

ULSTER COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Dave Haldeman, Chair
Emilie Hauser, Vice-Chair
Kenneth Panza, Secretary

Agenda

Regular Monthly Meeting of February 24, 2021
6:30 PM via Zoom Video Conferencing

“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.”

Until further notice, all EMC meetings will be by Zoom videoconference.

<https://ulstercountyny.zoom.us/j/97442549615?pwd=ZHB6NVJ2MFlvRTFiS3ZJeVFzdWNmUT09>

Meeting ID: 974 4254 9615 | Passcode: 278571

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Call to Order

Announcements

Approval of Minutes

Consider minutes of the **January 27, 2021** meeting of the EMC.

Introduction of Speaker/Presentation

Rebecca Martin, Riverkeeper, Director of Community Partnerships

Rebecca will be joined by members of Riverkeeper's Science and Legal team.



Maine-born Rebecca Martin is the Director for Community Partnerships at Riverkeeper. In her previous role as Campaign Manager of the Water Quality Program, she coordinated Riverkeeper's first initiative using their Drinking Source Water Protection Scorecard tool to bring together seven municipalities (the City and Town of Poughkeepsie, Village and Town of Rhinebeck, Town of Hyde Park, Town of Lloyd and Town of Esopus) to protect their drinking water supply for more than 100,000 people - the Hudson River Estuary.

She also led the department's lobbying efforts in Albany where they were successful in advocating for the passage of the \$2 billion dollar Clean Water Infrastructure Act of 2017. Rebecca helped to establish the Rondout Creek Watershed Alliance, a community led group that serves to protect one of the largest tributaries to the Hudson River.

She is a collaborator of the Water Justice Lab, a new youth led program created by Riverkeeper and Media Sanctuary in North Troy, NY. Martin has worked in upriver communities to help with

campaign strategies which have led to several major polluting Construction and Demolition (C&D) projects along the Hudson River to withdraw their applications or permits.

Old Business

Ashokan Reservoir Water Releases into the Lower Esopus Creek

Report from February 1 meeting with Ulster County Energy & Environment Committee

Report from February 4 Public Hearing

Public comment submission? The state Department of Environmental Conservation has extended by 90 days the comment period regarding New York City's request to permanently release up to 600 million gallons of muddy water per day from the Ashokan Reservoir into the Lower Esopus Creek. The deadline is now 5 p.m. June 16.

Letter to Town of Gardiner Town Board

Report from Department of the Environment

Amanda LaValle, Director

New Business

Ashokan Pumped Storage Proposal

Champlain-Hudson Power Express

Legislature Report – Energy & Environment Committee

Dave Haldeman

Council Member Roundabout

Adjournment