

ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE MEETING

NAME OF COMMITTEE: Environmental and Consumer Affairs Committee
DATE: July 19, 1999
TIME: 6:00 PM
PLACE: Library Conference Room, 6th Floor
LEGISLATORS PRESENT: Chairman Dunn and Legislators Meyer, Lent, Roberti,
Tantillo, Wilkins, Lomita, Loughran and Provenzano.
LEGISLATORS EXCUSED: None

OTHERS ATTENDING: Rick Fritschler, Chairman of Environmental Management Council, Dixon Onderdonk, Kingston High School Teacher and President of Lower Esopus River Watch, Jennifer Betell, EMC employee, Charles Shaw, Executive Director of Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency, James Craven, Chairman of UCRRA, Christine Nelson, UCRRA Board member, Elizabeth Askue and David Strauss

Chairman Dunn called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm. The following items were discussed:

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL: Rick Fritschler, Chairman of the Environmental Management Council reported on GIS and use of herbicides along highways. There is a concern by some towns about contamination of water. Using GIS, the EMC eliminated many areas of exemption of spraying by NYSDOT. Fritschler displayed a visual map of the Town of Denning as an example.

Chairman Fritschler explained the elements of grants that will provide training to high school students. The van and trailer are painted and roadable.

A resolution request for amending the County Budget in the amount of \$39,520 was presented for a vote. The purpose is to provide education and GIS services to the Kingston City Schools and Town of Rosendale. This is part of the State Archival and Records Management Program for "Communities as Classrooms." Motion moved by Leg. Lent and seconded by Leg. Provenzano. All voting in favor.

Chairman Fritschler presented another resolution requesting \$19,500 from Contingency to increase their operating budget to meet contractual services related to education, GIS and data production. The increase will benefit towns when EMC compiles and documents necessary information. Motion moved by Leg. Provenzano, and seconded by Leg. Wilkins. After a lengthy discussion on the subject, the vote was 8 ayes and 1 dissenting vote by Leg. Lent to approve the resolution.

Chairman Fritschler also presented a list of contributions to the Capital Improvement Projects needed for the Kelder Building at the UCCC. Chairman Fritschler performed an informal survey of the building and facilities. He prepared the list of potential projects into Repair, Preventative maintenance and Facility Upgrade. A copy of his proposal is attached to these minutes. A motion to refer to the Education, Culture and Economic Affairs Committee was made by Leg. Tantillo and seconded by Leg. Wilkins. All voting in favor.

RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY: Charles Shaw, Executive Director of the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency reported on the lateness of the Agency's budget. He explained that it will be presented to the Chairman of the Ulster County Legislature on Monday, August 16. He added that much work is needed to formulate the document for the year 2000. There was a discussion relating to the cost of recycling in Ulster County towns. It was suggested that the committee meet at 4:30 pm at UCRRA's office on Route 9W to tour the facility on Route 32 and Sawkill Road if time permits before the next committee meeting. The next meeting would be held at UCRRA's Office at 1266 Ulster Avenue in Kingston.

A letter from Assemblyman Kevin Cahill was read pertaining to the recent accident the UCRRA's truck had. There were no injuries involved, however it is a safety concern for roll-offs to be inspected on a regular basis. The recent tonnage report shows good results. Waste management will eventually increase fees. The Hudson Valley Regional Council will continue informational sessions on solid waste management.

The draft of the 42-acre site off Route 32 for the new headquarters of the UCRRA was shown to the committee. There was a discussion on the draft and proposal package. Executive Director Shaw was not certain if this will be altered in any way. The draft was needed for the grant being prepared. Board member Christine Nelson explained her interpretation of "wetland."

All members were in agreement to adjourn meeting at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent Dunn, Chairman
Environmental and Consumer Affairs