

# Attendance Sheets

District	Last Name	Present	Absent	Present/Late
District 13 - Towns of LaGrange, Union Vale, and Wappinger	Bolner	✓		
District 3 - Town of LaGrange	Borchert	✓		
District 19 - Towns of North East, Stanford, Pine Plains, Milan	Cooper	✓		
District 1 - Town of Poughkeepsie	Doxsey	✓		
District 6 - Town of Poughkeepsie	Flesland	✓		
District 18 - City of Beacon	Forman	✓		
District 14 - Town of Wappinger	Goldberg	✓		
District 2 - Towns of Pleasant Valley and Poughkeepsie	Horn	✓	X	✓
District 21 - Town of East Fishkill	Horton	✓		
District 22 - Town of Beekman	Hutchings	✓		
District 15 - Towns of Poughkeepsie and Wappinger	Incoronato	✓		
District 10 - City of Poughkeepsie	Jeter-Jackson	✓		
District 25 - Amenia, Stanford, Washington, Pleasant Valley	Kelsey	✓	✓	
District 7 - Town of Hyde Park	Kuffner	✓		
District 16 - Towns of Fishkill, East Fishkill and City of Beacon	MacAvery	✓		
District 17 - Town and Village of Fishkill	Miccio	✓		
District 8 - City and Town of Poughkeepsie	Rolison	✓		
District 5 - Town of Poughkeepsie	Roman	✓		
District 4 - Town of Hyde Park	Sadowski, Jr.	✓	✓	
District 24 - Towns of Dover and Union Vale	Surman	✓		
District 23 - Town/Village of Pawling, Beekman and East Fishkill	Thomes	✓		
District 20 - Town of Red Hook	Traudt	✓		
District 11 - Towns of Rhinebeck and Clinton	Tyner	✓		
District 12 - Town of East Fishkill	Weiss	✓		
District 9 - City of Poughkeepsie	White	✓		
<b>Present:</b>	<u>22</u>	<b>Total:</b>	22	3
<b>Absent:</b>	<u>3</u>		2	1
<b>Vacant:</b>	<u>0</u>		(PP)	

Date: 11/10/11

November 10, 2011

Thank you and Good evening again Mr. Chairman; Good Evening Legislators.

My Name is Shaun Chesley. I own our home in the Town of Poughkeepsie and I am a Dutchess County Employee working for the Department of Mental Hygiene.

Last evening I addressed the Legislature and announced that the County Executives suggested 2012 Tentative Budget which suggests the Laying off of employees of the Department of Mental Hygiene was an illegal action against the Collective Bargaining Agreement between The CSEA and Dutchess County. Tonight I bring each of you the wording of that agreement for your consideration.

Page 25 of our Legally Binding Agreement states:

*Section 12 part (b)*

*Contracting Out. The County will not exercise its right to contract out if the result of contracting out is the layoff or discharge of then existing Employees.*

CSEA had agreed to the past practice of Attrition and Job Sharing, a past practice that had successfully worked in the past. Again: We ask that you reject this illegal proposal and return to the past practice of the agreed upon transition plans.

Respectfully submitted,  
Shaun E. Chesley  
32 Kohlanaris Dr.  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601  
Cell: 845-705-6479  
Email: schesley@hotmail.com

**Dutchess County Legislature Board Meeting**  
**Thursday, November 10, 2011 @ 7:00 pm**

I'm Linda Keech, the Executive Director for Dutchess County's Cooperative Extension. Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the County Executive's Tentative 2012 Budget.

In December last year I stated that we were prepared to make difficult choices and we have. The \$590,000 reduction over two years in our county appropriated funding has been challenging. We had to reduce staff significantly, 40 to 25, impacting resources and programs provided to County residents.

If 2011 county funding is upheld for 2012, we're projecting that 80% of our 2012 budget monies will come from sources other than those core County-appropriated dollars.

- Our ingenious and dedicated staff have stepped up to the challenge - continuing to aggressively seek out and secure new funding through grants.
- The efforts of our NEW Fund Raising Adhoc Committee with both board and staff members working together were outstanding. These efforts plus corporate development work are an important aspect of continuing to diversify our funding streams
- Plus, we are implementing shared services to increase efficiencies: IT, HR and Finance services with neighboring counties and continuing to build upon current shared educational program services such as our Regional Fruit Program.

As a subordinate **governmental** 501C3 agency, our funding is **legally** dependent upon County appropriated dollars. Everything we do is in strict compliance with New York State Law Section 224 that states: "Cooperative extension work in a county may consist of programs in the fields of agriculture, home economics, 4-H and community betterment." That includes:

- Our primary prevention youth programs for 4-Hers who will be our future workforce, community and political leaders;

- Our diagnostics – trainings - and research for farmers whose small family businesses are critical to our economy, tourism, local food supplies and our open spaces;
- Our nutrition education for families and individuals who are striving to make healthy choices and struggle with their own limited resources;
- The tools and resources utilized by Dutchess County municipalities and organizations to make more informed and collaborative decisions regarding land use, invasive species, preparedness, environmental issues and our natural resources. Natural resources that each of us and humankind, relies on to exist and survive.

We are a resilient organization committed to serving the residents of Dutchess County. We are able to continue to do so because of our constituents, our supporters, our volunteers, our collaborators and partnerships. And because of our Dutchess County Legislators with your foresight, commitment, and dedication to bettering the lives of the residents of Dutchess County.

We THANK the Legislators for your efforts last year to restore as much county appropriated funding as you could for 2011. For 2012 we ask that you uphold our current county appropriated funding for 4-H, Nutrition, Agriculture/Horticulture and Environment/Energy. The County Executive's tentative 2012 Budget essentially does this and more for all program areas with the exception of Environment/Energy where he has proposed a \$25,000 decrease. \$25,000 essential to providing critical services to local municipalities.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, we would welcome discussing the proposed budget for CCEDC further. We'll have additional information for you by early next week. THANK YOU for your consideration.

- My name is Lalita Malik and I am the chair of the Dutchess County Environmental Management Council.
- I am here tonight to ask you to RESTORE the 23% funding cut of \$25,000 from the County Executive's tentative 2012 Dutchess County budget for the Cornell Cooperative Extension Environment & Energy Program, from \$85,000 to \$110,000.
- I want to emphasize the deliverables of the Dutchess County EMC and the support provided by the Environment and Energy Program staff. The EMC is a council formed under state and county law and is comprised of 11 appointed members who are all volunteers. Continuation of EMC projects, and the infrastructure to maintain the council, needs to be retained by a designated, stable agency whose responsibility includes this function.
- In the five short years that the EMC has been restructured to accomplish its mission with the support of Cornell Cooperative Extension's Environment and Energy Program, we have accomplished a great deal, including:
  - The update of the Dutchess County Natural Resource Inventory – which was last updated in 1985;
  - Enhanced watershed analysis and programs – such as support of watershed awareness month and the Jackson Creek Stream Assessment.
  - Analysis of issues including ethanol use in gasoline and the invasive Mile a Minute weed;
  - AND Initiatives such as a Week of Shopping Green and the Pharmaceutical Take Back program.

- We are CURRENTLY updating the State of the Environment Report, which has not been done in almost 30 years. In fact, this report is required by State and county Law to be conducted every 3 years.
- Our work to consolidate information on municipal recycling and waste handling will directly help the county to reduce its waste stream. On November 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Legislature and EMC are holding a joint session sponsored with county waste haulers.
- All of our projects have provided VITAL information to the Legislature and residents of Dutchess County and contributed to the counties Green Initiatives.
- The proposed funding cut to CCE's Environment and Energy Program will jeopardize the mission of the EMC, and the strong position that this county currently has in environment and land use planning.
- While the proposed funding cut of \$25,000 may seem insignificant, the program's budget is already stretched to the limit.
- The caliber and expertise of the Environment & Energy Program staff have been successful in securing outside grants – the entire infrastructure of this program will be in jeopardy if we lose critical match from county funding required by outside grants.
- In Closing – I ask you to please consider restoring the \$25,000 in funding to the CCEDC Environment & Energy Program in the 2012.
- Thank you very much.

Subject: Dutchess County Budget

## **Dutchess County SPCA Humane Law Department Fact Sheet**

The Dutchess County SPCA investigates animal cruelty covering all of Dutchess County.

The DCSPCA employs two humane law enforcement officers who provide this service to the County Monday through Saturday, and on Sunday for emergencies.

Section 371 of Agriculture and Markets law ( which governs the laws protecting animals in New York State) reads: A constable or police officer **MUST**, and any agent or officer of a duly incorporated society for the prevention of cruelty to animals **MAY** issue an appearance ticket pursuant to section 150.20 of the criminal procedure law, summon or arrest, and bring before a court or magistrate having jurisdiction , any person offending against any of the provisions of article twenty –six of the agriculture and markets law.

This means that since the police **must** enforce these laws, that the burden would largely fall upon the already overburdened Sheriff's Department resulting in an additional cost to the county and ultimately to the taxpayers of our County.

Specialized training is required in this field, as well as the appropriate transport vehicles, and equipment for the safe handling of the animals.

Knowledge of animal handling is necessary as the animals are considered to be evidence in these cases. They must be safely handled, properly photographed, and seized if their health and well being is in jeopardy.

The Humane Law Enforcement Department of the DCSPCA, saves taxpayers many thousands of dollars. In addition:

We are integral to the health, safety and welfare of the constituents of Dutchess County. We investigate dog fighting rings which promote animal cruelty, gambling, and illegal drug use.

Many times during animal cruelty investigations family violence has been detected. During our investigations we have found evidence that children have been abused, and report such abuse to Child Protective Services, thus playing a key role in their survival.

Additionally, when investigating animal cruelty, we have found not only the animals starving, living in feces and generally unhealthy conditions, but the elderly living in the same conditions, and unable to help themselves. We have engaged the help of Adult Protective Services.

Domestic violence is also linked to animal abuse, and in some cases, the alleged perpetrator has been removed from the home as a result of our investigation. We currently collaborate with the Grace Smith House to provide the Safe Pet Sheltering Program. The DCSPCA provides a safe haven for a victims pet while she is housed at the domestic violence shelter. Our hope is that many women's lives will be saved if they do not remain in the home because they fear that harm will come to their animals.

Without the intervention of the Humane Law Department, the county will absorb the cost of implementing the laws protecting the helpless animals.

Our service not only saves the taxpayers money, but our Humane Law Enforcement officers are essential to the health, safety and welfare of the people and animals of Dutchess County.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
2012 TENTATIVE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the County Legislature of Dutchess County will meet at 7:00 p.m., in the Legislative Chambers, County Office Building, 22 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, New York on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November 2011 for the purpose of holding a Public Hearing on the Tentative Budget as submitted by the County Executive of said county for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2012.

**FURTHER NOTICE** is hereby given that copies of said Tentative Budget are available at the Office of the Budget Director, Sixth Floor, County Office Building, Poughkeepsie, after November 1, where they may be inspected or procured by interested persons during regular business hours.

**PATRICIA J. HOHMANN  
CLERK  
DUTCHESS COUNTY LEGISLATURE**

**DATED: October 17, 2011**



