



MINUTES OF THE EASEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

April 2, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tom Hutson, *Committee Chair*
Paul Gallay, via Teams
Wayland 'Bud' Gladstone, via Teams
Jennifer Grossman, via Teams
Fred Huneke
Shilo Williams, *NYC DEP*, via Teams

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ryan Naatz, *Executive Director*
Serena Orleski, *Easement Program Manager*
Bill Martin, *Easement Program Acquisition Coordinator*
Dennis Heinz, *Senior Land Stewardship Specialist*
Troy Bookhout, *Easement Program Conservation Planner*
Kayla Atanasoff, *Easement Program Executive Assistant*
Michael Vander Werff, *NYC DEP*, via Teams
Lee Harris, *NYC DOI*, via Teams
Paul Kacmarczyk, *NYS DOH*, via Teams
Morgan Tarbell, *NYS DOH*, via Teams

PUBLIC ATTENDEES:

Sean Leddy, *Delaware County Planning*, via Teams

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the Minutes of the March 5, 2025 public meeting of the Easement Committee.

Motion: Fred Huneke

Second: Jennifer Grossman

Motion Carried

III. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

None

IV. CHAIR'S REPORT/PROGRAM MOTIONS

A. Chair's Report

Tom encouraged Committee members to attend the next WAC East-of-Hudson Committee meeting in-person as an opportunity to introduce themselves to new staff members and get acquainted with the new office space in Patterson.

B. FY26 Easement Program Annual Workplan

Serena presented this motion. Included in the packet materials was the Program Workplan – or projections – for the upcoming fiscal year. Some highlights included the upcoming closings of over one thousand acres of new easement lands that are currently in contract, the hiring and start date of April 9th for WAC’s new Stewardship Specialist, and programmatic goals for the year. She asked Committee members for any questions or comments.

Paul asked Serena to speak on the shift in solicitation efforts from mailers to more in-person, direct engagement with landowners. Committee members were in agreement and subsequent discussions ensued.

Motion to approve FY26 Easement Program Annual Work Plan for the time period of 7/1/25 – 6/30/26.

Motion: Paul Gallay

Second: Jennifer Grossman

Motion Carried

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

None

VI. STEWARDSHIP MOTIONS

None

VII. STEWARDSHIP UPDATES

None

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION (IX-XI)

Motion at 10:29 a.m. to go into Executive Session to discuss Violations/Legal Updates, Acquisition Project Motions/Updates, and Other Business.

Motion: Fred Huneke

Second: Bud Gladstone

Motion Carried

Motion at 11:05 a.m. to come out of Executive Session.

Motion: Fred Huneke

Second: Shilo Williams

Motion Carried

IX. VIOLATIONS/LEGAL UPDATES

None

X. ACQUISITION PROJECT MOTIONS/UPDATES (*MOTIONS IN PUBLIC MEETING*)

ACE Project Motions

- A. (PID #6319): Request for Extension to Purchase Offer Period

Motion to extend the purchase offer for a period of Three (3) Months for PID #6319, with a new purchase offer expiration date of June 6, 2025.

Motion: Jennifer Grossman

Second: Fred Huneke

Motion Carried

FCE Project Motions

None

Updates

None

XI. DISCUSSION/OTHER BUSINESS

- A. 2025 Q1 Program Dashboard and Successes & Challenges Report

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:06 a.m. by common consent.

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, May 7, 2025 at 10:00 a.m., via Teams**