



## Adirondack Park Agency

ANDREW M. CUOMO  
Governor

TERRY MARTINO  
Executive Director

NOTE: The attachments referred to herein are on file at the Agency and are on the Agency's website. Copies are also available for inspection on request.  
Final Minutes, Full Agency 5/23/21

**MAY 13-14, 2021**

### **ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY MEETING**

**Thursday, May 13, 2021**

#### **AGENCY MEMBERS, DESIGNEES, AND EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT**

Brad Austin, Presiding Member, Designee, Empire State Development  
John Ernst, Member  
Mark Hall, Member  
Andrea Hogan, Member  
Arthur Lussi, Member  
Ken Lynch, Member  
Zoe Smith, Member  
Matt Tebo, Designee, NYS Dept. of State  
Joe Zalewski, Designee, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation  
Christopher Cooper, Counsel  
Terry Martino, Executive Director

#### **ABSENT AND EXCUSED**

Ken Lynch, Member  
Dan Wilt, Member

#### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW BOARD PRESENT**

Jerry Delaney, Executive Director

#### **AGENCY STAFF PRESENT**

None

Video and audio recordings of the proceedings, including public comment, are available in their entirety via webcast at

[http://nysapa.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view\\_id=2](http://nysapa.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=2).

Presiding Member Brad Austin called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Mr. Austin said the Board was meeting remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He stressed that health and safety continue to be the highest priority. He asked members to identify themselves when speaking. Mr. Austin noted he would be chairing the Local

Government Services and Regulatory Program committees this month due to Mr. Wilt's absence,

**1. Approval of Aril 15-16, 2021 Agency Minutes**

On motion of Mr. Ernst, seconded by Ms. Hogan, the Agency adopted the Draft Agency Meeting Minutes of April 15-16, 2021 as amended by Mr. Lussi. A copy of the official minutes as adopted by the Agency is on file at the Agency.

**2. Recusals**

None

**3. Motion for Executive Session**

On motion of Mr. Hall, seconded by Ms. Smith, the Agency unanimously agreed to meet in Executive Session for deliberation of pending and ongoing litigation on Thursday, May 13, 2021 at 4:15 pm.

**4. Executive Director's Report**

Executive Director Martino reported that staff addressed members' questions regarding solar projects and planning staff would provide presentations on the regulation and GIS mapping of solar facilities in the Park. She said Agency and Department staff would give an overview of their work on Visitor Use Management and Wildlands Monitoring.

Ms. Martino announced the promotion of Tracy Darrah to Environmental Program Specialist 2 in the JIF office.

Mr. Lussi thanked staff for providing solar guidance.

**5. Motion to Adjourn into Committees**

On motion of Mr. Zalewski, seconded by Mr. Lussi, the Agency unanimously adjourned into committees at 12:15 p.m.

**Friday, May 14, 2021**

**AGENCY MEMBERS, DESIGNEES, AND EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT**

Brad Austin, Presiding Member, Designee, Empire State Development  
John Ernst, Member  
Mark Hall, Member  
Andrea Hogan, Member

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Arthur Lussi, Member  
Ken Lynch, Member  
Zoe Smith, Member  
Dan Wilt, Member  
Matt Tebo, Designee, NYS Dept. of State  
Joe Zalewski, Designee, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation  
Christopher Cooper, Counsel  
Terry Martino, Executive Director

**ABSENT AND EXCUSED**

Dan Wilt, Member  
Ken Lynch, Member

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW BOARD PRESENT**

Jerry Delaney, Executive Director

**AGENCY STAFF PRESENT**

None

Presiding Member Austin reconvened the Full Agency on May 14 at 11:15 a.m.

Mr. Austin reported the Board met in Executive Session and no action was taken.

**1) Committee Reports**

a) Local Government Services

Mr. Austin reported on the presentation by Robyn Burgess on an overview of Local Land Use Controls and Regulation of Solar in the Adirondack Park.

b) Park Policy and Planning Committee

Mr. Ernst reported on the presentation by Matt Kendall on a Parkwide Look at Existing and Proposed Solar Projects/ GIS Mapping.

c) Regulatory Programs Committee

On motion of Mr. Austin, seconded by Mr. Hall, the Agency unanimously approved P2021-0033,789 Tarbell Hill, LLC involving the development of a 5MW solar power

generating facility on 25 acres of leased land within two separate fenced areas totaling 18 acres. Access is proposed from Tarbell Hill Road and Dugway Road, Town of Moriah, Essex County. Ms. Regan reported on data regarding the bat population. Mr. Lussi commented on the land clearing and visual impacts of solar projects.

d) State Land Committee

On motion of Mr. Ernst, seconded by Mr. Hall, the Agency unanimously authorized the Fish Creek Campground UMP Amendment to proceed to public comment for SLMP conformance. Ms. Smith requested additional information be added regarding the objectives for resource protection and visitor use. Mr. Lussi said the UMP should address access to the rail trail.

The Administration, Economic Affairs, Enforcement, Legal Affairs, Park Ecology, Public Awareness committees did not meet this month. Ms. Martino congratulated Ms. Darrah on her promotion to EPS 2 in the JIF office and thanked Ms. Caldwell for working through the hiring process.

**7. Old Business**

None

**8. New Business**

None

**9. Local Government Review Board Comment**

Mr. Delaney requested a presentation by a professional on how the electrical grid works in regard to the siting of solar facilities.

**10. Member Comment**

Mr. Hall said the meeting was very informative. He said he looks forward to in-person meetings.

Ms. Smith said access to the mailing material was great. She thanked staff for the presentations. She recommended the book *A Wild Idea* about the history of the Park.

Ms. Hogan thanked staff for their presentations.

Mr. Lussi said he was thankful for the NYSERDA information and noted solar decommissioning plans are needed in project review.

Mr. Zalewski said he also looked forward to in-person meetings. He thanked staff for their work.

Mr. Tebo said solar projects require attention to the needs for renewable energy and the regulations of the Agency. He thanked staff for their presentations. He reported Ms. Santiago-Martinez had her baby.

Mr. Ernst said he believed it was a great meeting with a lot of planning work.

Mr. Cooper thanked the legal staff and congratulated Ms. Darrah on her promotion.

Ms. Martino commented on the book *A Wild Idea* by Brad Edmondson and said the ADK Experience would host a virtual symposium on June 22 to highlight fifty-years of the Adirondack Park Agency. She said the Agency will plan a fifty-year anniversary celebration in 2023, following on when the thirtieth was celebrated in 2003 and the fortieth in 2013. She thanked staff for their work.

Mr. Austin told members if they have concerns, comments, or questions, staff are always available to discuss project details. He said he believes the VUM is a great tool going forward.

By unanimous consent, the meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

  
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Brad Austin, Presiding Member