

**SOLID WASTE & ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE
MCCARTY, LAPIN, FARWELL, KENNEDY, BROCKWAY
February 19, 2020
9:00am**

Also Present: Ag. Farmland Protection Board (AFPB)-- John Hill, David Diaz, Leslie Rathbun, Tim Cantwell, Henry Schecher, Steve Sinniger, and Timothy Peters

Also Present: Tammie Harris, Planning, Shane Digan, Solid Waste, Amy Wyant of Otsego County Conservation Association, Lonnie O'Bryan of Casella Waste Systems

CENTER FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP-- PHOEBE SCHREINER, HANS HASS and SERKAN CAMBUDAK of Catskill Packing Co.

Phoebe Schreiner, Executive Director of the Center for Agricultural Development and Entrepreneurship (CADE), introduced Hans Hass and Serkan Cambudak of Catskill Packing Co. to the Solid Waste & Environmental Concerns Committee, and also to the Ag. Farmland Protection Board (present for a joint meeting). Hans Hass and Serkan Cambudak presented to the Committees information regarding their upcoming development of the Catskill Packing Co., including but not limited to:

- USDA approved and inspected slaughterhouse and packaging facility to process beef, lamb, and goat meat in the Halal manner
- proposed site in the Oneonta business park
- project planned to begin in Fall 2020, currently in the planning and permitting phase
- project funded and financed the by owners/operators, and in part by an Empire State Development grant and other sources
- the facility may offer local meat producers an additional place for their meats to be processed

Hans Hass answered questions from the Committees. Phoebe Schreiner requested the AFPB members approve and sign a letter of support for the project addressed to the Oneonta Town Supervisor and Board, and some members present said they would like to inquire further before signing.

AG. FARMLAND PROTECTION BOARD and SOLID WASTE & ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE—JOINT MEETING

Karen Sullivan opened the joint meeting of the Committees to review applications for the 2020 Agricultural District Open Enrollment period.

The Committees reviewed and discussed the applications and parcels requesting inclusion into the agricultural district.

The AFPB voted unanimously to include all applications into the Agricultural District, to accept the project as “Unlisted” under SEQRA, to declare a determination of negative significance, and to recommend to Otsego County to accept the determinations and to accept the proposals as received for inclusion to the agricultural district.

The AFPB meeting was closed and the AFPB exited the meeting.

SOLID WASTE—KAREN SULLIVAN

Karen Sullivan requested a motion to approve the January 15, 2020 Solid Waste & Environmental Concerns Committee meeting minutes. Representative Brockway motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded, Lapin. Representative McCarty requested the minutes be amended to include the time of the meeting. The Committee voted to approve the January 15, 2020 Solid Waste & Environmental Concerns Committee minutes as amend to include the time of the meeting. Total: 2,407. Ayes: 2,407. Motion carried.

Karen Sullivan requested a motion to declare Ag Inclusions—30 Day Enrollment 2020 as having a Negative impact under SEQRA and to accept proposals for 30 Day Ag. Enrollment 2020. Representative Farwell motioned to declare the Negative Impact under SEQRA and to accept the proposals as submitted for inclusion into the Agricultural District. Seconded, Lapin. Total: 2,407. Ayes: 2,407. Motion carried.

Karen Sullivan requested approval to schedule a Public Hearing on the aforementioned matter of the 2020 Agricultural District Open Enrollment period for the next regularly scheduled Board of Representatives meeting on Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at the County Office Building. Representative McCarty motioned to approve scheduling a Public Hearing on the matter before the Board meeting. Seconded, Farwell. Total: 2,407. Ayes: 2,407. Motion carried.

OTSEGO COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT—JORDAN CLEMENTS

Jordan Clements, District Manager, gave the following program updates, including but not limited to:

- Mr. Clements is continuing to work on reporting performance goals to NYS

- the District is preparing for the 2020 field season, especially for the stream buffer maintenance program
- the District is in the process of aiding applicants with Ag Non-Point Source Grants: Round 26 applications, due in March

Representative Lapin inquired about the Chesapeake Watershed Assessment Tool (CAST), and Mr. Clements reported the annual entries are on-going with the help of an intern at the District.

SOLID WASTE—KAREN SULLIVAN and SHANE DIGAN

Karen Sullivan reviewed the following reports:

- Solid Waste Totals—2,769.13 tons of solid waste were collected in January
- Recycling Costs for Otsego County—312.27 tons of recycling were collected in January at an average cost of \$146.24 per ton (down 15.07 tons from last January), total cost for recycling including labor in January was \$45,664.97
- Mattress collection for January 2020: 230 mattresses
- Electronics Recycling Cost: \$832.92

Karen Sullivan reported Casella Waste Management delivered the first collection of voluntary food waste scraps (organics) from the Southern Transfer Station to Seward Sand & Gravel; it was one (1) full sixty-four (64) gallon toter weighing three-hundred (300) pounds.

The Committee discussed: incinerators, reducing contamination in recyclables, the on-going challenge of educating businesses and consumers with regard to garbage, recyclables, and environmentally sound practices.

Karen Sullivan reported on and reviewed information with regard to recent Solid Waste meetings:

- Town of Laurens meeting February 11, 2020
- Meeting on February 13, 2020 with Professor David Tonjes of Stony Brook University with regard to an upcoming opportunity funded by the NYSDEC to create a description of the state of solid waste by inventorying and analyzing mixed solid waste during the period of the next five (5) years
- Landfill Oversight Committee meeting scheduled for February 25, 2020
- (Please RVSP if interested): Will It Work On My Land? Solar Energy and the Future of Farming in the Mohawk Valley

March 7th, 8:30am—3:00pm at Herkimer College
Call (315) 866-7920

- Storke Renewables is scheduled to be present at the next Laurens Town Board meeting on March 9, 2020
- Delaware County Solid Waste Management Center on Thursday, April 23, 2020 (for informational purposes)

Karen Sullivan presented and reviewed a recently passed Schoharie County Solar Resolution (Resolution 103 of 2019: Schoharie County Solar/ Renewable Energy Project Pre-Application and PILOT Agreement Fee Schedule). Ms. Sullivan and the Committee discussed the following, including but not limited to:

- specific aspects of the Resolution
- the Resolution may be intended to benefit communities hosting renewable energy projects, however the fees assigned to the projects may be prohibitively high for companies interested in investing in renewable energy projects in Schoharie County (pros/ cons)
- Representatives Lapin and Farwell shared the consideration that the Resolution effects only one industry (renewables), it is not imposed across industries, and considerations with regard to environmental vs. economic benefits

Karen Sullivan and Amy Wyant, Executive Director of the Otsego County Conservation Association, briefed the Committee on proposed changes to the Energy Improvement Corporation adding an option to the C—PACE program, offering C—PACE financing to new construction projects, not only improved properties. Karen Sullivan requested approval to submit a letter of support for the PACE program to include new construction. Representative Farwell motioned to approve submitting a letter of support for the PACE program and new construction. Seconded, Lapin. Total: 2,407. Ayes: 2,407. Motion carried.

Karen Sullivan briefed the Committee on a Geneva, NY-based company called Closed Loop Systems, offering waste management systems including resource recovery facilities. The Committee was in consensus for Ms. Sullivan to please invite Closed Loop Systems to present at an upcoming Solid Waste & Environmental Concerns Committee meeting.

Karen Sullivan discussed purchasing a piece of equipment (excavator) that was leased for the agency housing project but now has the option to buy off NYS Contract. Karen Sullivan said there is funding available from surplus 2019 Solid Waste funds. The Committee discussed the machine's utility across the

County departments. Representative Brockway motioned to purchase the excavator. Seconded, McCarty, Lapin. Total: 2,407. Ayes: 2,407. Motion carried.

There being no further business to discuss, the Committee scheduled their next regular meeting for Wednesday, March 18, 2020 at 9:00am at the Meadows and adjourned.