Dutchess County
Environmental Management Council (DCEMC)
Meeting Minutes
September 23, 2026

This meeting was held by Zoom

Attendance:

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

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

Meeting Minutes: A motion to approve the meeting minutes of the August 2026 was made by Nancy Severns, second by Jeff Akins, all were in favor, the motion carried.

Correspondence: There was a request from a member of the town of Stanford for a map that the EMC apparently sent them many years ago. As we no longer have access to the map, the request was forwarded to Devin who indicated via email that he would help them.

Website: Devin reported via email that they got the green light to work on the website and he has prepared a draft of the core content to share with the county's IT folks. However, the County is going to migrate to a new platform and design before the end of the year and they encouraged us to wait until the new website is up before building the EMC's new web page. So we will stay with the current website for a few more months. The new website should be done by the end of Q.1 2027.

Funds Update: No changes, the EMC currently has $847.08 remaining of county funds for 2026. Vicky will contact Devin about the amount the EMC should request for 2027 website expenses.

Draft revised EMC Enabling Legislation: no new updates.

Legislature's Environment Committee Meeting Attendance: Nancy reported that she viewed the September meeting at which Legislator Kaul summarized our letter to the EPA regarding the cleanup of the Wappinger Creek superfund site. The rest of the meeting was about improvement of the wastewater treatment facility at the Dalton Farm development.

Reports:

Wappinger Creek Superfund Site Cleanup: See below.

CSC Update: Nancy reported that the committee has been dormant but a meeting is scheduled before the end of the year.

Fishkill Creek Watershed Alliance: Pete reported that the treasurer resigned but there is a new candidate for the position. The financial report indicates that $6381 is available with a Beacon Institute grant recently acquired. The alliance will have a table at the Pumpkin Festival in Beacon on October 18, 2026.

Solid Waste Management: No new updates. Jim will ask Devin for a progress report. Vicky will check the County's website for updates.

Road Salt: Vicky reported that there is a Salt Summit in Albany on October 8, sponsored by the Lake George Association and that she will attend a water quality forum in the town of Stanford on the evening on October 8.

Green Infrastructure Projects: Lora reported that she's spoken with teachers at Arlington HS about a green infrastructure project on the campus with 60 students participating. The students will design and plan the project in fall and winter and construct in the spring. They are hoping to make it an outdoor classroom. Lisa Kaul connected them with a grant opportunity through Dutchess Soil & Water, which has a rolling application, meaning they can apply in winter & spring for additional funds.

Legislature Agenda Items of Interest: no new updates

Other Business:

Document Results of E-vote on Memo regarding Wappinger Creek Superfund Site Cleanup. The e-vote was 8 in favor and the memo was approved.

Discussion of beaver management: For now that issue has been tabled.

The group briefly discussed the proposal by IBM Poughkeepsie to build a quantum computing facility. Analyses thus far suggest that electricity demands can be met with no impact on the surrounding community. The group agreed to follow this proposal as it develops

A motion to adjourn was made by Nancy Severns. The next scheduled meeting of the EMC is on Wednesday, October 28, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Vicky Kelly, Recording Secretary