



# Upper Delaware Council

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## UPPER DELAWARE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

September 1, 2022

The Upper Delaware Council held its monthly meeting on Thursday, September 1, 2022. Chairperson Boyar called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and roll call followed.

In attendance: Town of Hancock- Fred Peckham (Zoom), Town of Fremont- Jim Greier, Town of Delaware- Harold Roeder, Jr. (Zoom), Town of Cochecton- Larry Richardson, Town of Tusten- Sue Sullivan (Zoom), Town of Highland- Andy Boyar, Town of Deerpark- Virginia Dudko, Town of Lumberland- Nadia Rajsz (Zoom), Damascus Township- Jeff Dexter, Berlin Township- Alan Henry, Shohola Township- Aaron Robinson, Delaware River Basin Commission- Kristen Bowman Kavanagh (Zoom), State of New York- Ryan Coulter, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania- Tim Dugan (Zoom), National Park Service- Jessica Weinman. Staff in attendance: Executive Director- Laurie Ramie, Resources and Land Use Specialist- Kerry Engelhardt, Secretary- Ashley Hall-Bagdonas (Zoom). Absent: Lackawaxen Township, Westfall Township. Guests: Jennifer Garigliano, Jason Ohliger, Jeff Skelding, High Garst, Bill Dudko- Town of Deerpark Alternate, Cody Hendrix-NPS, Matthew McMahon, Sherri Thomas (Zoom), Alex Garcia-Maldonado- NPS (Zoom), Don Hamilton-NPS (Zoom), Andy Weber-NPS (Zoom), Jillian Pagnotti- FUDR (Zoom), Robert Berg (Zoom). Media: Liam Mayo- River Reporter, Peter Becker- Tri-County Independent (Zoom), Derek Kirk- Sullivan County Democrat (Zoom)

**Introduction of UDC Legal Services Consultant Jason R. Ohliger:** Robinson said that the Shohola Planning Commission has found Attorney Ohliger to be one of the most capable, creative, and well-versed attorneys they've ever had and he's happy to introduce Ohliger to the Upper Delaware Council. Ohliger appreciated the warm introduction and shared that professionally he went to Temple Law School and has been practicing law for almost 20 years in Milford, PA, focusing mostly on litigation, custody, and personal injury cases. He also does municipal work and really enjoys it. Personally, his wife, Lisa, and kids (16-year-old boy and 7-year-old girl) live in Damascus, PA. They renovated a farmhouse and have been there for about 5 years and really enjoy it.

**Presentation: "Update on the Delaware Aqueduct Shutdown Postponement" by Jennifer Garigliano, chief of staff, New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Bureau of Water Supply:** There is a new commencement date for the shutdown to start, October 1, 2023. Garigliano gave a quick system overview sharing there are 19 reservoirs and 3 lakes with 570 billion gallons of storage throughout the big and robust system that serves half the population of New York State. There are 9.8 million customers in the city, and about 1 million north of the city line via wholesale water customers. Any county where they have infrastructure has an entitlement to be able to tap into the system and buy water. So, NYC DEP delivers approximately 1.1 billion gallons of water each day. About 1 billion gallons go into the city, and about 100 million gallons go to people north of the city. The entire watershed both west of the Hudson and east of the Hudson is about 1.2 million square miles, which is about 1.2 million acres. The watershed covers ground in 8 upstate counties in New York, plus a small sliver of Connecticut. They are the nation's largest municipal water supply, and 90% of it is unfiltered.

The aqueduct shutdown is the largest and most complex repair project in the 180-year history of the NYC's municipal water supply. The total program cost is about \$1 billion, and the goal is to fix or eliminate leaks in the Delaware Aqueduct. The aqueduct is currently leaking about 20 million gallons a day. That is dependent on what the flow is. It's approximately 20 Olympics size swimming pools. They need to fix that and connect a new 2.5-mile-long tunnel, 600 feet below the Hudson River from Newburgh to Wappinger. Shutdown to connect bypass tunnel begins October 2023 with expected completion in 2024. Garigliano provided details on what work had been done by referencing the slide "The Solution", saying the shafts and the bypass tunnel were completed. What still needs to be

completed are small interconnection into the existing aqueduct; they can't have water in the aqueduct so must drain it. NYC will meet its water demand by augmenting supply from the Catskill System 600 MGD (Million Gallons per Day); 240 MGD from the Croton Pump Stations; and 290 MGD from the Croton System. The City Distribution System is vast. There's ~7,000 miles worth of mains and trunks all throughout the city to get water and three main lines go through the city. Right now, the Croton filtration plant only has connection to tunnels 1 and 3. Going into the shutdown they need to make sure they have connection to tunnel 2. That will allow them to be able to take more water out of the Croton System. During the nighttime they have a diurnal flow and if the demand at any point during the night falls below 290 MGD for this current Croton service area, that water will end up pushing back into the distribution system up into Hillview reservoir and then it'll get treated a second time before it enters the distribution system into one of the tunnels out of Croton. That creates a lot of water quality problems, treating the water twice. This project was supposed to be completed in October of 2021. Unfortunately, New York City is not immune to the supply chain challenges that everybody else has had during the pandemic, and they did not get all the parts and pieces that were needed to complete construction. Garigliano said the bolts are being installed now, and they anticipate that, starting in October of 2022, they will be able to start to test that connection. That is the main reason for the delay. Garigliano said they had set a 3-year window for this project and remain on course.

In the process of resetting the timeline, there were questions and concerns from a variety of stakeholder groups. They are working on a plan to address those concerns and need clarifications for some questions. There will be more informational updates to the public and stakeholder meetings. The new Director of Water Supply Outreach is John Milgrim at [jmilgrim@dep.nyc.gov](mailto:jmilgrim@dep.nyc.gov). Garigliano said she would be happy to present updates in the future.

A copy of the PowerPoint, including a synopsis of current dry basin conditions can be found at:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nQBf7clf-c0>

**Approval of August 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes:** A motion by Henry seconded by Robinson, to approve the August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022 meeting minutes carried.

**Public Comment on the Agenda:** None.

**Committee Reports:** There were no questions regarding the following meetings: Water Use/Resource Management August 16<sup>th</sup> (Ginny Dudko); Project Review August 23<sup>rd</sup> (Larry Richardson); and Operations; August 23<sup>rd</sup> (Andy Boyar).

### **Status Reports**

**Delaware River Basin Commission:** Bowman Kavanagh shared that the two virtual advisory committee meetings on 9/13 at 9:30 a.m. for Water Quality and Climate Change and that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Business meeting is 9/8 at 10:30 a.m.

She took a few minutes to talk about the current dry conditions Garigliano alluded to. Different entities have different ways to assess the state of where they are. New York State has a certain set of criteria and indicators that they use; Pennsylvania's are a little different. NYC DEP has a different set as well as the DRBC, etc. So, it can be a little bit confusing, and she's compiled a few resources she will share with staff. NYC has declared a drought watch in Delaware County and Sullivan County, which means public water suppliers must begin to conserve water or ask for their customers to reduce water consumption. As of yesterday in Pennsylvania, there is a drought watch in 36 counties which includes all counties in the Delaware River Basin except for Chester County, which is quite a way downstream. Residents are asked to voluntarily reduce their individual water use by about 5-10% The entire state of New Jersey is in a severe drought watch. Delaware has not yet issued a drought watch for any of their counties, however, several counties may possibly be heading into a drought watch in the next week. For the Delaware River basin and the Upper Delaware, the Office of the Delaware River Master, which is part of the US Geological Survey, has initiated some directed releases from the NYC reservoirs to meet the Montague flow objective. There have also been thermal releases this summer, as well as the last few summers, because of instances of warm temperatures in the rivers downstream of the NYC reservoirs. On top of that, the DRBC requested a few directed releases from the NYC reservoirs. Most of the directed releases that they requested were in mid-August from two US Army Corps reservoirs: Blue Marsh and Beltzville. Blue Marsh discharges ultimately into the Schuylkill River and Beltzville ultimately to the Lehigh River. Those discharges were requested to augment flow to meet the Trenton flow objective. According to the DRBC's Drought Operation Plan, drought conditions are based upon storage of the 3

NYC reservoirs. At a meeting they were both at earlier this morning, Garigliano said the combined storage was about 12% below normal. Based on what they know right now, that storage and those reservoirs would hit the DRBC trigger for drought watch in about mid-October. Of course, if we finally got one of these big tropical storms that NOAA is saying has been forming, that can change things. Right now, the DRBC is of a similar opinion in terms of what is or isn't coming into the basin for precipitation. The 2017 Flexible Flow Management Plan (FFMP) agreement between the Decree Parties does not fully align with the Drought Operating Plan that is in DRBC's Water Code. If the reservoir storage continues to fall, as it is anticipated, DRBC will have some work to do similar to what they did in 2016 in terms of aligning the FFMP with the Drought Water Code. In 2016 they issued a special permit to make it clear which tables and triggers they would be following under those conditions. She will keep UDC updated if a public or special meeting is need regarding drought conditions. Bowman Kavanagh said if we have a need for more information about the FFMP she would be happy to invite her colleague Amy Shallcross, Manager of Water Resource Operations, to discuss it.

The Hydrologic report and meeting notices can be found at <https://www.state.nj.us/drbc/meetings/>.

**NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation:** Coulter shared that one of the high-priority projects for access sites is the Narrowsburg boat launch. It's been repaired with a new anchoring system for the new docks. He met with Operations last week and they will be meeting with dock manufacturers to discuss options. He felt one good addition may be on the side of one of the launch abutments with a kayak and canoe dock to assist people getting into the water. He is hoping this will be completed by next Spring.

Roeder said he received the email today about the new gun regulations in NYS and on the list, it mentioned about permission to hunt on private lands. They're talking about having each individual seek permission from the landowner. He wonders how that would work if there are 35 members and one person leases the land. He wonders if they would consider just having the name of the club and its members listed. Coulter said he would reach out to Roeder after talking to the Wildlife Division.

**PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources:** Dugan forwarded his report out late so that will be included with the Action Items. They continue to have across DCNR a lot of staffing shortages. They are seeing this in private industry as well as public service. Dugan said it is just something that he thinks everyone should have at the front of their mind, that we are having trouble filling positions.

In Dugan's District right now, they are carrying 7 vacancies. That's about 20% of their workforce. On the forestry and natural resource side of the drought they are observing either drought-related stress, which could potentially become drought-related mortality, in both annual species as well as perennial species. They are seeing ferns, grasses, little things that have been impacted by these drought conditions, and they are to a little more degree of concern seeing some large woody trees, shrubs showing an impact from the drought conditions, especially on areas with more shallow soils. The Bureau of Forestry monitors that statewide as part of their forest insect and disease monitoring protocols.

They are evaluating stands and coming up with their projections for a spray program for the Spongy moth (formerly known as the Gypsy moth) for next year. In the northeast on State Forest land, they are looking at 20-40,000 acres of potential spray area out of their 85,000 acres of state forest land. Especially with these drought conditions that followed, it's something that they're going to be keeping an eye on and looking at a bit more of an aggressive spray program next year. Their spray program is not to kill all the insects. The goal of the program is to keep the forest alive to maintain life in those trees. There is an accepted amount of tolerance for defoliation, and a minimal amount of mortality. Pike County Conservation District in Pennsylvania is shepherding a private landowner spray program. If there are residents or landowners in Pike County, they should be reaching out to them for information about the countywide program on private lands. The DCNR no longer provides a spray program for private lands.

They have many staff in their Fire Program heading out-of-state right now going to western portions of the country to assist with wildfires out there. Additionally with the drought conditions in Pennsylvania they have had a moderate to slightly active summer fire season. The largest one in the district happened 2 weeks ago and was 17 acres. They last several days because they burn deep into the duff ( the root layer). It takes several days and they essentially have to wait until they get the blessing of rain to soak that area. They have had a numerous amount of small but incidental summer fires.

Hunting season officially kicked off today and in Pennsylvania, 9/1 is opening day for the morning dove season, as well as the Canada Goose season. He has a lot of details on the hunting and fishing updates as well as the fall hunting seasons in his attachment. He provided a link for an open survey that's looking for input from the Pennsylvania Game Commission about turkey sightings. They have been monitoring the wild turkey population and how it's been declining over the last few years, so they have an active project for citizen science. Private citizens submit when they're seeing flocks of local turkeys so the PA Game Commission has a better idea how the flocks are doing.

McMahon said he's curious to know from both Pennsylvania and New York environmental agencies, with the Minnewaska fire, if they are using this moment to talk about the difference between a wildfire that burns hot and an integral part of low burn fires. He's seen a lot on the news and social media and is wondering if PA and NY are using their platforms to share how fire was used historically in the northeast. Dugan said they do have an active program for wildfire prevention and education. Smoky Bear is the national symbol that they use as well as a lot of educational material. However, they have been expanding a lot of communications about using fire as a tool in resource management and property protection. It is a growing educational factor in their realm and a lot of it's coming out on social media. Recently there were some Federal grant funds that became available, and they are going to be helping to advocate the use of those out to the communities in our region. That's for protecting around wildland urban interface. Those are communities that are or could be prone to wildland fire. Dugan said think of a forested residential development. There's a lot of fuel in close proximity to houses, and with that funding comes an educational factor. Educating the homeowners, the HOA, the community, the association, the township, whatever level it may go to about doing some preventative maintenance as well as fuel reduction, so that's prescribed fire or it could just be through mechanized reduction. Dugan said it is something they are certainly trying to increase the education aspect of. In terms of prescribed fire, they do have a pretty good social media presence to send out when they are doing a prescribed fire in the area, and then they add right in with that to the best of their ability the reasons why. It's for habitat improvement as well as fuel reduction, and an effort to reduce the opportunity for catastrophic wildfire.

**National Park Service-Upper Delaware:** Weinman said as many of you probably heard we, unfortunately, did have our first drowning this past weekend on Saturday. A young male north of Pond Eddy bridge went swimming. He was on a rafting trip with his family and did not have a lifejacket.

The Regional office selected an acting superintendent; her name is Kara Deutsch. She's the Program Lead for Resource Management and Science Division at the Delaware Water Gap. She'll be at UPDE on a 120-assignment starting 9/25. They have also had the permanent announcement out on USAjobs since 8/24 which closed 9/7. Weinman will forward river visitation statistics.

Don Hamilton passed on a Natural Resources update. Natural Resources has been partnering with the Academy of Natural Science and Drexel University, and the Upper Delaware biologists completed a 2022 sampling and habitat assessment of 30 sites over the length of the Upper Delaware as part of their freshwater snail inventory project. Snails are abundant in the river or eaten by some fish. Their position in the food web makes them a key player in the transfer of energy between lower and higher organisms. They do have concerns about the prevalence of non-native Chinese Mystery Snail in some parts of the river and the potential for the New Zealand Mud Snail which is present in the downriver tributary. DNA sampling was also conducted and that will allow for detection of species via analysis of river water samples. From August to October, they do their Year of the Young Shad sampling which is the collaborative multi agency effort that samples 6 sites from the lower East Branch of the Delaware to Trenton, NJ. The data contributes to non-tidal Juvenile Abundance Index, American Shad utilized by the Delaware River Basin Fish and Wildlife Cooperative to factor into management decisions. They have good catches so far and they are all the way up to the lower East Branch. They do 3 nights each month.

**UDC Executive Director's Report:** Ramie shared that we received confirmation on 8/24 that our Fiscal Year 2023 federal funding package submitted on 7/11 was approved by the National Park Service Regional Awarding Officer as a modification to our Five-Year Cooperative Agreement. That covers our \$150,000 allocation for the first two quarters through March 31, 2023 before we need to apply again. We should be able to access those funds after 10/1. She has also been tracking final expenditures for Fiscal Year 2022 since we need to zero out our budget by Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>. The Operations Committee approved a list of projects on 8/23 but it's very much a moving target to implement

since the work we were doing led to unexpected expenses such as for a plumber to fix an inside leak that developed for our outside water faucet, and for an electrician when the outlet that powers most of the front office machinery including our modem went bad, and to buy new curtains after our drapes disintegrated when washed. She hopes everyone had a chance to notice the landscaping project by Leons Freddie of the Narrowsburg Beautification Group which removed unsightly weeds from the whole property and installed some hardy plants for which we need to buy a soaker hose and timer at Engelhardt's suggestion to maintain. Ramie will provide a more detailed update on where we stand at the 9/27 Operations meeting.

After this meeting and our Telecommunications Subcommittee work session that preceded it, Ramie will need to carve out time to exclusively focus on our awards ceremony preparations. Most imminently, there is a daunting 9/8 deadline to design and write the 16-page souvenir program that will include in-depth profiles on each of our 10 award recipients. Other tasks are to write the plaque inscriptions, do additional publicity, build out our guest list for the reservations that are due by 9/9, prepare name tags, and finish a script for the award presentations. She had an hour-long Zoom meeting with our keynote speaker Congressman Matt Cartwright's aide, April Niver, on 8/24 to discuss current issues she and Engelhardt have been conducting interviews with some of our honorees to gather additional information as needed for the booklet.

Ramie had mentioned to the Operations Committee that an anonymous donor to the WJFF Radio Catskill Spring Fund Drive chose the UDC as a non-profit beneficiary to receive \$250 worth of commercials for her contribution. She was told that at the Narrowsburg Riverfest by Station Manager Tim Bruno but didn't hear anything further about it, so she reached out on Monday to inquire what she had to do to take advantage of that. The answer was to provide a script for a 30-second spot which she did this morning, and she's happy to say that it already started airing this afternoon and will continue through 9/9. Engelhardt played the ad for the group. Ramie said whoever that anonymous donor was, we're grateful!

You may have seen on our social media that we posted an Upper Delaware River Paddle Trip that the Delaware Riverkeeper Network is organizing on Saturday, 9/24, for around 15 high school students from Pike and Wayne Counties. It's funded in part by the Grace Johansen Memorial Foundation and the William Penn Foundation, and includes a free 10-mile river trip, dinner, and optional tent camping through noon on Sunday. We were invited to have a UDC representative participate in any or all of that, including a conservation-oriented campfire chat with the students after dinner. They are working with Northeast Wilderness Experience on the logistics and the specific river section is to be determined. If any board member is interested in this, please let Ramie know and she will connect them with Fred Stine, the Riverkeeper's community action coordinator.

Please see our September and October calendars noting meetings, activities and deadlines. Ramie is working to confirm an invitation we have extended for the 10/6 UDC presentation.

### **New Business**

**Brief Presentation on the NY Clean Water, Clean Air, and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act:** Ramie said we have a ten-minute presentation that our friends from the Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed and Friends of the Upper Delaware River (FUDR). She said there is some interesting information about this environmental bond act that is not well known to the public. While it is NYS legislation, she thinks it will have application beyond that.

High Garst from the Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed and Jeff Skelding, FUDR Executive Director, showed a PoweverPoint presentation. Skelding said voters are going to vote on New York Environmental Bond Act on 11/8. It got the green light from the New York State Governor a couple of years ago but with COVID they made a decision not to do it and put it on hold. It is back in action, and it's going to be on the November ballot. Skelding and Garst are presenting as an educational outreach. They aren't asking people to vote any which way. They want to make sure UDC is aware that this is happening and for those in PA, there's a similar fund. Garst shared that the Coalition for the Delaware Watershed is made of over 175 different organizational members, in all 4 of the Basin states, Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey and New York. Their New York membership voted to make the Bond Act one of the policy priorities for the State. On Election Day 2022, New York voters have a rare opportunity to cast their vote on a ballot initiative that would create a substantial and long-term investment in producing and restoring New York's environmental quality while creating an estimate 100,000 new jobs throughout the state. The NY Bond Act will generate \$4.2 billion in statewide funding to support conservation projects that will benefit people, communities, local economies, and environmental quality. If it is approved by voters in November, the Clean Air,

Clean Water, and Green Jobs Bond Act would be the first act of its kind since 1996. Previous bond acts have benefited all parts of NYS including investments in public parks, funding for wildlife, conservation, open space preservation, water infrastructure investment, toxic site cleanups, and so much more. The reason that this was taken on by their coalition is because they believe that this funding could go to benefit the Upper Delaware and in turn the river that that connects all their work within the Coalition. Skelding provided examples of what the Environmental Bond Act could do in the Upper Delaware River: repair and replace aging water and wastewater infrastructure; preserve NYS farms and farmland; build community resiliency in the face of changing weather patterns; create local jobs to implement on-the-ground conservation projects; enhance community parks and outdoor recreational opportunities; and address the economic/environmental inequities of the Upper Delaware Region. Skelding said they've done well bringing Federal funds in from the Federal Delaware River program, almost \$5 million since its inception in 2018, and then with UDC's help they were also able to secure a new line item in the New York State Environmental Protection Fund for the Upper Delaware River, which is a historic accomplishment. Never have they been able to so specify a state investment in their region in that big Environmental Protection Fund program. Passage of the NYS Environmental Bond Act in November could supercharge the DRBRP and EPF investments in the Upper Delaware River and help elevate the public and political profile of our watershed, placing it where it deserves as one of New York's most iconic waterbodies. The New York State Clean Air, Clean Water, and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act will appear on the back side of the 11/8 election day ballot- make sure to "flip it over" when voting! There will be a NYS Environmental Bond Act Public Education Event on Wednesday, 9/21 from 6-8 at the Catskill Brewery in Livingston Manor.

#### **Draft Letter to NPS: Substantial Conformance Review 2022-03: Camp FIMFO Catskills, Town**

**of Highland, Special Use Permit Recommendation:** Boyar thanked resident engineer/staff member Engelhardt for guiding us through our substantial conformance review. He said he does not have much of a problem with the findings, each standing alone, based on what the Project Review Committee knows of the project so far. While all the checked boxes may add up to an approval by this council, it doesn't add up in his mind. The sum is more impactful than the individual parts. Boyar must dissent for several reasons, if only to alert the NPS and the Town of Highland Planning Board that there are unanswered concerns. Briefly some of them are: On busy weekend there is already a bottleneck on Rt. 97 with pedestrians, bicyclists, motorcycles and vehicles, and traffic. Now consider doubling that traffic. What is the plan? There is no plan. If there is an area hotspot for emergency services, it is already at the river. Highland has about 2,200 residents. Now visualize doubling that number based on weekends. Is that fair to emergency service providers? Consider especially the applicant intends to seek a tax abatement. The fire service and ambulance service do not share in PILOTS or Payments in Lieu of Taxes. This is likely to be the largest project ever in the river corridor. Is it suitably sized for the host town and the river corridor generally or is it too big? What were the anticipated water use and septic waste needs based on and are they accurate? This is already a very busy venue with camping, zipline and the river livery business. How many more people will be drawn to the site by the waterpark and the mountain coaster? Where are the numbers on additional daily use? They are yet undisclosed and unknown. The plans now available at the Highland Town Hall show many campsites on the Beaver Brook. These plans depict large swaths of clearing for tent sites along this stocked trout stream. The trees not only shade the stream for the benefit of cold-water species but also stabilize its banks during high water run-off events and prevent undue silting into the Delaware. These streamside campsites must be abated or moved away from the stream. Maybe we should ask an eight-year-old if these are cabins or recreational vehicles. Maybe we'd get an honest answer, Boyar continued. The standard park model sleeps 10. The median park model sleeps 8. All these units have a kitchen and bathroom and are hooked up to electricity, water, and sewage. It's a small home by any honest account. Normally hundreds of new homes would be a major subdivision. Shouldn't we hold these small homes to residential standards as once permanently installed, skirted, and with water, septic, firepits, decks and parking, are they RV's any longer? Finally, is the size and scope of this project as currently formulated consistent with the peaceful scenic nature of a river recreational experience? He questions this. For these reasons, and for all the questions yet unanswered Boyar said he must vote no. Discussion continued. Sullivan said she regrets that she voted affirmatively to send this to the full committee, because she thinks there's just not enough information. Greier said this is the largest development that we've ever had to act on. We're setting a precedent here for every hamlet along this river. Robinson said it's really the township's call on whether they want to set the precedent. UDC has a very narrow field of intervention as it relates to the RMP (River Management Plan).

Weinman announced that NPS will require a soil investigation to be completed at Outfall #21; site plans needs to show proposed limits of disturbance and any clearing limits; the intention with regard to the Delaware & Hudson

Canal bed; and the plans must be signed and sealed by a professional engineer before the NPS officially begins its review.

A roll call vote taken. Henry moved Roeder seconded 6 aye (Hancock, Delaware, Cohecton, Deerpark, Berlin, Shohola), 4 nay (Tusten, Highland, Lumberland, and Damascus), 1 abstention (Fremont). Engelhardt will revise and send the Substantial Conformance Review 2022-03: Camp FIMFO Catskills Special Use Permit recommendation letter, noting the vote outcome and attaching the complete report, to NPS with a copy to the Highland Planning Board.

**Draft Letter to NPS Director Sams: UDC Comments on UPDE Superintendent Vacancy:** A Motion by Henry seconded by Robinson to send the approved letter to NPS Director Chuck Sams copied to the NPS Regional leadership re: UDC Comments on UPDE Superintendent Vacancy carried. Weinman said that while she appreciates the UDC's vote of confidence in her abilities, she does not intend to apply for the position.

**Draft Letter to U.S. DOT Secretary Buttigieg: Support for the Delaware River Bridge Bundle:** A Motion by Robsinson seconded by Roeder to send the approved letter to U.S. DOT Secretary Pete Buttigieg by 9/2 for submission with the NYS DOT and PennDOT's federal funding application package carried.

**Change 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday Water Use/Resource Management Committee Meetings to 6:30 p.m.?:** A Motion by Dudko seconded by Henry to change the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday monthly Water Use/Resource Management Committee start time from 7 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. effective 9/20/22 on all calendars, meeting notices, the UDC website, and newsletter references carried.

**Other:** None.

#### **Old Business**

**NPS 8/31 Substantial Conformance Determination: Town of Tusten Zoning Law Amendment:** A copy of the NPS letter concurring with the UDC's recommendation of the Town of Tusten's Zoning Law Amendment Substantial Conformance was provided in the meeting packet.

**34<sup>th</sup> Annual UDC River Valley Awards Ceremony 9/18; Reservations due by 9/9:** Reserve seats by 9/9 for the UDC's 34<sup>th</sup> Annual River Valley Awards to be held on 9/18 at Central House Family Resort in Beach Lake, PA.

**Other:** None.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Executive Session:** Motion by Richardson seconded by Henry to go into Executive Session at 9:21 p.m. carried. A Motion to come out of Executive Session by Robinson seconded by Roeder carried at 9:26 p.m. On a motion by Dudko, seconded by Greier the recommendations for personnel and salaries carried. As Personnel Subcommittee chair, Henry will notify Ramie of the outcome of the approved recommendation regarding personnel and salaries so she can implement any required actions.

**Adjournment:** A motion by Roeder, seconded by Robinson, to adjourn the meeting at 9:27 p.m. was carried.