

**Minutes of the Watershed Agricultural Council Meeting**  
February 22, 2011

**I. Meeting called to order at 1:00 p.m.**

Directors Present:

Fred Huneke	Darby Hartwell
John Riedl	Tom Donnelly
Steve Reed	David Cammer
Tom Hutson	John Verhoeven
Richard Giles	Ken Smith
Sally Fairbairn	Joe Eisele
Chris DiBenedetto	John Schwartz, NYC DEP

Directors Absent:

Barbara Howard

Others Present:

Craig Cashman	Cheryl Marion
Jeff Graff	Tara Collins
Tom Pavlesich	Dan Flaherty
Heather Ross	Larry Hulle
Challey Comer	Tom Hilson
Rich Weidenbach	Dave Tobias
NYC DEP Commissioner, Cas Holloway	

**II. Approval of Minutes**

**Motion to approve the minutes of the January, 2011 WAC meeting.**

**Motion: Tom Donnelly**

**Second: Dave Cammer**

**Approved**

**III. Introduction of NYC DEP Commissioner Cas Holloway and NYC DEP Deputy Commissioner, Paul Rush.**

Fred Huneke read a prepared statement:

Commissioner Cas Holloway made responses to Fred's statement and added comments of his own.

#### **IV. Executive Director Reports – Craig Cashman**

Craig distributed a document titled, “Executive Committee Issues for Discussion 2011-2012 WAC Easement Program Contract Negotiations, NYCDEP and WAC.

Craig stated that for the next 6-12 months the Council will be discussing the items listed above. Deadlines are to meet the Side Agreement and will be worked into the next contract. In response to the inquire regarding whether or not WAC would agree to do a Forestry Easement Program under unanimous consent Craig stated that was a decision of the Council. Richard Giles felt that since DEP must have unanimous consent they should offer something in return as a counter balance. Jeff Graff stated that perhaps the trade off could be an assurance that WAC would be funded in the future for stewardship.

#### **V. Chair’s Report – Fred Huneke**

The approved Stewardship Endowment Fund Investment Policy passed at last month’s meeting has been sent on to NBT.

Fred asked that all Council members complete and submit their Conflict of Interest forms.

#### **VI. Finance Committee – John Riedl**

- **Motion to accept the December Financial Statement on the recommendation of the Finance Committee.**

**Second: Dave Cammer**

**Approved**

#### **VII. DEP Report – John Schwartz**

The NYC DEP Strategic Plan for 2011-14 has been completed and can be viewed on DEP’s website. See page 24 for a write up on WAC. The Watershed Agricultural Council is the only DEP partnering agency with a specific article in this document.

**Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss contract negotiations.**

**Motion: Joe Eisele**

**Second: Steve Reed**

**Approved**

**Motion to come out of Executive Session.**

**Motion: John Verhoeven**

**Second: Tom Hutson**

**Approved**