

Watershed Agricultural Council

Agriculture ♦ Forestry ♦ Conservation Easements ♦ Economic Viability

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Executive Committee Meeting April 16, 2024

I. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Tom Hutson

Members Present:	Karl Gockel Tom Hutson Marilyn Wyman	Fred Huneke Jennifer Grossman, via Zoom
Members Absent:	Wayland "Bud" Gladstone	John Vickers, NYC DEP
Others Present:	Ryan Naatz Steve Reed Dudley Harris, NYC DOI	Amy Faulkner Michael VanderWerff, NYC DEP, via Zoom Jessica Haaz, NYC DOI

II. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2024 meeting, as presented.

Motion: Fred Huneke

Second: Karl Gockel

Approved

III. Executive Director's Report

Ryan stated that his report will be moved to Executive Session to review additional Transparency Policy requests and WAC's dispute resolution mechanism. There will also be a WAC only Executive Session to reaffirm position on successor contracts.

IV. Chair's Report

A. Executive Committee Charge

The Committee reviewed the proposed Executive Committee Charge, the intent is to combine both the Executive Committee Charge and the Human Resources Committee Charge based upon the direction of the Board as a next step in the Committee Restructuring. Members presented questions and suggested modifications that included combining and rephrasing two bullets regarding personnel policies. Members expressed they had additional points and questions, Ryan asked that everyone forward additional feedback to Amy and/or Ryan within two weeks. Those edits will be included in the draft charge to be presented to the Committee again in May. Amy will send the previous charges of both committees to the group.

B. Executive Director Process and Evaluation Form

The current process and form were presented to the Committee to consider modifications to the content and the timeframe. Amy requested the Committee consider rewording the evaluation form to better reflect that resource development of the organization is largely based on DEP contract

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development and management. There was consensus to update that section of the form. Amy also asked that the timeframe for the evaluation be modified to result in completion of the evaluation by June 30th of each year. Marilyn also questioned whether Ryan felt it would be beneficial for him to complete a self-assessment prior to his evaluation. Last year a self-assessment was added to the process for all employees. The committee agreed that adding the self-assessment would be beneficial this year. Amy will make the agreed upon modifications to the form and the process and provide it to the Committee in May for them to conduct the evaluation.

V. Executive Session

Motion to go into Executive Session.

Motion: Karl Gockel

Second: Fred Huneke

Approved

Michael Vander Werff, Dudley Harris and Jessica Haaz left the meeting at this time.

Motion to come out of Executive Session.

Motion: Fred Huneke

Second: Karl Gockel

Approved

VI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:07pm.

Motion: Karl Gockel

Second: Fred Huneke

Approved