

ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE  
COMMITTEE MEETING

NAME OF COMMITTEE: Environmental and Consumer Affairs Committee  
DATE: August 24, 1998  
TIME: 6:00 PM  
PLACE: Library Conference Room, 6th Floor  
LEGISLATORS PRESENT: Chairman Dunn and Legislators Meyer, Lent, Tantillo,  
Wilkins, Lomita, Loughran and Provenzano  
LEGISLATORS EXCUSED: Legislator Roberti  
OTHERS ATTENDING: Jonathan VanVlack, Consumer Affairs Director  
Harry Hoffman, Josephine Rina and Legislator Feldmann

6:00 PM--Jonathan VanVlack, Consumer Affairs Director spoke on electric aggregation and deregulation. Central Hudson and other carriers of electric can be choices for the county. Mr. Moore (law firm of Ward, Sommer & Moore in Albany ) wants an opportunity to address the committee. Discussion was presented to funnel requests for electric services and purchases through the Administrator's Office. Motion that all electric purchases go through Ulster County Administrator's Office, made by Legislator Provenzano, seconded by Legislator Lomita and all in favor, the matter passed.

6:35 PM- - Brother John Farrell reviewed the Federated Sportsmen expenses for their stocking of fish and pheasant program, noting that the Federated Sportsmen pay the differences in expenditures from the county grant to the actual cost. He also reviewed the 1999 Financial Assistance grant request. A copy is attached.

6:50 PM- - The Resource Recovery Agency was represented by Charles Shaw, Executive Director and Jim Craven, Chairman of the RRA Board. They reported that Eastern Environmental has been buying out many haulers and that they are merging with Waste Management, Inc. In addition, they submitted tonnage reports to the committee. They explained the concept of user fees and that a local law would have to be implemented for this purpose. Questions from the committee members were answered.

7:50 PM- - Harry Hoffman spoke to the committee objecting to the funding of the Consumer Fraud Bureau, noting that he had a problem with Consumer Fraud as to credit card identity theft.

8:00 PM- - Rich Fritschler, Chairman of the Ulster County Environmental Management Council reported on graduates of the volunteer programs and also citing the many dollars saved by conducting these programs. The 22,000 hours of volunteer assistance would compute into \$490,000.00 saved in county budget costs. The Ulster County EMC program has been recognized by the Federal government with a \$10,000 grant to cover costs. GIS is being done by the EMC and Information Services. Questions and answers followed.

There being no further items for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent Dunn, Chairman  
Environmental and Consumer Affairs Committee