



**Dutchess County  
Environmental Management Council (DCEMC)  
Meeting Minutes  
May 25, 2022**

**This meeting was held by Zoom**

**Attendance:**

<b>At-Large Members</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Pete Berasi	X	
James Fredrickson	X	
Vicky Kelly	X	
Constance Kustas		X
Sarka Leff		X
John Paraskeva		X
Nancy Severns	X	
Candis Sunderland	X	
<b>Ex Officio, CAC Members &amp; Others</b>		

Welcome/Intro/Chairman's comments: Jim Fredrickson welcomed all to the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

Meeting Minutes: A motion to accept the minutes of the February 2022 meeting was made by Pete Berasi with a second by Nancy Severns; all were in favor. Because there was not a quorum, the April meeting did not have minutes.

2021 Annual Report: All will review for approval at the June meeting.

Joining NYSACC: Jim will contact Simon Skolnik and Carolyn Klocker about rejoining.

Correspondence:

- Email from Simon Skolnik of NYSACC with announcements and information.
- Email from Simon Skolnik forwarding an email from Cait Darfler, Vice-Chair, Tompkins County Environmental Management Council asking if our EMC falls under the Open Meetings Law. Vicky will reply that, because we are advisory and not a decision-making body, we are not required to comply with the letter of the law. However, we feel that it is prudent to comply with the spirit of the law and allow for and encourage participation of members of the public.
- Email from Lora Schilling (aka Rinaldi) asking if there are opportunities to get involved. Vicky responded with information on how to join the EMC.

Website update: no new updates

Funds Update: no updates

Reports:

Natural Resource Inventory for Dutchess County: The kickoff meeting of the steering committee was postponed until June 6. Sean Carroll sent a survey to CAC's. The EMC members should all complete the survey.

Road Salt Brine Cost Benefit Analysis (Vicky, Candis, Jim, John): Vicky reported that, a cost benefit analysis was circulated to the committee. The data used for the analysis came from phone calls, email correspondence and a literature search. The town of Rhinebeck is the only municipality in Dutchess County that responded that they use brine. The highway superintendent was very open with information. The Town of Hague near Lake George uses brine as well as other methods to reduce salt. They have been very successful and are very willing to share information. Reports indicate that using brine to pretreat roads before a storm significantly reduces overall salt use such that the cost of new equipment would be recovered in less than one year from salt savings. Vicky will draft a cover letter and make a recommendation for distribution of the report.

Environmental Advocacy Group Monitoring Updates (Nancy, Candis):

Nancy Severns reported:

- Sierra club Mid Hudson group- No formal response yet on A8431 (all electric buildings) and A9329 (gas transition and affordable energy act) from Jonathan Jacobson. He is co-sponsoring other legislation.
- Poughkeepsie's Wheaton Park was sold to developers on a contract loophole. As a result, city council has hired its own legal representation.
- Catskill Mountainkeeper - no news with respect to Dutchess County. No legal decision on Bluestone Wild Forest.
- Sloop Clearwater is not holding Clearwater Festival in 2022. Determined a new strategic plan.

Candis Sunderland reported:

- The DEC has scheduled an overview of model battery storage system law that is geared toward town boards.
- The Dutchess Co. Industrial Development Agency is moving forward on the Dutton site on the Hudson River, which will be developed.

Other Business:

A motion to adjourn was made by Candis Sunderland. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the EMC is June 22, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Vicky Kelly, Recording Secretary.