AGENCY MEETING MINUTES
September 10, 2026

Agency Members, Designees, and Executive Staff Present:

Mark Hall	Chair
Art Lussi	Member
Steve Hunt	Empire State Development (remotely due to extraordinary circumstances)
Ken Lynch	Member
Rush Holt	Member
Zoë Smith	Member
Matt Tebo	Department of State
Dan Wilt	Member
Barbara Rice	Executive Director
Matt Robinson-Loffler	Counsel

Absent and Excused

Jose Almanzar	Member
Benita Law-Diao	Member
Joe Zalewski	Department of Environmental Conservation

Local Government Review Board Present

Gerald Delaney, Sr., Executive Director

1. CALL TO ORDER

A quorum of board members being present in person, the meeting was called to order at approximately 9:30 AM by Mark Hall, Chair.

2. WELCOMING REMARKS

Chairperson Mark Hall welcomed the public, presenters, staff, and board members, and made welcoming remarks.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

- The chair recognized Dave Falvo from Caroga Lake, who felt that some dock permits are not being followed consistently and hoping some outstanding enforcement actions are wrapped up.

4. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

On motion of Dan Wilt, seconded by Rush Holt, August 13, 2026, meeting minutes. Minutes were unanimously approved.

5. RECUSALS

None

6. MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Barb Rice, gave Director's report, highlights of which included:

- Executive Director Rice recognized the 25th anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks, acknowledging those who lost their lives, and honoring the first responders, rescue and recovery workers, survivors, and all of the families impacted by the events that day. She went on to note that Governor Hochul signed legislation today, expanding access to critical resources and benefits for those who were affected by the attacks, strengthening the September 11th Worker Protection Task Force to expand pathways to public service for family members of New York City sanitation workers who died from illnesses related to the cleanup and expediting World Trade Center disability and death benefit applications.
- Executive Director Rice reported that the Agency has added two new Vision Engineering 3D stereoscopic systems to support the Agency's GIS and RASS teams. The technology allows staff to examine aerial imagery with greater precision to identify wetland boundaries more accurately before heading into the field. RASS staff conduct more than 300 wetland delineations across the 6-million-acre Adirondack Park each field season and this new equipment will help make that work more efficient while improving staff's ability to prepare for field investigations.
- Executive Director Rice welcomed new Senior Attorney, Mitchell Prince who came to the Agency with extensive private practice experience after making Franklin County his permanent home in 2023. Mitch is prepared to

share his well-honed skills in legal analysis, statutory interpretation, persuasive legal writing, and practical problem-solving.

- Executive Director Rice also expressed excitement for the return of Sam Boese. Sam had joined the Agency originally in August 2019 as an Assistant Engineer and had progressed to Professional Engineer 1. He left the Agency in 2025 to pursue other opportunities, and we are happy to have Sam back to continue his role as Professional Engineer 1 in our RASS division.

8. MOTION TO ADJOURN INTO COMMITTEES

On motion of Matt Tebo, seconded by Dan Wilt, the Agency Board voted unanimously to adjourn to committees at approximately 9:43 AM.

9. COMMITTEE MEETINGS

9.1. Public Awareness and Communications

The committee convened at approximately 9:43 AM.

Committee Members Present: Rush Holt, Steve Hunt (ESD), Dan Wilt

Other Members and Designees Present: Mark Hall, Art Lussi, Ken Lynch, Zoë Smith, Matt Tebo (DOS)

Local Government Review Board: Gerald Delaney

Agency Staff Present: Barbara Rice, Matt Robinson-Loffler, Mary Newman Fox

9.2. Community Spotlight – Town of Webb, Herkimer County

Town of Webb Supervisor, Tom Greco presented a community spotlight for the Town of Webb, highlighting the town's efforts to improve wastewater infrastructure utilizing the Northern Border Regional Commission grant recently received by the Town, and the Town's efforts to pursue additional state funding and the financial challenges associated with advancing a more comprehensive rehabilitation of the collection system. Tom Greco also highlighted the challenges associated with a lack of road access to the community of Beaver River.

9.2.1. Old Business

None

9.2.2. New Business

None

Committee adjourned at approximately 10:53 AM

9.3. Regulatory Programs Committee

The committee convened at approximately 12:53 PM.

Committee Members Present: Dan Wilt, Jose Almanzar, Art Lussi, Ken Lynch

Other Members and Designees Present: Mark Hall, Matt Tebo (DOS), Rush Holt, Steve Hunt (ESD), Benita Law-Diao, Zoë Smith, Joe Zalewski (DEC)

Local Government Review Board: Gerald Delaney

Agency Staff Present: Barbara Rice, Matt Robinson-Loffler, John Burth, Benjiman Amos, Aaron Ziemann

9.3.1. Regulatory Programs Division Report

Deputy Director of Regulatory Programs, John Burth provided a division report, highlights of which included:

- Staff have received 199 applications through the end of August, fewer than 223 at this time last year. They issued 145 permits as compared to 144 at this time last year. 76 pre-applications have been received versus the 80 received at this time last year. 38 major projects have been completed so far this year as compared to the 47 at this time last year, and 3 emergency authorizations were issued so far this year compared to 5 at this time last year.

- The enforcement team has opened 156 cases so far this year as compared to 123 at this point last year. 25 cases have been closed with no violation versus the 50 closed by the end of August last year. 10 cases have been closed with voluntary compliance, the same as had been closed with voluntary compliance last year at this time. 20 settlement agreements were signed versus the 10 signed at this point last year.

- Deputy Director Burth noted that the most recent solar application presented to the board was in April 2026 for a project proposed in Ellenburg by Maple Ridge Renewables. Part of that discussion related to the success of required plantings for solar projects, and we talked about reporting out at a future meeting for those solar projects that had already been constructed. We are following through on that today.

9.3.2. Permitted Solar Generation Facilities

Ariel Lynch, APA provided an informational presentation regarding four solar projects that have been constructed out of the 15 solar permits that have been issued by the Agency since the first in 2020. The presentation highlighted unique aspects of each project and included a review of as-built photos for all of the projects.

9.3.3. Old Business

None

9.3.4. New Business

None

Committee adjourned at approximately 12:33 PM

THE BOARD BROKE FOR LUNCH AT 12:33 PM

THE BOARD RETURNED TO FULL AGENCY AT APPROXIMATELY 1:32 PM.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

10.1. Regulatory Programs (Dan Wilt)

The committee received a Regulatory Programs Division update from John Burth, and heard an informational presentation from Ariel Lynch which provided updates on several of the completed solar facilities projects previously approved by the Agency.

11. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW BOARD

G. Delaney felt the Town of Webb Supervisor did a good job, and his presentation highlighted the issues faced in the rural Adirondacks. The population is aging, the infrastructure is aging, and people are retiring from long-held public works positions which is affecting rural communities the most. He's hopeful this is a bubble and we as a region find ways to overcome these hurdles

12. MEMBER COMMENT

- Art Lussi complimented the staff regarding the presentation on the solar projects, it had been something they were asking for and he appreciated the follow-up.

13. OLD BUSINESS

None

14. NEW BUSINESS

None

15. PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

[Link to video and audio recordings of this meeting available on website: www.apa.ny.gov]

Chair Mark Hall noted that the next meeting will be October 15-16, 2026.

On motion of Matt Tebo, and seconded by Art Lussi, the meeting was adjourned without objection at approximately 1:36 PM.

Mark Hall

Mark Hall, Chairperson