

# Watershed Agricultural Council

Agriculture ♦ Forestry ♦ Conservation Easements ♦ Economic Initiatives

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## Minutes of the Watershed Agricultural Council Meeting

July 26, 2011

### I. Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

#### Directors Present:

|                   |                        |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| Fred Huneke       | Darby Hartwell         |
| John Riedl        | Tom Donnelly           |
| Steve Reed        | David Cammer           |
| Tom Hutson        | Richard Giles          |
| Chris DiBenedetto | Sally Fairbairn        |
| Kenneth Smith     | John Schwartz, NYC DEP |

#### Directors Absent:

Joe Eisele  
Barbara Howard  
John Verhoeven

#### Others Present:

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Craig Cashman                                 | Amy Hawk        |
| Thomas Artale                                 | Tara Collins    |
| Brian Latourette                              | Elaine Poulin   |
| Carrie Davis                                  | Daniel Flaherty |
| Seth Hersh                                    | Challey Comer   |
| Tom Hilson, Delaware County Watershed Affairs |                 |

### II. Approval of Minutes

**Motion to approve the minutes of the June 28, 2011 WAC meeting.**

**Motion: Tom Donnelly**

**Second: Dave Cammer**

**Approved**

### III. Dan Flaherty presentation on trip to Moldova

Dan presented a powerpoint highlighting the work he did on his two trips to Moldova.

### IV. Executive Director Report – Craig Cashman

#### A. Program Updates

Program Managers gave individual program reports – see Committee minutes for

details.

### **B. Strategic Plan Update**

Craig reported that he expects to receive the first draft of the strategic plan from NYCON within the week. It will be forwarded to the Executive Committee for discussion at the August meeting. NYCON will attend the August meeting of the Executive Committee to discuss. The draft plan will be distributed to the Council at the August 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting, which NYCON will also attend. The Council will then have a month to review and the intent is for the Council to accept the strategic plan formally at the September Council meeting.

NYCON will be conducting a training on August 23<sup>rd</sup> for the Senior Leadership Team and Committee Chairs on committee leadership and meeting management. Hey will also be conducting a training at the September 27<sup>th</sup> Council meeting focusing on lobbying parameters.

### **C. Human Resources Update**

Amy reported that all Employee Evaluations have been completed for FY11, except for Craig's which will be completed in the next couple of weeks by Fred and Dave. She also stated that an individual has been hired as the Forestry Executive Assistant and will start August 15<sup>th</sup>.

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

### **A. WAC position on Gas Drilling**

Fred stated that the Council needs to develop a position on gas drilling. He plans to send a simple survey to the Council members focusing on what the Council members feel WAC's position should be. The goal is to have a position to vote on in November.

### **B. Endowment Fund**

Fred reported that a subaccount was created in the Endowment Fund to house the \$100,000 previously received from DEP intended for legal defense.

### **C. Executive Director Evaluation**

Fred stated that Craig's evaluation should be completed by the first week of August.

## **VI. Finance Committee – John Riedl and Thomas Artale**

### **A. May Financials**

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

**Motion: John Riedl**

**Second: Dave Cammer**

**Approved**

John stated that he and Thomas are planning to do a presentation on reading the financial statements at the October meeting.

## **VII. Audit Committee – Ken Smith**

Ken reported that audits have been conducted at both Delaware County CCE

and Delaware County SWCD and that there were no major issues found.

#### **VIII. DEP Report**

John Schwartz reported on the Ashokan Boy Scout Trek that will be taking place August 19<sup>th</sup> through the 27<sup>th</sup>. The Troop will be hiking the aqueduct from Ashokan to Central Park with many interesting stops along the way.

#### **IX. Executive Session**

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

**Motion: Steve Reed**

**Second: tom Hutson**

**Approved**

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

**Motion: Dave Cammer**

**Second: Steve Reed**

**Approved**

**Motion to reaffirm the Council's position of numbers 1 through 7 of the Board recommended positions on the NYC DEP stewardship proposal as outlined in July's meeting and to add numbers 8 & 9 as follows:**

- 8. Unanimous consent embodied in stewardship contracts through 2038 and beyond will be permitted if both parties reach agreement on remaining positions.**
- 9. Additional contract language that affects and or limits the governance and or general management of the affairs of the corporation will not be permitted.**

**Motion: Tom Hutson**

**Second: Richard Giles**

**Approved**

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.