



NOTE: The attachments referred to herein are on file at the Agency and are on the Agency's website. Copies are also available for inspection on request.

DRAFT AGENCY MINUTES

FEBRUARY 16, 2012

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2012

AGENCY MEMBERS, DESIGNEES AND EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT

Leilani Crafts Ulrich, Chairwoman
Richard Booth, Member
Sherman Craig, Member
Arthur Lussi, Member
Frank Mezzano, Member
William Thomas, Member
F. William Valentino, Member
Jen McCormick, Designee, NYS Department of Economic Development
Dierdre Scozzafava, Designee, NYS Department of State
Robert Stegemann, Designee, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
Terry Martino, Executive Director
John Banta, Counsel

AGENCY MEMBERS ABSENT

Cecil Wray, Member

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW BOARD PRESENT

Fred Monroe, Executive Director

AGENCY STAFF PRESENT

Richard Weber, Deputy Director, Regulatory Programs
James Connolly, Deputy Director, Planning
Daniel Kelleher, Special Assistant for Economic Affairs
Matt Kendall, Associate Natural Resources Planner
Holly Kneeshaw, Assistant Director of Regulatory Programs
Colleen Parker, Environmental Program Specialist 3
Kathy Regan, Associate Natural Resources Planner
Daniel Spada, Supervisor, Natural Resource Analysis
Suzanne McSherry, Environmental Program Specialist 1
Tracy Darrah, Environmental Program Specialist 1
Arial Lynch, Environmental Program Specialist 2
Jen McAleese, Legal Intern
Keith McKeever, Public Information Director

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Chairwoman Ulrich called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. She welcomed the DEC Commissioner's new designee to the Agency, Robert Stegemann, Regional Director of DEC Region 5 in Ray Brook.

The Chairwoman noted Mr. Wray's absence due to a schedule conflict.

She then reviewed recent changes in committee assignments which included the appointment of Mr. Valentino as the Park Ecology Committee Chair and Mr. Mezzano as the Regulatory Programs Committee Chair.

1. Public Comment

Daniel Plumley, a partner of Adirondack Wild and resident of Keene, read from a statement on behalf of Dr. Phyllis Thompson regarding the Adirondack Club and Resort project in Tupper Lake, provided to members of the Board.

Mr. Plumley's comments are available in the webcast of this meeting: http://nysapa.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=2

2. Approval of January 18-20, 2012 Draft Agency Minutes

On motion of Mr. Booth, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the Agency unanimously adopted the Draft Agency Minutes of the January 18-20, 2012 meeting, with minor editorial comments provided by Mr. Booth and Ms. McCormick.

3. Executive Director's Report

Ms. Martino welcomed Mr. Stegemann as DEC Commissioner Martens' designee to the Agency. She expressed her appreciation for the opportunity to again work together with Mr. Stegemann following his time with the Empire State Forest Products Association and International Paper.

Ms. Martino reported on her and Chairwoman Ulrich's participation in a February 2 group tour with DEC Commissioner Joe Martens, Mr. Stegemann and other representatives, of remediation work that was done on Johns Brook in the town of Keene. The group learned about the rock vein that was constructed in the streambed with the intent to divert the power of the river from the important bridge infrastructure downstream. Bill Schoch, DEC's Regional Fisheries Manager, pointed out how the man-made built rock outcroppings provide fish habitat while also diverting the energy of the river in a

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manner that will lessen impact on the bridge. The restoration project reflected the partnerships that have been forged in the post-storm recovery work, where engineers from DEC and the US Wildlife Service worked to address how the remediation work can be done in a way to protect the bridge and surrounding property.

Ms. Martino added that it was exciting to hear about the work that has been done, and where the continued opportunities for the Agency are in addressing best management practices, public communications, and use of the DEC general permit which has been the follow-up during the recovery work post-disaster to address Agency responsibilities for Article 24, the Freshwater Wetlands Act, and Article 15, the Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers System Act.

She further reported that the group learned from the Commissioner about the \$30 million available in funding through DEC and Empire State Development to assist with the \$21 million available through the Business Flood Recovery Grant Program and \$9 million through the Flood Mitigation Grant Program. Applications for this funding are being accepted on a rolling basis and must be submitted by April 11, 2012, she noted.

Ms. Martino then reported that on January 6 the Agency forwarded material to local government officials informing them of the NY Works Neighborhood Rebuilding Corps grant funding being administered by the NYS Department of Labor. The program makes available \$16.1 million to communities to hire temporary workers to assist with clean up.

She also reported that this week Governor Cuomo announced Department of State funding of \$50,000 that is available for the Town of Jay to complete a strategy that addresses housing, infrastructure, and business recovery. Additional funding of \$50,000 for the Town of Keene will enable them to work with the Town of Jay to complete a strategy to identify projects and actions to reduce the towns' vulnerability to future storms. Both projects will be coordinated with the Au Sable Watershed Management planning process and Essex County.

In related news, Ms. Martino reported that Holly Kneeshaw, Assistant Deputy of Regulatory Programs, will represent the Agency at a community meeting scheduled for that evening, February 15, in the Town of Jay, where there will be discussion with property owners about the potential for FEMA/SEMO buyouts.

She noted that, six months post-Irene, there is still work to be done. The Agency is pleased that Randy Douglas, Supervisor of the Town of Jay, will be the featured guest for the Community

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Spotlight segment of the meeting. Supervisor Douglas has provided extraordinary leadership post-Irene, and the Agency will benefit from hearing his story.

Ms. Martino also reported on an additional opportunity with Mr. Stegemann and the Department which follows on a January 4 meeting which included herself, Chairwoman Ulrich, Commissioner Martens, and senior DEC and APA staff members. The meeting was a valuable introductory session between the Chairwoman and Commissioner and also the beginning of a directive from them to look to those areas where the two agencies can best coordinate. Ms. Martino described this opportunity as an avenue for her to work with DEC managers and to do outreach to Agency managers and to discuss the goals the Chairwoman and Commissioner set forth and work activities to achieve them. It is also the start of an important dialogue with Assistant Deputy Commissioner of Natural Resources Kathy Moser, Bob Stegemann in Region 5 and Judi Drabicki in Region 6. Ms. Martino noted the level of coordination in the group will enable outreach to staff in both organizations to initiate a dialogue with the intent of finalizing recommendations in the spring. She expressed support for the intent of the work, which is to achieve a level of efficiency that supports the interaction the public has with both agencies.

Ms. Martino further reported that on February 3 she represented the Agency at Governor Cuomo's budget briefing at SUNY-Plattsburgh, where the Governor highlighted the Regional Councils as part of the State's economic development programming. She also advised that the Agency will continue to provide staff support to the North Country Council, with the next meeting planned for February 28 in Potsdam.

Ms. Martino referred to ongoing planning by Brian Grisi and Robyn Burgess for Local Government Day scheduled for March 20-21 in Lake Placid. The event will feature the successes of the Regional Councils, with representation from the North Country, Mohawk and Capital regions planned. The event will also include presentations on those transformational projects such as broadband and biotechnology that will benefit from the Council awards. As an ongoing partnership between the Agency, ATTV, the Review Board, DEC and Empire State Development, Local Government Day is an important platform to present the coordination of economic development services and programming and the benefits for Adirondack Park communities.

Staff have been engaged during this period in the review of 2011 annual data and preparation for the Annual Report. In March, staff will review the annual report with the Board and discuss

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other ways in which the Agency's work in addressing efficiency and an integration of services has resulted in increased coordination with staff and provided opportunity to review forms and communication channels. Ms. Martino recalled in 2011 this effort was labeled "Action, Coordination and Efficiency" (ACE), and in the March annual review staff will discuss the changes that have been undertaken and what they envision on the horizon for 2012.

The Board will hear more about Agency processes and how staff's attention to the minor permits and improvements that have been made form a foundation for other work that will be done this year to address the general and major permits. Staff will describe how these successes have been achieved and how changes in the Agency's processes enable achievement of both environmental compliance and public understanding.

Ms. Martino referred to the ongoing dialogue with the Local Government Review Board and AATV. The meetings, initiated in October 2010, were temporarily suspended in October 2011 with the commencement of the Agency Board's consideration of the Adirondack Club and Resort project, and resumed on February 15. The group continued its review of the commercial, public and industrial permits, and the streamlining of information from supplemental and general permit forms into one application. These early steps have provided a foundation for more work in 2012 to address the forms currently in use by the Agency and information requested from the applicants. This is another area where staff are addressing processes, with a particular focus now on the economic development impacts of these types of projects.

Turning to the Adirondack Club and Resort project, Ms. Martino recalled the Agency's approval at the January meeting of an Order and fourteen permits. Following the meeting, and as per the Board's motion for approval, she reported that non-material edits were made in the finalization of the Order and permits in consultation with the Chairwoman. The Order was signed by Chairwoman Ulrich on January 31, 2012 and is available at the Agency website along with the permits. Agency staff look forward to coordination with the Town, DEC and DOH as the project sponsor works to obtain other governmental approvals and permits in the implementation of the project.

Ms. Martino announced the appointment of Colleen Parker to the position of Environmental Program Specialist 3. She noted Ms. Parker has a long history at the Agency, staff leadership in the project hearing team with the Adirondack Club and Resort project, and in her new position she will be the staff contact

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during project implementation with the Club and Resort project. Ms. Parker has been with the Agency since August 1988, first as an intern, then Project Review Specialist, and finally Environmental Program Specialist 1 and 2. She is a graduate of SUNY Plattsburgh with a Bachelor's in Environmental Science.

Mr. Booth referred to the storm follow up in Jay and Keene and identifying projects and actions to reduce the towns' vulnerability to future storms. He stated that repair alone is not enough, and towns should be creating more capacity by constructing larger culverts, etc., especially in view of the era we are in where a greater intensity in weather is expected.

Ms. Martino acknowledged the importance of Mr. Booth's point. She referred to the recent Johns Brook tour, noting it was part of engaging in these types of discussions.

Chairwoman Ulrich asked if the issue might be considered by the APA-DEC-DOH interagency working group as it moves forward.

Ms. Martino pointed out that DOT staff had indicated their concerns regarding the condition of bridges and culverts well before the recent storm events in a past presentation to the Agency. She added that the Community Spotlight session with Town of Jay Supervisor Randy Douglas that afternoon would shed further light on discussions.

Mr. Stegemann spoke about the benefits of interagency coordination, and he referred to a meeting held earlier in the week between DEC and DOT staff where one of the discussion items was culverts. He noted that when culverts are replaced there is attention paid to connectivity issues with fish and amphibians. Coordination among agencies addressing such issues can make projects go much smoother and is in keeping with the Governor's priority of interagency coordination.

Mr. Craig pointed out the significant damage caused by the storms to trails, bridges, etc. in the Forest Preserve. He suggested looking at what can be done to improve trails and bridges in the Forest Preserve in such a way that they can better handle flooding conditions.

Ms. Martino recalled a September 2011 presentation to the Agency by Tom Martin of DEC on storm impacts to the backcountry trails.

The Agency temporarily adjourned into committee at 9:30 a.m., and then reconvened at 11:48 a.m. to act on the Regulatory Programs Committee recommendations.

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4. Agency Consideration of Regulatory Programs

a. 2010-144, Joseph Fitzgerald

The matter involves an application for a shoreline variance to construct a single family dwelling within 50 feet of the mean high water mark of Sacandaga Lake, and a permit to construct an on-site wastewater treatment system within 100 feet of freshwater wetlands. The project is located in an area classified Moderate Intensity Use in the Town of Lake Pleasant, Hamilton County.

On motion of Mr. Mezzano, seconded by Ms. McCormick, the Agency voted unanimously to grant the variance request and approve the project. (Chairwoman L. Ulrich, R. Booth, S. Craig, A. Lussi, F. Mezzano, W. Thomas, W. Valentino, J. McCormick [DED], D. Scozzafava [DOS], and R. Stegemann [DEC] voted in favor.) A copy of the Permit and Order Granting Variance, as approved by the Agency, is attached to the official minutes.

b. 2011-19, Elk Lake Lodge, Inc.

The application involves a request for a shoreline structure setback variance to construct a logging bridge across the Branch River, a designated study river, in an area classified Resource Management in the Town of North Hudson, Essex County.

On motion of Mr. Mezzano, seconded by Mr. Valentino, the Agency voted unanimously to grant the variance request. (Chairwoman L. Ulrich, R. Booth, S. Craig, A. Lussi, F. Mezzano, W. Thomas, W. Valentino, J. McCormick [DED], D. Scozzafava [DOS], and R. Stegemann [DEC] voted in favor.) A copy of the Order Granting Variance, as approved by the Agency, is attached to the official minutes.

Chairwoman Ulrich noted a request for future Agency discussion of wild, scenic, and study rivers.

c. 2002-265, Patricia Stafford

The matter involves a shoreline variance and permit application for the construction of a single family dwelling in a Resource Management area and within 100 feet of the mean high water mark of Lake George in the Town of Putnam, Washington County.

On motion of Mr. Mezzano, seconded by Mr. Valentino, the Agency voted 9 to 1 to grant the variance request and approve the project. (Chairwoman L. Ulrich, R. Booth, S. Craig, F. Mezzano, W. Thomas, W. Valentino, J. McCormick [DED], D. Scozzafava

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[DOS], and R. Stegemann [DEC] voted in favor; A. Lussi voted against.) A copy of the Permit and Order Granting Variance, as approved by the Agency, is attached to the official minutes.

The Agency temporarily adjourned for lunch at 11:50 a.m.

The Agency reconvened at 3:07 p.m. for Community Spotlight.

5. Community Spotlight: Town of Jay Supervisor Randy Douglas

The Agency heard a presentation by Randy Douglas, Supervisor of the Town of Jay and Chairman of the Essex County Board of Supervisors. His presentation focused on the spring 2011 flooding and Tropical Storm Irene in the summer of 2011. He discussed the devastation to homes, businesses, and infrastructure in his community from these extreme weather events. Supervisor Douglas commended the collaborative efforts of local residents, nearby communities, emergency response, and state and federal agencies during the storm, clean-up and re-building process. He expressed his appreciation in particular for the "Labor for your Neighbor" program initiated by Governor Cuomo, and thanked Congressmen Gibson and Owens, Senator Schumer, Senator Little and Assembly Members Duprey and Sayward for their assistance as well.

Supervisor Douglas noted the Town is currently \$3 million in debt and has been losing tax base due to the spring 2011 flooding and Tropical Storm Irene. Of the 500 homes in Essex County that were flooded, 173 are in the Town of Jay. Over 60 homeowners in Essex County have expressed interest in pursuing application for FEMA's Property Acquisition/Buyout program. The Supervisor noted a public forum to be hosted by Essex and Clinton Counties scheduled for that evening (February 16) in Jay. The NYS Emergency Management Office (SEMO) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will be present to discuss and answer questions about possible acquisition and buyout of homes affected by Tropical Storm Irene. The program has strict criteria. For example, there must be multiple documented events with over 50 percent damage to the home to be considered for the program, and the home must be in the 100-year floodplain.

Supervisor Douglas advised that Essex County will be the lead agency/applicant on behalf of the homeowners pursuing acquisition/buyout. Although this poses a risk of further loss of tax base due to possible relocation, safety is the first and foremost concern. Supervisor Douglas recalled the 1998 buyout for which 20 homes in Jay qualified. The Town lost many of those people to neighboring counties and saw a decrease in the tax base in that the affected properties can never be built upon

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again and may only be used for public parks. Nevertheless, the Town is fully endorsing the current property acquisition/buyout while at the same time encouraging people to remain within the Towns of Jay and Keene.

Clean up of debris continues, with the former Land of Make Believe serving as a depository for hundreds of cubic yards of debris. Additionally, assessors from surrounding communities are helping with damage assessments.

In terms of how the Agency might be of assistance, Supervisor Douglas suggested access to Agency services and expertise in areas such as GIS. Additionally, he noted the likelihood of the Town pursuing expansion of hamlet lands in order to find suitable areas for homeowners to rebuild and stay in the town, and thus maintain the tax base if possible.

Supervisor Douglas said that for many the experience has instilled a sense of community pride. The area is rebuilding bigger, better and stronger than before, hopefully into a place where people can afford to live.

Chairwoman Ulrich asked Supervisor Douglas if there had been any discussion of clustered or affordable housing.

Supervisor Douglas responded that the Town is working on compiling a list, and noted the people would look for land suitable for development. He noted the importance of keeping families who are rebuilding either inside or close to their environment. He added that the February 16 forum would be very beneficial in determining next steps.

In response to Mr. Valentino's question regarding flood insurance coverage for residents whose homes were affected, Supervisor Douglas said about 20 of the 60 families that are looking at the buyout program carried flood insurance. He noted the costliness of flood insurance, and also pointed out that some areas had flooded for the first time in the history of the town or county. He surmised that more people would purchase flood insurance given their recent experiences.

Chairwoman Ulrich asked if any assistance had been received from organizations such as Family Champions in Tupper Lake, which furnished several homes following the flooding.

Supervisor Douglas replied that several local businesses, big box stores, and furniture stores as far away as New York City have been very generous with donations. Due to storage issues,

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however, donations of furnishings and appliances are temporarily on hold until such time as they can be physically accepted.

Ms. Martino referred to the various funding opportunities at the state and federal levels and asked if the County has been looking at potential projects and prioritizing funding requests.

Supervisor Douglas responded affirmatively, noting the County's ongoing collaboration with SEMO. He noted debris removal and disposal is a priority, with FEMA having determined only 9 sites to be dangerous sites of the 26 which qualified as potentially dangerous sites. The County will appeal FEMA's ruling with respect to the remaining 17 sites, and then apply for state funding for debris removal based on the amount of federal funding that is forthcoming. Supervisor Douglas also identified education and flood mitigation among the County's top priorities. He stressed the importance of educating residents in preparing for situations of flooding and evacuation, in addition to mitigation techniques such as flood walls. Unfortunately, funding for mitigation is scarce.

Chairwoman Ulrich asked what the Agency could be doing, and Supervisor Douglas responded that an educational brochure with DEC and APA addressing the relevant issues would be helpful.

Mr. Mezzano commended Supervisor Douglas for his commitment and dedication to the community of Jay and Essex County as a whole. He also asked the Supervisor if the majority of the \$3 million debt had been spent on personal service, and how much they realistically expected to recoup.

Supervisor Douglas replied that approximately \$2 million had been spent on reconstruction of roads, bridges and culverts, and \$1 million had been spent on repair of damage to the water and sewer infrastructure. The Supervisor expressed his hope that much of the \$2 million would be recouped, but he expressed less certainty about the \$1 million EFC loan.

Chairwoman Ulrich applauded the Supervisor on his leadership and the progress that has been made in Jay, Keene and Essex County.

6. Committee Reports

a. State Land Committee

Mr. Booth reported there was no action taken by the Committee.

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b. Park Policy and Planning Committee

Mr. Booth reported that the Committee tabled action on Map Amendment MA2010-2, North Country Partners, LLC, to the March Agency meeting to allow additional time for further review by individual Board members.

7. Interim Reports

a. Park Ecology Committee

Mr. Valentino referred to the monthly report included with the mailing package. As the new committee chair, Mr. Valentino discussed his goals for the Committee in consultation with Chairwoman Ulrich and Supervisor of Resource Analysis Dan Spada.

b. Local Government Services Committee

Mr. Thomas encouraged people to register for Local Government Day, scheduled for March 20-21 in Lake Placid.

He also reported on a minor amendment to the Queensbury local land use program that was approved with the concurrence of the Agency Chairwoman and himself as Committee Chairman. The amendment revised the Town Zoning Law to allow alternate members of the zoning and planning boards to serve in the event when regular members are ill, on vacation or for other absences, in addition to conflicts of interest.

c. Economic Affairs Committee

Mr. Lussi noted the economic staff's involvement in the variance applications that were approved by the Agency at this meeting. He said he looked forward to resuming the series of presentations on economic success stories for future Agency meetings.

d. Public Awareness and Communications Committee

Mr. Valentino reported of ongoing discussions with the Agency Chairwoman, Executive Director and Public Information Director regarding improving Agency outreach. He noted a memo would be forthcoming next month providing more details.

He then referred to a recent New York Times article on the Adirondack Club and Resort project. He described it as a well-written article on a complicated and emotional subject.

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Mr. Valentino also reported that staff continues to work on the 2011 Annual Report, with its publication anticipated sometime in March.

e. Administration Committee

Chairwoman Ulrich requested members to review the Delegation Resolution as it references individual committees and to forward recommendations for updates and corrections to her or Ms. Martino.

8. Old Business/New Business

Mr. Mezzano reiterated a concern he expressed last month concerning conflicts with the 2012 Agency meeting calendar and the need for a standardized meeting schedule.

Chairwoman Ulrich said she hoped to address such issues as the meeting schedule in the coming months. She also referred to the Delegation Resolution which addresses Agency meetings.

9. Public Comment

David Gibson, a partner with Adirondack Wild, commented on the Agency's approval last month of the Adirondack Club and Resort project and the Agency's responsibilities pursuant to the APA Act.

Daniel Plumley, a partner with Adirondack Wild and resident of Keene, welcomed Mr. Stegemann to his position as the new Regional Director of DEC Region 5. Mr. Plumley also commended Supervisor Randy Douglas for ensuring the involvement of stakeholders in the decisions concerning Jay, Keene and Essex County. Finally, Mr. Plumley commented on the Agency's past experience with permits for Resource Management lands and the terms "fragmentation" and "clustered" in relation to the Adirondack Club and Resort project.

The full comments of Messrs. Gibson and Plumley are available in the webcast of this meeting.

http://nysapa.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=2

10. Local Government Review Board Comment

Fred Monroe, Review Board Executive Director, welcomed Mr. Stegemann to the Agency and expressed appreciation for his leadership while on the Advisory Committee for the Northern Forest Lands Council.

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Mr. Monroe commended the economic analysis that was part of the permit review for the Elk Lake Lodge project (2011-19), particularly the impact of the project on logging jobs on the Elk Lake property. The analysis indicated that six jobs would be retained on the 3,000-acre parcel, or two jobs per 1,000 acres, which is within the realm of the analysis that DEC State Forester Rob Davies stated in a recent article in which he indicated there were about three jobs on 1,000 acres. Mr. Monroe noted that it was not clear to him whether the Agency's economic analysis in the permit incorporated the multiplier effect in terms of the secondary jobs that are affected. He further noted that although criticized for quoting Mr. Davies' statistic of three jobs per 1,000 acres in commenting on the proposed Finch land purchase, the Review Board believes such analysis is helpful, and encourages consideration of the multiplier effect to include such secondary jobs such as truckers, mill workers and equipment technicians.

Mr. Monroe then referred to the public comment on open space protection. He stated that with 2.7 million acres of forever wild forest preserve, 700,000 acres of conservation easements, and one million acres of Resource Management (42.7 acre) lands, the Review Board believes that open space is well protected, and that what requires protection now are the needs of the residents for jobs, incomes, homes and a strong economy, as Governor Rockefeller said in 1973 when he signed the APA Act. Mr. Monroe commended the Agency for recognizing the needs of the people with its approval of the ACR project in January.

11. Member Comment

Chairwoman Ulrich formally welcomed Mr. Stegemann to the Agency Board and presented him with an APA lapel pin.

Mr. Valentino welcomed Mr. Stegemann to the Agency Board. He then referred to broadband accessibility and noted that only 36% of residents in the Park had reasonable economic access to broadband. He stressed broadband accessibility as being essential to the economic vitality of communities in the Park.

Mr. Thomas thanked Mr. Stegemann for serving on the Board. He also recognized Supervisor Douglas for providing his community with solid leadership during such difficult times.

Mr. Booth welcomed Mr. Stegemann. He referred to his earlier comments regarding storm follow up in Jay and Keene, and provided clarification of his comment that the Agency should be encouraging abatement measures, such as the construction of larger culverts, as opposed to the federal government's response

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to Hurricane Katrina in the expenditure of billions of dollars while putting people back in harm's way.

Mr. Craig welcomed Mr. Stegemann to the Board, and noted this was a continual learning process.

Mr. Lussi added his welcome to Mr. Stegemann. He commented on how weather has impacted the Park and the communities within in, particularly snowmobiling, cross-country skiing and other winter sports enthusiasts. A lack of snow and the warmer temperatures this winter have taken a toll on many businesses in the Park.

Mr. Stegemann thanked everyone for the warm welcome, and expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to represent the DEC Commissioner on the Agency Board, noting it was both an honor and a challenge. He said his experience has provided him with an appreciation for all sides of an issue, that he embraces stewardship and protection of the Park and supports open dialogue with the goal of keeping the Park special while at the same time making it a vital living park for people who want to live here. He also expressed his appreciation of Supervisor Douglas and the spirit, teamwork and collaboration that are developing in both the public and private sectors.

Mr. Mezzano stated that as Supervisor of Lake Pleasant and with the substantial acreage of International Paper lands in the town, he was frequently in contact with Mr. Stegemann while at IP. He noted that Mr. Stegemann's background and appreciation for the economy and environment are suited to the Agency's Statement of Purpose in Section 801 of the Act. Mr. Mezzano then expressed admiration for the sound leadership demonstrated by Supervisor Douglas in response to the flooding events in his town and county, noting his leadership was indicative of many of the town supervisors and village mayors throughout the Park. He anticipated more examples of community leaders who are recognized for their leadership abilities through future Community Spotlight presentations. In response to Mr. Valentino's question regarding broadband accessibility in the Park, Mr. Mezzano surmised that an answer should not be difficult to determine given the few providers. He suggested the Agency's economic specialist might research the question.

Ms. Martino again welcomed Mr. Stegemann, noting his work on the Northern Forest Lands Council and her involvement with the advisory group and the 10 year review. She also welcomed the return to a full Agency agenda following the previous three meetings dedicated to the Adirondack Club and Resort project. Regarding the broadband accessibility question, she concurred with Mr. Mezzano and referred to the Adirondack Park Regional

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Assessment Project (APRAP) as well as successful broadband providers like Dave Mason and Jim Hermann. Ms. Martino expressed her thanks to Supervisor Douglas for spending time from his very busy schedule to be at the Agency and share his extraordinary storey of community leadership.

Chairwoman Ulrich thanked the Executive Director, Counsel and the Agency staff for their Agency meeting preparations. She then advised Mr. Craig and other Board members that there should never be any hesitation to ask questions. The Chairwoman referred to the question of broadband. She noted her recent travels from which she returned with the mantra of trying to further enhance pride in our woods as well as our wood products. To that end, she suggested that broadband is not the only solution, but rather it is part of a balance in diversification, which should also include the "3 R's": sustainable recreation, sustainable use of our resources, and research. She referred to the Park as a world-class experiment for which research should be fully supported and encouraged throughout. She also suggested the "3 R's" might become part of a strengthened agenda for the Park Ecology Committee. Chairwoman Ulrich then called attention to the Adirondack Research Consortium's May meeting and looked forward to Agency representation. She also referred to a piece in the Adirondack Daily Enterprise which mentioned Inlet's recognition in the Guinness Book of World Records as the world's largest floating raft of kayaks with 1902 boats, surpassing the previous record of 1619 boats held by Pittsburgh, PA. She also noted its worthy cause for breast cancer research.

12. Adjournment

The Agency unanimously adjourned at 4:32 p.m.

LCU:dal

Attachments:

- Permit and Order 2010-144 (Joseph Fitzgerald)
- Order 2011-19 (Elk Lake Lodge, Inc.)
- Permit and Order 2002-265 (Patricia Stafford)

Leilani Crafts Ulrich, Chairwoman