

# AGRICULTURE & GREEN ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

1

Committee meetings are now open to the general public.  
We ask that you continue to practice safe social distancing requirements.

Thank you!

Date: Wednesday, January 28, 2026 @ 10:00 AM

Location: *Supervisors' Chambers, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the government center.*

**Agriculture Committee Members Present:** *Klein, Merrill, Berwanger, Rudgers, Roche, Granger, Smith*

Absent:

Also Present: C. Ketchum/Board Clerk; S. Schrader/Co. Admin.; D. Nikiel/Dep. Budget Officer; M. Krobe/Sec. to the Co. Admin.; B. Kehl, T/Attica; J. Brick/Board Chair; L. Roberts, T/Genesee Falls

**Green Energy Committee Members Present:** *Merrill, Berwanger, Klein, Roche, Smith*

Absent:

Also Present: C. Ketchum/Board Clerk; S. Schrader/Co. Admin.; D. Nikiel/Dep. Budget Officer; M. Krobe/Sec. to the Co. Admin.; B. Kehl, T/Attica; J. Brick/Board Chair; N. Rudgers, T/Covington; D. Granger, T/Gainesville; L. Roberts, T/Genesee Falls

Department Agenda Item	Discussion	Decision	Action
<b>Committee Chair's Agenda</b>			
1. <b>Reappointments ~</b>  <u>Region 9 Fish &amp; Wildlife Management Board</u> <u>Supervisor Member (Legislative Rep.)</u> <i>One (1) year term; effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026</i> • <i>James Brick, 7618 Route 20A, Perry NY 14530</i>		Motion: Merrill Ayes: 7 Noes: Absent:	Carried: XXX Defeated: Referred to:  <b>*RESOLUTION</b>
2. <b>Reappointment:</b>  <u>Seneca Trail RC&amp;D Council</u> <u>Board of Supervisors Representative</u> <i>One (1) year term; effective January 01, 2026 through December 31, 2026.</i> • <i>Brian Becker, 1514 Perry Rd. N. Java, NY 14113</i>  <u>Member at Large</u> <i>Three (3) year term; effective January 01, 2026 through December 31, 2028.</i> • <i>E. Joseph Gozelski, 6175 East Lake Rd., P.O. Box 331, Silver Springs, NY 14550</i>		Motion: Rudgers Ayes: 7 Noes: Absent:	Carried: XXX Defeated: Referred to:  <b>*RESOLUTION</b>

Committee Chair Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

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Absent:

Also Present: C. Ketchum/Board Clerk; S. Schrader/Co. Admin.; D. Nikiel/Dep. Budget Officer; M. Krobe/Sec. to the Co. Admin.; B. Kehl, T/Attica; J. Brick/Board Chair; L. Roberts, T/Genesee Falls

**Green Energy Committee Members Present:** *Merrill, Berwanger, Klein, Roche, Smith*

Absent:

Also Present: C. Ketchum/Board Clerk; S. Schrader/Co. Admin.; D. Nikiel/Dep. Budget Officer; M. Krobe/Sec. to the Co. Admin.; B. Kehl, T/Attica; J. Brick/Board Chair; N. Rudgers, T/Covington; D. Granger, T/Gainesville; L. Roberts, T/Genesee Falls

Department Agenda Item	Discussion	Decision	Action
3. Ag Society Photos • <a href="#">Photo 1</a> • <a href="#">Photo 2</a> • <a href="#">Photo 3</a> • <a href="#">Photo 4</a> • <a href="#">Photo 5</a>	<i>Committee Chair Klein thanked C. Gala on her efforts to provide a Wyoming County display.</i>	Motion: Ayes: Noes: Absent:	Carried: Defeated: Referred to:
<b>Animal Control w/J. Goodell</b>			
1. <a href="#">December 2025 Monthly Report</a>		Motion: Ayes: Noes: Absent:	Carried: Defeated: Referred to:
<b>Cooperative Extension w/C. Gala</b>			
1. <i>General Update</i> • There are 3 offers on Camp Wyomoco. The Board of Directors will decide on those offers tomorrow. • Good Neighbor Award		Motion: Ayes: Noes: Absent:	Carried: Defeated: Referred to:

Committee Chair Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

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Absent:

Also Present: C. Ketchum/Board Clerk; S. Schrader/Co. Admin.; D. Nikiel/Dep. Budget Officer; M. Krobe/Sec. to the Co. Admin.; B. Kehl, T/Attica; J. Brick/Board Chair; L. Roberts, T/Genesee Falls

**Green Energy Committee Members Present:** *Merrill, Berwanger, Klein, Roche, Smith*

Absent:

Also Present: C. Ketchum/Board Clerk; S. Schrader/Co. Admin.; D. Nikiel/Dep. Budget Officer; M. Krobe/Sec. to the Co. Admin.; B. Kehl, T/Attica; J. Brick/Board Chair; N. Rudgers, T/Covington; D. Granger, T/Gainesville; L. Roberts, T/Genesee Falls

Department Agenda Item	Discussion	Decision	Action
<p><b>2. Reappointment:</b> <b>Cooperative Extension's Board of Directors</b> Supervisor Member <i>One (1) year term; effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026</i> • <b>Mark Merrill</b>, 5442 Sheppard Rd., Bliss, NY 14024</p>		Motion: Roche Ayes: 7 Noes: Absent:	Carried: XXX Defeated: Referred to:  <b>*RESOLUTION</b>
<b>Ag. &amp; Farmland Protection w/M. Verrelli</b>			
<p><b>1. Professional Service Contract (\$5,000 or greater):</b> Authorize Chairman to sign a contract, pursuant to General Municipal Law §104(b) as a result of a Request for Proposal with <b>Agricultural and Community Development Services ("ACDS") LLC</b>, PO Box 1160, North Beach, MD 20714 for updating of the county's ag &amp; farmland protection plan in an amount not to exceed \$53,000.00; effective February 10, 2026 through March 4, 2027. <b>(MUNIS CONTRACT #3520)</b></p>		Motion: Rudgers Ayes: 7 Noes: Absent:	Carried: XXX Defeated: Referred to:  <b>*RESOLUTION</b>
<p><b>2. Reappointment:</b> <b>Wyoming County Ag &amp; Farmland Protection Board</b> Supervisor Member <i>One (1) year term effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026</i> • <b>James Brick</b>, 7618 Route 20A, Perry NY 14530</p>	<b>AG &amp; FARMLAND PROTECTION BOARD ARE APPOINTMENTS OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD, THEY DO NOT NEED A RESOLUTION</b>	Motion: Rudgers Ayes: 7 Noes: Absent:	Carried: XXX Defeated: Referred to:  <b>APPROVED</b>

Committee Chair Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Agriculture Committee Members Present:** *Klein, Merrill*, Berwanger, Rudgers, Roche, Granger, Smith

Absent:

Also Present: C. Ketchum/Board Clerk; S. Schrader/Co. Admin.; D. Nikiel/Dep. Budget Officer; M. Krobe/Sec. to the Co. Admin.; B. Kehl, T/Attica; J. Brick/Board Chair; L. Roberts, T/Genesee Falls

**Green Energy Committee Members Present:** *Merrill, Berwanger*, Klein, Roche, Smith

Absent:

Also Present: C. Ketchum/Board Clerk; S. Schrader/Co. Admin.; D. Nikiel/Dep. Budget Officer; M. Krobe/Sec. to the Co. Admin.; B. Kehl, T/Attica; J. Brick/Board Chair; N. Rudgers, T/Covington; D. Granger, T/Gainesville; L. Roberts, T/Genesee Falls

Department Agenda Item	Discussion	Decision	Action
<b>Soil &amp; Water w/A. Fagan</b>			
<p>1. <b>Reappointments:</b> <b>Wyo. Co. Soil &amp; Water Conservation District Board</b> <u>Supervisor Members</u> <i>One (1) year term; effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026. (Formerly held by:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Mark Merrill</b>, 5442 Sheppard Rd. Bliss, NY 14024</li><li>• <b>James Brick</b>, 7618 Rt. 20A, Perry, NY 14530</li></ul> <p><i>Three (3) year term; effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2028.</i></p> <p><u>Member-at-Large</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Daryl Heiby</b> – 14 Stainton Place Perry, NY 14530</li></ul> <p><u>Pomona Grange Representative</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Ronald McCormick</b> – 1434 Torry Hill Rd Java Center, NY 14082</li></ul>	<p><i>Supervisor Kehl, T/Attica shared with the committee that Soil &amp; Water has been working on a project along the Tonawanda Creek. A new land owner wasn't in agreement with the project until District Manager Fagan met with the land owners on Monday night. This project is fully funded through grant dollars.</i></p>	<p>Motion: Berwanger Ayes: 7 Noes: Absent:</p>	<p>Carried: XXX Defeated: Referred to:</p>

\*RESOLUTION

Committee Chair Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

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Absent:

Also Present: C. Ketchum/Board Clerk; S. Schrader/Co. Admin.; D. Nikiel/Dep. Budget Officer; M. Krobe/Sec. to the Co. Admin.; B. Kehl, T/Attica; J. Brick/Board Chair; L. Roberts, T/Genesee Falls

**Green Energy Committee Members Present:** *Merrill, Berwanger, Klein, Roche, Smith*

Absent:

Also Present: C. Ketchum/Board Clerk; S. Schrader/Co. Admin.; D. Nikiel/Dep. Budget Officer; M. Krobe/Sec. to the Co. Admin.; B. Kehl, T/Attica; J. Brick/Board Chair; N. Rudgers, T/Covington; D. Granger, T/Gainesville; L. Roberts, T/Genesee Falls

Department Agenda Item	Discussion	Decision	Action
<b>Conservation w/</b>			
1. <b>Reappointments:</b> <b>New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Advisory Committee</b> Supervisor Member <i>One (1) year term; effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026</i> • <i>Bryan Kehl</i> , 914 Route 98, Attica, NY 14011		Motion: Berwanger Ayes: 7 Noes: Absent:	Carried: XXX Defeated: Referred to:  *RESOLUTION
<b>County Forestlands</b>			
1. <a href="#"><u>01/14/2026 Email</u></a> from Eric Stawitzky regarding 2025 DMAP harvest.		Motion: Ayes: Noes: Absent:	Carried: Defeated: Referred to:
<b>Wyoming County Farm Bureau</b>			
1. <b>Mark your Calendar:</b> • Annual Meeting with Wyoming County Farm Bureau March 10, 2026 at the Ag Center. More details to follow.		Motion: Ayes: Noes: Absent:	Carried: Defeated: Referred to:

Committee Chair Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Green Energy Committee Members Present:** *Merrill, Berwanger, Klein, Roche, Smith*

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Department Agenda Item	Discussion	Decision	Action
<b>Fair Association w/M. Roche</b>			
<b>General Update:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>\$50K grant for grand stand bleacher updates (bleachers near the grand stand will be to receive much needed improvements).</li></ul>		Motion: Ayes: Noes: Absent:	Carried: Defeated: Referred to:
<b>Dairy Industry w/S. Klein</b>			
<b>General Update:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>\$6 cwt reduction in the price of milk results in a \$70M hit to the Wyoming County economy.</li></ul>		Motion: Ayes: Noes: Absent:	Carried: Defeated: Referred to:
<b>Green Energy Committee w/M. Merrill</b>			
1. 12/18/25 <a href="#"><u>Order Approving Compliance Filings</u></a> from Public Service Commission		Motion: Ayes: Noes: Absent:	Carried: Defeated: Referred to:

Committee Chair Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

## AGRICULTURE & GREEN ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

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Absent:

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Department Agenda Item	Discussion	Decision	Action
<i>Board Chair Brick, T/Perry commented on the NYSAC Renewable Energy Siting Survey that needs to be completed by each county in NY.</i>	<i>Sub-committee:</i> Brick, Berwanger, Klein, Merrill & Rudgers	Motion: Ayes: Noes: Absent:	Carried: Defeated: Referred to:

Signature of Committee Chairman: p/S. Klein & M. Merrill (minutes prepared by C. Ketchum).

Next Agriculture Committee Meeting scheduled for **Wednesday, February 25, 2026 @ 10:00 AM.**

Committee Chair Initials: \_\_\_\_\_