

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

**DATE & TIME:** August 29, 2023 – 3:00 PM  
**LOCATION:** Karen L. Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston  
**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Chair Manna Jo Greene  
**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk, Lizvett Bost, Legislative Staff, Tyron Rogers, Technology Specialist  
**PRESENT:** Legislators Bartels, Hansut, Levine, Maloney, and Stewart  
**ABSENT:** None  
**QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes

**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Legislators Erner, Petit & Roberts; Legislative Counsels Ragucci & Gordon; Supervisor Baden - Town of Rochester; Supervisor Parete – Town of Marbletown; Esi Lewis – Executive’s Office

---

Chair Greene called the special meeting to order at 3:02 PM and Legislator Levine led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The members discussed the authority, process and reason for entering an Executive Session as well as who would be permitted.

**Motion No. 1:** **MOTION to ENTER Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters, with the following persons permitted to attend: any Legislators, Legislative Counsel, and Legislative staff**

**Motion By:** Legislator Stewart  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Maloney

**Discussion:**

There was a brief discussion about whether former Legislator and current Town of Marbletown Supervisor Rich Parete should be permitted to stay. Supervisor Parete stated that he came to the meeting to listen and was not requesting admittance to the Executive Session.

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Bartels, Greene, Hansut, Levine, Maloney and Stewart  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 6  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Executive Session Entered into at 3:08 PM

---

**Motion No. 2:** **MOTION to EXIT Executive Session**

**Motion By:** Legislative Chair Bartels  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Stewart

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Bartels, Greene, Hansut, Levine, Maloney and Stewart

**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 6  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Executive Session Exited at 4:01 PM**

---

Chair Greene stated for the record that no action was taken in Executive Session. She recognized Supervisors Parete and Baden from the Towns of Marbletown and Rochester respectively. Supervisor Baden gave the members a letter that he preferred be kept confidential. Legislative Counsel Gordon stated that the document is a public document and subject to FOIL.

Supervisor Baden stated that he felt there was an improvement in communication since the new Executive Director of the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency was brought on board and was disappointed with his termination. He added that there were service and other issues when the UCRRA Comptroller was asked to serve as Acting Executive Director as well as Comptroller in the past.

Legislator Petit commented that she was concerned that the function of the Agency will suffer without an Executive Director and that the county's contract was not being fulfilled. Chair Greene commented that the Legislature would be addressing that moving forward. The members briefly discussed the possibility of expanding the board, dissolving the agency and centralizing the service under a county department.

Chair Bartels advised the members that she introduced a resolution to expand the UCRRA board. The members briefly discussed what abilities are restricted by state enabling legislation and what is in the county's authority. Legislator Maloney commented that the members should begin discussing the formation of a special committee to assess the UCRRA and evaluate the options for the future of the agency. Chair Bartels recommended scheduling a special meeting of the committee for that discussion because of time constraints during regularly scheduled meetings and the amount of time necessary to thoroughly consider the question.

Chair Greene commented that Ulster County still has the ability to model sound solid waste management for the region and beyond and thanked everyone for their time.

### **Adjournment**

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Levine  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Stewart  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 5  
**No. of Votes Against:** 1 (Legislator Maloney)

**TIME:** 4:13 PM

**Respectfully submitted:** Lizvett Bost, Legislative Staff  
**Minutes Approved:** September 7, 2023