questions were asked of the interviewees:

1. Please tell us a little bit about yourself, why you want to serve on UCRRA Board, and what strengths you would bring to it?
2. In 2020 UCRRA adopted a 10-year Local Solid Waste Management Plan, which was approved by the Legislature in 2021.
  - 2a. Have you looked at the plan, which recommended closing and capping landfills, waste reduction and recycling, removing Household Hazardous Waste, and exporting the residual to existing landfills?
  - 2b. How do you envision the UCRRA's role in the program?
  - 2c. It also recommended feasibility studies to site a landfill and to reduce solid waste through a variety of zero waste initiatives. Have you looked at the Cornerstone or HydroQuest studies?
3. Are you in favor of citing a landfill for Ulster County, and if so, how should the agency go about it?
4. What is your vision for the future of solid waste in Ulster County for the next decade and beyond and how might this be implemented?
5. We are in the process of implementing a Zero Waste Implementation Plan – What is your vision for maximum waste diversion?
6. Can you make weekday meetings in the evening? The current UCRRA board has set the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 6:15 PM for 2025 -- that could be amended, but how will that work for you?
7. Would you be interested in and able to serve on the Recycling Oversight Committee, if not appointed to the UCRRA Board?

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Chair Hewitt called a recess of the meeting at 3:26 PM.

Chair Hewitt called the meeting back to order at 4:00 PM to continue scheduled interviews.

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<b>Motion No. 1:</b>	<b>Motion to enter Executive Session to discuss candidates with Legislators and Legislative Staff permitted</b>
<b>Motion Made By:</b>	Legislator Donaldson
<b>Motion Seconded By:</b>	Legislator Nolan
<b>Voting in Favor:</b>	Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt, Litts, Nolan, Stewart, and Walls
<b>Voting Against:</b>	None
<b>Votes in Favor:</b>	7
<b>Votes Against:</b>	0
<b>Disposition:</b>	<b>Executive Session entered at 5:01 PM</b>

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**Motion No. 2:** **Motion to exit Executive Session**  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Nolan  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Walls

**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt, Litts, Nolan, Stewart, and Walls  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 7  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Executive Session exited at 5:18 PM**

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No votes were taken in Executive Session.

Upon completion of the interview, scoring, and vetting process, the Energy, Environment and Sustainability Committee agreed that the top five (5) applicants best suited for the Legislative Chair's consideration of appointment to the Ulster County Resource Agency Board were (in order of appearance): James Gordon, Poppy Cannon-Reese, Laura Petit, David Gilmour, and Michael Baden.

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#### **Adjournment**

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Litts  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Walls  
**Votes in Favor:** 7  
**Votes Against:** 0

**TIME:** 5:19 PM  
**Respectfully Submitted:** Lizvett Noriega, Legislative Administrative Assistant  
**Approved:** April 1, 2025

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