

**Energy & Environment Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

**DATE & TIME:** August 2, 2021; 6:15 PM or immediately following the Public Health & Social Services Committee  
**LOCATION:** KL Binder Library  
**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene  
**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Fawn A. Tantillo, Laurie Lichtenstein  
**PRESENT:** Legislators Peter Criswell, Laura Petit, Mary Wawro and Chairman David Donaldson  
**ABSENT:** Legislator Albert Bruno  
**QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes

**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Victor Cueva, Legislative Counsel; Deputy Executive Evelyn Wright; Amanda LaValle and Europa McGovern, Department of Environment; Alicia DeMarco, Comptroller's Office

Chairwoman Greene called the meeting to order at approximately 6:19PM and lead the Pledge of Allegiance

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**Motion No. 1:** To approve the minutes of July 8, 2021

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Wawro  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Petit

**Discussion:** None

**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Greene, Criswell, Petit and Wawro  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 4  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Minutes approved.

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**UCRRA Update – Director DeGraff submitted a written report (attached).**

Chairwoman Greene said had questions regarding the decision by the RRA to do open air composting as opposed to an in-vessel facility the originally planned when they purchased the adjoining property.

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**Department of Environment –** Director LaValle shared a memo on the Food Waste Rescue and Recovery Law roles and responsibilities. The memo (attached) included a chart detailing Outreach & Education; Implementation; and Enforcement, each with several sub-categories. Ms. LaValle

and Dr. Wright both felt the county had no way to do enforcement of this law and encouraged the legislature to direct the UCRRA to assume this role.

Chairwoman Greene pointed out that the law, like other legislative environmental initiatives, gave the County Executive the authority to direct a county department to fill this role. The Health Department and Weights and Measures were suggested.

It was noted that the law already applied to the cohort of producers of 2-tons/week of food waste and the 1-ton/week cohort would be regulated as of January 1, 2021. Ms. LaValle reported there were about less than 30 business in the 2-ton cohort and about 30 businesses in this 1-ton cohort

Chairwoman Greene suggested that she and Dr. Wright hold a stakeholders meeting with various county departments including Department of Health, Weights and Measures and Department of the Environment as well as UCRRA. Chairwoman Greene and Legislator Petit will attend on behalf of the Energy & Environment Committee along with Legislative Counsel.

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### **Resolutions for August 17, 2021**

#### **Resolution No. 328 - Confirming Appointment Of A Member To The Environmental Management Council**

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution will confirm the County Executive’s appointment of Mark Ellison, Westpark, NY as the Town of Esopus representative to the Environmental Management Council from the present through June 30, 2024.

**Motion No. 2:**                      **Motion to approve Resolution No. 328.**

**Motion Made By:**                Legislator Wawro

**Motion Seconded By:**        Legislator Criswell

**Discussion:**                      Legislator Petit mentioned that Mr. Ellison has been attending the EMC meeting for many years and was pleased to see he was finally be formally appointed.

**Voting in Favor:**                Legislators Greene, Criswell, Petit and Wawro

**Voting Against:**                 None

**No. of Votes in Favor:**        4

**No. of Votes Against:**        0

**Disposition:**                   **Resolution approved**

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#### **Resolution No. 329 - Confirming Appointment Of A Member To The Environmental Management Council**

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution will confirm the County Executive’s appointment of Neil Rindlaub, Gardiner, NY as the Gardiner Town representative to the Environmental Management Council from the present through June 30, 2024.

**Motion No. 3: Motion to approve Resolution No. 329.**

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Wawro  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Petit

**Discussion:** None

**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Greene, Criswell, Petit and Wawro  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 4  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Resolution approved**

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**Resolution No. 330 - Confirming Appointment Of A Member To The Environmental Management Council**

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution will confirm the County Executive’s appointment of Roberta Clements, Gardiner, NY as an At-Large to the Environmental Management Council from the present through June 30, 2024.

**Motion No. 4: Motion to approve Resolution No. 330.**

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Wawro  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Criswell

**Discussion:** None

**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Greene, Criswell, Petit and Wawro  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 4  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Resolution approved**

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**Resolution No. 351 - Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Enter Into An Agreement With The New York Environmental Protection And Spill Compensation Fund For Distributions Of Proceeds From Tax Foreclosure Sale – Department Of The Environment**

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution will authorize the Chairman to enter into an agreement with the fund relative to the division of proceeds of the sale of said parcel.

**Motion No. 5: Motion to approve Resolution No. 328.**

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Petit  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Wawro

**Discussion:** The committee asked how funding for this site cleanup was being set up. Dr. Wright explained and said the county has several sites and was working to address them all.

**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Greene, Criswell, Petit and Wawro  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 4  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Resolution approved**

### **Old Business**

Chairwoman Greene gave a preview of the Climate Smart Solutions Center at the Ulster County Fair opening later this week.

### **New Business**

Dr. Wright announced the Amanda LaValle was appointed as the Deputy Director of Planning and would begin there later this week. Nick Hvozda would be the acting Director of the Department of the Environment until a formal replacement was made.

Chairwoman Greene asked if there was any other business, hearing none;

### **Motion to Adjourn**

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Criswell  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Wawro  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 4  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Time:**

**Respectfully submitted by:** Fawn Tantillo  
**Minutes Approved:** August 30, 2021