

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

DATE & TIME: September 2, 2025 – 4:00 PM
LOCATION(S): Legislative Chambers, 6th 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, Nolan, and Stewart
MEMBERS ABSENT: Legislators Litts and Walls
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Deputy County Executive Amanda LaValle – UC Executive’s Office; Executive Director Marc Rider – UC Resource Recovery Agency; Director Andy Bicking – Department of Environment

Complete content of the meeting can be accessed via the Ulster County Legislature’s YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/@UlsterCountyLegislature/streams>

Chair Hewitt called the meeting to order at 4:17 PM.

Motion No. 1:	Motion to Approve the Minutes of the August 5, 2025 Meeting
Motion Made By:	Legislator Greene
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Donaldson
Voting in Favor:	Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt, Nolan, and Stewart
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	5
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Minutes Approved

Reports

- **UCRRA** – Director Marc Rider – Draft budget & tipping fees for 2026 was approved, overall expenditures are slightly on the rise, partnering with MRDC’s to get organics out of the waste stream, union employees’ agreement, tipping fee.
 - **Cornell Cooperative Extension** - Industrial Hemp Conference update – Update by Cornell Cooperative Extension forthcoming.
 - **Zero Waste RFQ** – Chair Hewitt – Negotiation funding, and scope of service under review.
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Resolutions for the September 16, 2025 Session of the Legislature:

Resolution No. 178 – Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 4 Of 2025, A Local Law Providing For The Protection And Restoration Of The Esopus Creek, Rondout Creek And Wallkill River In Ulster County,

And Providing For The Rights Of The Residents Of Ulster County To Clean Water And A Healthy And Productive Ecosystem, To Be Held On Tuesday, October 21, 2025 At 7:00 PM

Resolution Summary – This Resolution sets a public hearing on Proposed Local Law No. 4 Of 2025, A Local Law Providing For The Protection And Restoration Of The Esopus Creek, Rondout Creek And Wallkill River In Ulster County, And Providing For The Rights Of The Residents Of Ulster County To Clean Water And A Healthy And Productive Ecosystem, to be held on Tuesday, October 21, 2025 At 7:00 PM.

Motion No. 2: **Motion to Postpone Resolution No. 178**

Motion Made By: Legislator Hewitt

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Nolan

Voting in Favor: Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt, Nolan, and Stewart

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 5

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Resolution Postponed**

Resolution No. 209 – Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Service Agreement With The Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency – Department Of The Environment

Resolution Summary – This Resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to sign an agreement with the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency expiring on May 31, 2030.

Motion No. 3: **Motion to Amend the Contract as follows:**

Amended Contract to change the Bond amount from \$40 Million to \$60 Million on Page 5/Section 1.01.

Motion Made By: Legislator Nolan

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Greene

Voting in Favor: Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt, Nolan, and Stewart

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 5

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Contract Amendment Adopted**

Motion No. 4: **Motion to Amend the Contract as follows:**

Amended Contract to strike Sections 2:05 and 2:06 on Page 10.

Motion Made By: Legislator Nolan

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Donaldson

Voting in Favor: Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt, Nolan, and Stewart

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 5

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Contract Amendment Adopted**

Motion No. 5: **Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 209**

Motion Made By: Legislator Stewart

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Nolan

Voting in Favor: Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt, Nolan, and Stewart

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 5

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Resolution Adopted**

Resolution No. 273 – Opposing The Establishment Of A County-Wide Landfill Anywhere Within The Geographical Boundaries Of Ulster County, And Urging The Exploration Of Alternative Locations And Waste Management Solutions

Resolution Summary – This Resolution memorializes the Legislature's opposition to the siting of a landfill anywhere within the geographical boundaries of the County of Ulster and calls for the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency to explore alternative locations and waste management solutions that prioritize environmental protection, community well-being, environmental justice, and sustainability.

Motion No. 6: **Motion to Postpone Resolution No. 273**

Motion Made By: Legislator Stewart

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Donaldson

Voting in Favor: Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt, Nolan and Stewart

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 5

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Resolution Postponed**

Resolution No. 410 – Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Payment In Lieu Of Taxes Agreement With Wawarsing East Solar, LLC For Solar Energy Systems Pursuant To Real Property Tax Law Section 487 – Department Of Finance

Resolution Summary – This Resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to enter into a PILOT Agreement, and any amendments thereto, with Wawarsing East Solar, LLC for the building and operations of a Solar Energy System.

Motion No. 7: **Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 410**

Motion Made By: Legislator Nolan

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Greene

Voting in Favor: Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt, Nolan, and Stewart

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 5

Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution Adopted**

Resolution No. 411 – Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Payment In Lieu Of Taxes Agreement With Wawarsing West Solar, LLC For Solar Energy Systems Pursuant To Real Property Tax Law Section 487 – Department Of Finance

Resolution Summary – This Resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to enter into a PILOT Agreement, and any amendments thereto, with Wawarsing West Solar, LLC for the building and operations of a Solar Energy System.

Motion No. 8: **Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 411**
Motion Made By: Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Donaldson

Voting in Favor: Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt, Nolan, and Stewart
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution Adopted**

Resolution No. 412 – Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Payment In Lieu Of Taxes Agreement With Wawarsing West Solar, LLC For Solar Energy Systems Pursuant To Real Property Tax Law Section 487 – Department Of Finance

Resolution Summary – This Resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to execute, on behalf of Ulster County, any and all agreements and documents related to an easement with New York State Electric & Gas to install electrical facilities on Herdman Road in the Town of Shandaken.

Motion No. 9: **Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 412**
Motion Made By: Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Stewart

Voting in Favor: Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt, Nolan, and Stewart
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution Adopted**

New Business –

- Legislator Greene – Climate Smart Committee update; Legislator Greene attended the Rosendale Community Center along with Legislator Stewart.
- Deputy Executive LaValle – New York State Association of Conservation Committees (also goes by NYSCC) it's holding their statewide conference in Kingston on October 24th & 25th.

- Legislator Stewart – Suggested reaching out to Assemblymember Sarahana Shrestha’s office for them to give a presentation either to our committee or the Legislature as a whole to learn more of the Public Power Authority.
- Legislator Nolan – In October, just before the NYSAC conference, there will be the Catskills Environmental Research and Management conference, focused on research in the Catskill Park.

Old Business - None

Adjournment

Motion Made By: Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Stewart
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0

TIME: 6:02 PM
Respectfully Submitted: Lizvett Noriega, Legislative Administrative Assistant
Approved: October 14, 2025

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