

Watershed Agricultural Council

Agriculture ♦ Forestry ♦ Conservation Easements ♦ Economic Viability

33195 State Highway 10, Walton, New York 13856

phone: 607-865-7790

fax: 607-865-4932

nycwatershed.org



***SPECIAL Executive Committee Meeting**

August 4, 2026

(*via 'Teams')

I. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 10:03 a.m. by Wayland "Bud" Gladstone.

Members Present:

Wayland "Bud" Gladstone, *Chair*
Jennifer Grossman
Michael Vander Werff, NYC DEP
Karl Gockel

Fred Huneke
Steve Reed
Marilyn Wyman
Tom Hutson

Others Present:

Ryan Naatz
Amy Faulkner
Colm Ryan, *WAC Participant*

Carol Bishop
Kayla Henderson

II. Dispute Resolution Discussion

- A. The purpose of this meeting was to consider the dispute resolution request of Colm Ryan, WAC participant, dated March 25, 2026, referenced as *Dispute Resolution Summary Related to WAC's Failure to Follow WAC's Dispute Resolution Policy*. The Committee reviewed and discussed Mr. Ryan's dispute resolution summary, and Ryan Naatz, Executive Director's, Dispute Resolution Summary and proposed resolution. Mr. Ryan was provided with an opportunity to speak to the group.

Mr. Ryan feels there is a misunderstanding between disputes submitted between 2025 to present, and that the issue at hand presently is WAC not having been compliant in adhering to its own dispute resolution policy by not having addressed a proper response in accordance with WAC policy. In addition, Mr. Ryan feels there's inadequate funding supplied for program projects, which results in participants having to wait for extended periods of time before BMP's are implemented on their properties. Discussion ensued at length between Mr. Ryan and the committee on these topics.

The Executive Committee reiterated Ryan Naatz's dispute resolution ruling dated June 22, 2026, and further confirmed that: there was no "effective" suspension of Mr. Ryan's WAC participation from the pause in communication, which WAC has full authority to apply; and as such, there was no dispute to trigger the initiation of the dispute resolution process.

VII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned by common consent at 10:45 a.m.