



Oneida County Farmland Protection Board



Brymer Humphreys, Chair

Bill Tylutki ♦ Michael J. Cosgrove ♦ Roger Crary ♦ Andy Gale ♦ Paul Snider
Paul van Lieshout ♦ Marty Broccoli ♦ James J. Genovese II ♦ Kathy Pilbeam ♦ George Joseph

OC Farmland Protection Board

Public Hearings

6:00 P.M. Wednesday, June 7, 2023 Minutes

I. Call to order

Humphreys called the meeting to order at 6:05 P.M.

II. Attendance

The following persons were present: Brymer Humphreys, Paul Snider, Paul van Lieshout, Roger Crary, Matt Pawlusik, Marty Broccoli, and Maryellen Baldwin, Kathy Pilbeam.

Guests: Cheryl Colucci, John S. Bienzo Jr., Daniele Ricci

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Motion by Broccoli to approve March minutes as submitted. Second by Snider. Motion carried.

IV. Public Hearing for 2023 Open Enrollment – Humphreys opened the floor for public comment on the previously reviewed applications at 6:12 P.M. A total of 4 applications with 235.1 acres were submitted and approved by the board for 2023 Open Enrollment.

COMMENTS: None

No further discussion.

Motion to approve all 4 applications and close the public hearing for the 2022 open enrollment by Snider.

Second by Crary. No further discussion. Motion carried.

V. Public Hearing on 2023 State Environmental Quality Review for Open Enrollment – Pawlusik open the floor at 6:15 P.M. Copy of the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) was presented. Pawlusik reviewed the short form. 235.1 acres will be added.

COMMENTS: Broccoli raised concern about the SEQR not properly being submitted last year, Pawlusik addressed concerns and explained the process. In addition, Pawluski discussed a downstate issue with a SEQR review not being accepted by Delaware County's BOL and concerns having to do with the county's denial of enrolling a horse operation into an Ag District.

No further discussion.

Motion to approve the SEQR and close the public hearing by Broccoli.

Second by Snider. No further discussion. Motion carried.

VI. Public Hearing for Agriculture District 6 – Towns of Bridgewater, Paris, Sangerfield, and Marshall –
Humphreys opened the floor for public comment on District 6 at 6:20 P.M.

COMMENTS:

Pawluski informed the Board no land was removed from the District a new acreage total for Ag District 6 is 36,328.0ac – an increase to the district of 1,542 acres.

No further comments from the floor.

Motion to approve all nineteen applications for Agricultural District 6 and close the public hearing by Snider.
Second by van Lieshout. No further discussion. Motion carried.

VII. Public Hearing on State Environmental Quality Review for Agricultural District 5 – Pawlusik open the floor at 6:52 P.M. Copy of the SEQR was presented. After reviewing a total of 34,786 acres in District 6. Pawlusik reviewed the short form.

COMMENTS: None

No further discussion.

Motion to approve the SEQR and close the public hearing for District 5 by Broccoli.

Second by Crary. No further discussion. Motion carried.

VIII. Removal for Board Member – A letter was sent to Andy Gale on April 27, 2023, addressing the lack of attendance and participation in meetings and votes for the OC Farmland Protection Board. Gale had until June 1st to notify the board if he was still willing to participate. There was no response.

Motion to remove Andy Gale for lack of attendance by Broccoli.

Second by van Lieshout. No further discussion. Motion carried.

IX. Introduction of Daniele Ricci – Daniele has addressed interest in being a part of the Farmland Protection Board and would hold the role of the Agriculture Business Representative. Daniele is a resident of Oneida County, employed through Farm Credit East as the Northeast Crop Insurance Marketing Agent at Farm Credit East, ACA/Crop Growers. Working with just over 200 farmers in 6 counties including Oneida.

A motion to recommend Daniele Ricci be appointed to the Farmland Protection Board by Broccoli.

Second by Snider. Maryellen will send an appointment letter to BOL. Motion carried.

X. Open Discussion

Plan for updating 2017 Farmland Protection Guide- Broccoli explained the reasoning to include solar communication within the Farmland Protection Plan once the county solar committee creates verbiage on the county's position. Concerns around 94-C legislation removing municipalities ability to fight large solar development which NYS is in favor of.

Minutes submitted by M. Baldwin

Updates to CCE Ag Team: Open Positions and Angela Miazaga resigned from Ag Team Lead.

XI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Crary. Second by Broccoli. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 P.M.

NEXT MEETING: Fall 2023