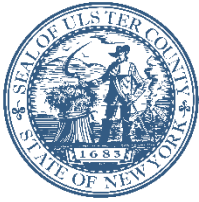


# ULSTER COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Dave Haldeman, Chair  
Kristen Schara, Vice-Chair  
Neil Rindlaub, Secretary



## Meeting Minutes

Regular Monthly Meeting *Sept 27, 6:30 PM*

***Hybrid Meeting*** Via Zoom and in-person at SUNY Ulster  
**Kingston Campus**

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*“The purpose of the Council shall be to review and advise the county and local governments on present and proposed methods of using, protecting and conserving the environment for the benefit of all the people.”*

With a quorum present, the regular meeting of the Ulster County Environmental Council was convened at 6:40 p.m.

<b>Municipal Members Present</b>	David Haldeman, Chair (Shawangunk) Rob Ferri (New Paltz) Kristen Schara (Hurley) Mark Ellison (Esopus) Janelle Koszarek (Marlborough) Laura Hartmann (Town of Ulster) Neil Rindlaub (Gardiner) Roberta Clements (Gardiner) Simon Strauss (Olive) Leslie Surprenant (Saugerties) Penny Coleman (Rosendale)
<b>At-Large Members Present</b>	Bill More
<b>Members Present via Videoconference</b>	Bob Cruickshank (Shandaken) James Easley (Rochester) Andrew Ghiorse Mary O'Donnell
<b>Ulster County Staff</b>	Europa McGovern, UC Dept. of the Environment Timothy DeGraff (UCRRA) Manna Jo Greene (UC Legislator)
<b>Guests</b>	James Taylor (Taylor Biomass Energy LLC) Eileen Taylor ( “ “ ) Victoria Lucarini (Town of Ulster)

A link to the meeting agenda can be found here: <https://ulstercountyny.gov/environmental-management-council/emc-meeting-dates-minutes>

## Discussion/Approval of Minutes

When a was quorum achieved, we approved the minutes from our July 26 meeting.

# ULSTER COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Vacant, Vice-Chair  
Vacant, Secretary

## Introduction of Speaker/Presentation

James Taylor is President and CEO of Taylor Biomass Energy LLC. The company got its start in processing construction and demolition debris, removing recyclable items and using the remainder as daily cover at landfills. They then developed processes to deal with larger streams of municipal and commercial waste.

He said that 10% of those streams are unrecoverable and need to go to a landfill. 23% is inorganic material, nearly all recyclable. 2% represents household hazardous waste, that requires special handling, as we do in Ulster County. 65% is biomass -- paper, fiber, food, textiles, and wood -- which he sees as “the fuel of the future”. His company has developed a way to gasify these organic materials at 1800°F with 90% efficiency. The gasifier can process 17 tons of organic material per power and produce 24 MW of electricity – 3.82 MW used in the process and 20.2 MW that can power 23,000 homes -- with zero emissions and carbon char the primary byproduct. One processor can prevent approximately 118,000 tons of landfill methane emissions and 125,000 tons of CO2 emissions per year. They are building a pilot plant in the Orange County Town of Montgomery. More information can be found on the web at: [taylorbiomassenergy.com](http://taylorbiomassenergy.com).

## Department of the Environment Announcements

Europa said that the DOE is working to develop a [Re-use Innovation Center](#) aiming to maximize the diversion of resources from the municipal waste stream, handling materials that UCRRA doesn't handle now. There is interest in the formation of Climate Smart School coordinators.

## Old Business

None

## Council Member Roundabout

**Town of Ulster** – citizens have been unable to persuade the Town to create a CAC.

**Esopus** – town is conducting a disaster preparedness workshop on Oct.9 and held a Repair Café in September.

**Saugerties** – is working on Climate Smart Community Silver Certification.

**Hurley** – Greenway Environmental Services is providing help with a composting initiative. Hurley is also working on disaster preparedness procedures.

**Gardiner** – Gardiner's ECC continues to work on an update to the Wetlands and Watercourse section of the Town's Zoning Code.

**Olive** – Olive has achieved recognition as a Bronze level Climate Smart Community, and is working on coordinating efforts on EV charging, solar systems, and heat pumps.

**Rosendale** -- the Town has achieved Bronze Certification in the CSC program.

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**New Paltz** – will be hosting riparian buffers workshop.

**Marlborough** – is working toward Bronze Climate Smart Certification.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM

Respectfully submitted  
Neil Rindlaub  
Secretary