



**Central Pine Barrens Commission Meeting Summary**  
**Wednesday, January 17, 2024 (Approved 2/21/24)**  
**Riverhead Town Hall**  
**4 West Second Street**  
**Riverhead, NY 11901**  
**2:00 pm**

**Commission members present:** Ms. DiBrita (for Brookhaven), Mr. Hubbard and Mr. Charter (for Riverhead), Ms. Moore, Ms. Scherer and Mr. Shea (for Southampton) and Ms. Lansdale (for the Suffolk County Executive).

**Others present:** Commission and other agency staff members included Ms. Jakobsen, Mr. Milazzo, Ms. Hargrave, Mr. Motz, Ms. Weigand, Mr. Carbone, Ms. Drew and Ms. Brown-Walton.

The meeting started with the pledge to the flag. The motion was made by Mr. Hubbard and seconded by Ms. Lansdale to allow Ms. Jakobsen to serve as a non-voting moderator in the absence of Chairman Calarco. The motion was approved by 4.0 vote. Ms. Jakobsen noted with four Commission members present, there is a quorum.

Robert T. Calarco  
Chairman

Timothy C. Hubbard  
Member

Maria Z. Moore  
Member

Daniel J. Panico  
Member

Edward P. Romaine  
Member

Agenda items were taken out of order to commence the meeting with non-voting items while there was not a quorum. Ms. DiBrita arrived at approximately 2:30pm.

**1. Division Updates**

**a. Education and Science and Stewardship**

- I. *Education and Outreach Division: update*  
Summary: Mr. Motz discussed highlights and updates on the Education and Outreach division's activities covered in the previously distributed education and outreach division report
- II. *Science and Stewardship Division: update*  
Summary: Ms. Weigand discussed highlights and updates on the Science and Stewardship division's activities covered in the previously distributed science and stewardship division report.
- III. *New York Wildfire Incident Management Academy: update*  
Summary: Ms. Drew discussed highlights and updates on the NYWIMA Academy's activities covered in the previously distributed NYWIMA report.

**b. Planning, Land Use and the Pine Barrens Credit Program**

- I. *Compliance and Enforcement Division: update*  
Summary: Mr. Carbone discussed highlights and updates on the Compliance and Enforcement division's activities covered in the previously distributed compliance and enforcement division report.
- II. *Land Use Division: update*  
Summary: Ms. Hargrave discussed highlights and updates on the Land Use division's activities covered in the previously distributed land use division report.
- III. *Credit Program: update*  
Summary: Mr. Tverdy was not present the Credit Program division's activities were covered in the previously distributed Credit Program division report.

**2. Administrative and Public Comment**

- a. *Public Comment*  
Summary: No public comments were received.

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- b. *Minutes for 12/20/23 review*  
**Summary: The motion was made by Ms. DiBrita and seconded by Mr. Hubbard to adopt the December 20, 2023 meeting minutes. The motion was approved by 4:0 vote.**
  
- c. *Draft resolution for Commission to approve the purchase of an all-terrain vehicle for the Suffolk County Police Department*  
*Summary: Ms. Jakobson discussed the purchase of this vehicle is to support the Law Enforcement Counsel. The Commission assists with funding some LEC expenditures. The funds to purchase the vehicle will come from the Commission's violation fund acquired from land use penalties and incidents relating to the Pine Barrens.*

**The motion was made by Ms. Moore and seconded by Mr. Hubbard to approve the purchase of an all-terrain vehicle for the Suffolk County Police Department. The motion was approved by 4:0 vote.**

- d. *Draft resolution to appoint Chair and Vice Chair of the Protected Lands Council*  
*Summary: Ms. Weigand discussed the need for the Protected Lands Council to appoint a Chair and Vice Chair. Mr. Thomas Casey and Mr. John Wernet are willing to continue to serve respectively in 2024.*

**The motion was made by Ms. DiBrita and seconded by Ms. Lansdale to approve the appointment of Mr. Thomas Casey as Chair and Mr. John Wernet as Vice Chair of the Protective Lands Council. The motion was approved by 4:0 vote.**

**3. Presentation on the Central Pine Barrens and Commission**

*Summary: Ms. Jakobsen presented to the Commission Members and Designated Representatives the Long Island Central Pine Barrens with a focus on Development Project Review. The discussion topics included the creation of the Act, the Long Island Pine Barrens Protection Act, Central Pine Barrens Joint Planning & Policy Commission, Development Project Review.*

**4. Development Project Review and Decisions  
 Core Preservation Area**

- a. **CVE North America Solar at Westhampton Property Associates** Core Preservation Area Hardship Waiver Application and request to amend a conservation easement / east of Speonk Riverhead Road, Speonk / 900-276-3-1 and 2 / development of a 25 acre solar facility on a 91 acre sand mine in the CR 200 zoning district / decision deadline 01/17/24 / request for one-month extension of the decision deadline to 2/21/24

**Summary: The motion was made by Ms. DiBrita and seconded by Mr. Hubbard to approve the extension of the decision deadline to February 21, 2024 meeting. The motion was approved by 4:0 vote.**

- b. **Gosselin Property** Core Preservation Area hardship / Wildwood Lake, Riverside / 900-164-4-11 and 12 / *technical clarification on decision*  
*Summary: Ms. Hargrave discussed this hardship waiver decision was granted last month. There was a minor technical clarification on the decision that has been added to the draft resolution Gosselin Property-Correction Core Preservation Area Hardship Waiver. The clarification is related to the project conforming to the plan project site that was submitted on October 25, 2023.*

**The motion was made by Ms. Lansdale and seconded by Ms. Moore to approve to send the draft resolution Gosselin Property-Correction. The motion was approved by 4:0 vote.**

**Compatible Growth Area**

- c. **Riverside Sewage Treatment Plant** Compatible Growth Area Hardship Waiver / development of a sewage treatment plant with a maximum effluent of 800,000 gallons per day / *schedule a public hearing*  
*Summary: Ms. Hargrave discussed that the Riverside Sewage Treatment Plant Compatible Growth Area Hardship Waiver is on the agenda to schedule a public hearing. Ms. Moore and Ms. Scherer discussed the size of the project which will need to be broken up in two phases. The Town of Southampton will focus on phase one and coordinate efforts with the Town of Riverhead. The full scale of the project will be addressed at the public hearing.*

***The motion was made by Mr. Hubbard and seconded by Ms. DiBrita to schedule a Public Hearing for February 21, 2024. The motion was approved by 4:0 vote.***

**5. Public Comment**

*Summary: No public comments were received.*

**6. Closed Advisory Session**

*The motion was made by Ms. Lansdale and seconded by Ms. Moore to close the public portion of the meeting and to move into an advisory session for the purpose of discussing enforcement matters and obtaining legal advice from Commission counsel the Commission would not return to public session. The motion was approved by a 4:0 vote.*

*Meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:00 pm*

Attachments (in order of discussion)

1. Draft Commission meeting summary for December 20, 2023
2. Final Commission meeting summary for December 20, 2023
3. Draft resolution for the Commission to authorize the purchase of one All-Terrin vehicle for the Suffolk County Policy Department dated January 17, 2024
4. Final resolution for the Commission to authorize the purchase of one All-Terrin vehicle for the Suffolk County Policy Department dated January 17, 2024
5. Draft resolution for the Commission to appoint the Protected Lands Council Chair and Vice Chair for Calendar Year 2024 dated January 17, 2024
6. Final resolution for the Commission to appoint the Protected Lands Council Chair and Vice Chair for Calendar Year 2024 dated January 17, 2024
7. Environmental Outreach and Communication Division Update dated January 2024
8. Science and Stewardship Division update dated January 17, 2023
9. New York Wildfire and Incident Management Academy update
10. Compliance and Enforcement Division update dated November – December 2023
11. Credit Program update dated January 17, 2024
12. Land Use Division update dated January 17, 2024
13. Presentation on the Central Pine Barrens Development Project Review dated January 17, 2024
14. Letter from GreenbergTraurig to the Commission regarding application extension for CVE North America core hardship dated January 8, 2024
15. Draft resolution on the Gosselin Property Core Preservation Area Hardship Waiver-Correction dated January 17, 2024
16. Final resolution on the Gosselin Property Core Preservation Area Hardship Waiver-Correction dated January 17, 2024
17. Town of Southampton Letter application and attachments regarding the Riverside Sewage Treatment Plant Conformance to Hardship Waiver dated January 3, 2023, corrected to January 3, 2024.