



**Dutchess County
Environmental Management Council (DCEMC)
Meeting Minutes
May 28, 2025**

This meeting was held by Zoom

Attendance:

At-Large Members	Present	Absent
Pete Berasi	X	
James Fredrickson	X	
Vicky Kelly	X	
Constance Kustas	X	
Dave Mergendahl	X	
John Paraskeva	X	
Nancy Severns	X	
Lora Schilling		X
Kate Susman	X	
Ex Officio, CAC Members & Others		
Devin Rigolino, Dutchess County Dept. Planning & Development	X	
Lisa Kaul, County Legislator	X	

Welcome/Intro/Chairman's comments: Jim Fredrickson welcomed all to the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

Meeting Minutes: A motion to approve the meeting minutes of the April 2025 was made by Dave Mergendahl, second by Nancy Severns, all were in favor, the motion carried.

April 26 Earth Day Event re-cap: Vicky and Nancy attended. There was a sign-up sheet on which about 8 people signed up for more information. The county executive, chair of the legislature and comptroller all stopped by. We mentioned the enabling legislation and our projects to each of them.

Correspondence: A town of La Grange resident wrote about road salt mitigation done on his road and the recent deterioration of some of the structures that were part of the mitigation.

Website update: no new updates

Funds Update: Devin reported that we have more than \$3000 in IBM funds with CCEDC and about \$400 in county funds, which is enough to send us to the NYSACC virtual meeting.

Draft Enabling Legislation: see above under earth day event.

Members: no updates

Legislature's Environment Committee Chair & Other Connections: no new updates

Reports:

Climate Smart Communities Update: Nancy & Devin reported that there is a hybrid meeting on Monday June 2 at 5:30 p.m. A contract was finalized with NYSERDA for funding for electric vehicles and charging stations for county vehicles.

Fishkill Creek Watershed Alliance: Tabling was done at various events and administrative items were completed. Water quality sampling has begun with analyses done at Bard College.

Solid Waste Management: The RFP period is closed for the study of waste in the county. Approximately eight applications were received. A comprehensive review process will be done by the county with a contract hopefully by mid-summer.

State of Environment Report: Vicky reported that the report is completed with reviews and edits done by Pete, Devin, Kate and especially Nancy. The group discussed the report in general. Jim, Vicky and Kate offered to present it to the Legislature at a public meeting. The group discussed other ways to ensure the report is presented to the public. Some further additions and edits were suggested and the group decided to postpone a vote to approve the report.

Road Salt: no new updates

Green Infrastructure Projects: no new updates

Wappinger School Alliance: This project is wrapped up.

Legislature's Agenda Items of Interest: Lisa Kaul asked about plastic reduction legislation. The legislature is not in favor of regulation and she wants to be mindful of presenting to the business community and working with, for example, the chamber of commerce to do workshops. The group discussed the effectiveness of a ban vs. an educational campaign.

Other Business:

A motion to adjourn was made by Nancy Severns. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the EMC is June 25, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. via zoom.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Vicky Kelly, Recording Secretary