

Environment, Energy & Climate

BOL Meeting Minutes - Published Draft



Committee Chair: David Imamura

800 Michaelian Office Bldg.
148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor
White Plains, NY 10601
www.westchesterlegislators.com

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

2:30 PM

Committee Room

CALL TO ORDER

Please note: Meetings of the Board of Legislators and its committees are held at the Michaelian Office Building, 148 Martine Avenue, White Plains, New York, 10601, and remotely via the WebEx video conferencing system. Legislators may participate in person or via Webex. Members of the public may attend meetings in person at any of its locations, or view it online on the Westchester County Legislature's website: <https://westchestercountyny.legistar.com/> This website also provides links to materials for all matters to be discussed at a given meeting.

With a quorum present, Chair Imamura called the meeting to order at 2:39 PM

Present: Committee Chair Imamura, Legislator Williams Johnson and Legislator Barr

Excused: Legislator Tubiolo

Absent: Legislator Parker

Remote: Committee Vice-Chair Pierce

MINUTES APPROVAL

June 21st, 2023 10AM

June 21st, 2023 1PM

June 27th, 2023 10AM

July 18th, 2023 2:30PM

On motion of Legislator Williams Johnson, seconded by Legislator Barr, the minutes were approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Imamura, Committee Vice-Chair Pierce, Legislator Williams Johnson and Legislator Barr

Excused: Legislator Tubiolo

Absent: Legislator Parker

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

RES-2023-121 PH - Proposed Additions to Westchester County Agricultural District No. 1

Guests:

Department of Planning

Nicole Laible, MPAP, Principal Environmental Planner/District Manager

Ms. Laible explained how the agricultural district (ag district) additions process works and the reasons why there may be a need for agricultural districts to be added.

She explained the additions to ag districts must include information that there is no significant adverse impacts to the environment. The 7 properties being discussed today does not adversely impact the environment significantly.

Ms. Laible stated, the 7 properties being added are a total of roughly 300 acres to be added to the district. The main beneficial reason for the districts to be added is to ensure legal representation for more support to agricultural producers.

Legislator Barr asked for the explanation of the parcels being added. Ms. Laible provided a breakdown of each location, whether it was previously apart of the district, the size and their operations.

Legislator Pierce asked Ms. Laible to explain why ag districts matter. Ms. Laible explained all of the benefits to farm operators including state agency mandates to encourage the maintenance of viable farming which raises their voices and limits in various areas to provide further protection to farm producers.

Legislator Pierce also commented on some of the struggles the Ag Board faces including the long process of adding in the ag districts. Legislators Pierce, Legislator Barr and Legislator Williams-Johnson applauded the Ag Board for all of their hard work.

On motion of Committee Vice-Chair Pierce, seconded by Legislator Williams Johnson, the above item was approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Imamura, Committee Vice-Chair Pierce, Legislator Williams Johnson and Legislator Barr

Excused: Legislator Tubiolo

Absent: Legislator Parker

RES-2023-125 ENV RESO - Proposed Inclusion of Additions to Westchester County Agricultural District No. 1

Guests:

Department of Planning

Nicole Laible, MPAP, Principal Environmental Planner/District Manager

Please see above item 2023-293

On motion of Committee Vice-Chair Pierce, seconded by Legislator Williams Johnson, the above item was approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Imamura, Committee Vice-Chair Pierce, Legislator Williams Johnson and Legislator Barr

Excused: Legislator Tubiolo

Absent: Legislator Parker

[RES-2023-126](#) RESO - Proposed Inclusion of Additional Land to Westchester County Agricultural District No. 1

Guests:

Department of Planning

Nicole Laible, MPAP, Principal Environmental Planner/District Manager

Please see above item 2023-292

On motion of Committee Vice-Chair Pierce, seconded by Legislator Williams Johnson, the above item was approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Imamura, Committee Vice-Chair Pierce, Legislator Williams Johnson and Legislator Barr

Excused: Legislator Tubiolo

Absent: Legislator Parker

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Williams Johnson, seconded by Legislator Barr, the Committee adjourned at 2:57 PM by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Imamura, Committee Vice-Chair Pierce, Legislator Williams Johnson and Legislator Barr

Excused: Legislator Tubiolo

Absent: Legislator Parker

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