



Adirondack Park Agency

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TERRY MARTINO
Executive Director

November 18, 2021

ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY MEETING

Thursday, November 18, 2021

AGENCY MEMBERS, DESIGNEES, AND EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT

John Ernst, Chairperson
Mark Hall, Member
Andrea Hogan, Member
Arthur Lussi, Member
Ken Lynch, Member
Zoe Smith, Member
Dan Wilt, Member
Brad Austin, Designee, Empire State Development
Matt Tebo, Designee, NYS Dept. of State
Randy Young, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation
Christopher Cooper, Counsel
Terry Martino, Executive Director

ABSENT AND EXCUSED

None

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW BOARD PRESENT

Jerry Delaney, Executive Director

AGENCY STAFF PRESENT

Amy Hall

Chairperson John Ernst called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. He noted that the meeting was being held virtually due to increased COVID numbers in the North Country. He stressed the need for continued health and safety precautions. He asked members to identify themselves when speaking. Chairperson Ernst thanked Governor Hochul for the appointment to the chair position and thanked Brad Austin for being the presiding member for the board meetings. Chairperson Ernst is looking at the committee assignments and will be reaching out to members with any changes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment was conducted via a call-in link.

Louanne Cossa and Ralph Cossa spoke about concerns related to the proposed White Lake Granite Quarry project. C.J. Randall requested a joint hearing between the APA and DEC on the proposed project.

At this point due to ITS statewide technical issues, the Agency was unable to continue with public comment and resumed public comment after reconvening the Full Agency portion of the meeting.

Video and audio recordings of the proceedings, including public comment, are available in their entirety via webcast at

<https://nysapa.granicus.com/videos/574/player?autoplay=0&start=1&stop=1490>

1. Approval of October 14, 2021 Agency Minutes

On motion of Art Lussi, seconded by Andrea Hogan, the Agency unanimously adopted the Draft Agency Meeting Minutes of October 14, 2021. A copy of the official minutes as adopted by the Agency is on file at the Agency.

2. Recusals

None

3. Motion for Executive Session

None

4. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Martino congratulated John Ernst on his appointment to the chair position and thanked Brad Austin for his assistance as presiding member. Terry Martino reported on the increases in the jurisdictional inquiry requests which totaled 1128 at the end of October, sixteen above the 1112 total for all of the 2020 calendar year, and reported that program data in the other divisions will be finalized in activity reports at the end of the year. The Executive Director reported on the Agency's submission and web posting of the Transparency Plan. Staff hiring for Corrie Magee, Environmental Program Specialist 3 and Alexis Sandiford, Office Assistant 1, were announced. Terry Martino commended the staff team who worked together regarding the solar presentation on the Board agenda.

5. Review of 2022 Agency Meeting Schedule

Chairperson Ernst asked if there were any questions or issues with the proposed 2022 Agency meeting schedule. Hearing none, the 2022 schedule was accepted.

6. Motion to Adjourn into Committees

On motion of Dan Wilt, seconded by Zoe Smith, the Agency unanimously adjourned into committees at 9:31 a.m.

Full Agency Reconvened

Chairperson Ernst reconvened the Full Agency at 11:36 a.m.

Video and audio recordings of this portion of the proceedings are available in their entirety via webcast at

<https://nysapa.granicus.com/videos/574/player?autoplay=0&start=8990&stop=13090>

Public Comment

Camaron Cohen, Deborah Dempsey, Regina Balzano, Virginia Vorhis, and Joseph Foley expressed concerns about White Lake Granite Quarry project, including noise, water quality, the access road, dust, and impacts to wildlife.

Dave Gibson spoke about the proposed large-scale subdivision in Jay and requested the Agency ensure the goals of the application process are being met. He expressed that those goals were not achieved in the Agency's review of the Woodward Lake project.

7. Committee Reports

a) Regulatory Programs Committee

On motion of Dan Wilt, seconded by Ken Lynch, the Agency unanimously approved P2007-0320R3, Saverio Ruffolo, third renewal of Permit 2007-0320 which authorized two lots involving wetlands in an eight-lot subdivision. Lot 1 is currently developed by a pre-existing single-family dwelling and the other lot is proposed to be improved by a subdivision road to be used as access to Lots 2-7.

b) Park Policy & Planning Committee

Chairperson Ernst reported on the solar planning in the Adirondack Park presentation by Dan Kelleher.

8. Interim Reports

a) State Land Committee

On motion of Chairperson Ernst, seconded by Art Lussi, the committee unanimously adopted the Draft minutes of its October meeting.

The Administration, Economic Affairs, Enforcement, Legal Affairs, Park Ecology, and Public Awareness and Communication committees did not meet this month.

At this point Dan Wilt stated that he would be leaving the meeting and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

9. Old Business

None

10. New Business

None

11. Public Comment

See public comment provided when the full Agency reconvened.

12. Local Government Review Board Comment

Jerry Delaney offered congratulations to John Ernst and looks forward to how the Agency handles the large-scale subdivision application in Jay.

10. Member Comment

Mark Hall thanked Brad Austin for filling in, extended congratulations to John Ernst, and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Zoe Smith also thanked Brad Austin and congratulated John Ernst. Zoe Smith thanked Dan Kelleher and the staff team for the solar presentation and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Ken Lynch congratulated John Ernst and thanked Brad Austin. Ken Lynch also thanked Bob Kreider for working through the technical issues and commended the public on making comments, encouraging them to submit their comments in writing as well.

Brad Austin congratulated John Ernst and thanked the others for their kind words. Brad Austin also offered thanks to Dan Kelleher and staff for the solar presentation, thanked the public for staying on to make public comment through the technical issues, and ended by mentioning a recent article in The Conservationist by former Board member Bob Stegemann.

Andrea Hogan thanked Brad Austin, offered congratulations to John Ernst, thanked the public for their patience and comments, and expressed appreciation for the solar presentation.

Art Lussi thanked Brad Austin and congratulated John Ernst. In response to Dave Gibson's comments, Art Lussi stated that the APA staff and Board did a good review on the Woodward Lake subdivision and appreciates that the large-scale subdivision plans are out on the website for public information on the Jay project.

Randy Young offered congratulations and thanks to John Ernst, thanked Bob Kreider for all the technical support, and thanked the Board for the warm welcome.

Matt Tebo congratulated John Ernst and thanked Brad Austin for filling in as presiding member. Matt Tebo thanked staff for the solar presentation and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Counsel Chris Cooper welcomed John Ernst as Chairperson and thanked Brad Austin. Counsel Cooper reiterated the Executive Director's report that the Jurisdictional Inquiry numbers have already exceeded last year's totals as of the end of October and thanked the JIF staff for their hard work.

Executive Director Martino congratulated John Ernst on the appointment to the chair position and thanked Brad Austin for serving as presiding member. Executive Director Martino thanked Dan Kelleher and staff for their work on the solar presentation, thanked Bob Kreider and Elizabeth Stankus for their technical assistance due to the statewide IT problems, and ended by wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Chairperson John Ernst thanked everyone for their supportive remarks, offered thanks to Keith McKeever for being the timekeeper during the public comments, and thanked the commenters for their cogent and respectful comments. Chairperson Ernst also thanked Bob Kreider for the assistance through the technical glitches, wished everyone

Happy Thanksgiving, and noted the next meeting is scheduled for December 16th and 17th.

By unanimous consent, the meeting adjourned at 12:24 p.m.

John Ernst, Chairperson