ENVIRONMENT

RESOLUTION NO. 2025076

RE: REAPPOINTMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS TO THE DUTCHESS COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Legislators D'AQUANNI, HOUSTON, POLASEK, GORMAN, and PAOLONI, and offer the following and move its adoption:

WHEREAS, vacancies will exist on the Dutchess County Environmental Management Council due to terms that will be expiring, and

RESOLVED, that the Dutchess County Legislature does hereby reappoint and appoint the following as members of the Dutchess County Environmental Management Council for the terms indicated:

REAPPOINTMENTS	TERM EXPIRES
Constance Kustas LaGrangeville, NY 12540	June 30, 2027
James A. Fredrickson Waapingers Falls, NY 12590	June 30, 2027
Victoria Kelly Millbrook, NY 12545	June 30, 2027
Nancy Severns Poughkeepsie, NY 12603	June 30, 2027
Kathleen Susman Poughkeepsie, NY 12603	June 30, 2027
David Mergendahl Red Hook, NY 12571	June 30, 2027

APPOINTMENTS	TERM EXPIRES
Elizabeth J. Kucinich Poughkeepsie, NY 12603 (Replacing Shannon Fatum)	June 30, 2027
Jefferson H. Akins, P.E. Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 (Replacing Kerri Ann Wright)	June 30, 2026

APPROVED
Susan Serino
SUSAN J. SERINO
COUNTY EXECUTIVE
Date 6-11-2025

STATE OF NEW YORK
ss:
COUNTY OF DUTCHESS

This is to certify that I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Dutchess, have compared the foregoing resolution with the original resolution now on file in the office of said clerk, and which was adopted by said Legislature on the 9th day of June 2025, and that the same is a true and correct transcript of said original resolution and of the whole thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of said Legislature this 9th day of June 2025.

DUTCHESS COUNTY SEAL

Leigh Wager
LEIGH WAGER, CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE

ELIZABETH J. KUCINICH
https://www.linkedin.com/in/elizabethkucinich

Transformational systems thinker dedicated to peace and justice. Communications, policy and partnerships executive focused on strengthening the pillars of human and ecological security. Motivated and inspired by the beauty and complex intelligence of nature, I work with domestic and international organizations, businesses, academics, funders and governments to strengthen those who work to bring social, economic, health, agricultural, energy and ecological systems into balance.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- Committed to transformative policy with expertise in governance, international relations, humanitarian advocacy, ecological restoration, agriculture, and regulatory reform.
- Nationally recognized policy leader with experience shaping local, state, federal, and international levels.
- Broader engagement in the U.S., U.K., Europe, Middle East, China, India, and East Africa.
- Media-ready spokesperson. Skilled communicator translating complex policies for diverse audiences, including media, policymakers, and grassroots organizations.
- 25+ years advocacy and movement-building, spanning strategy, governance, fundraising, coalition-building and communications.
- Current affairs analyst writer and award-winning environmental documentary producer.
- Deep understanding of the U.S. political system, with roles as a campaign executive, policy strategist, lobbyist, and spouse of a former U.S. Member of Congress and US Presidential candidate.

EDUCATION

- **MA International Conflict Analysis**, University of Kent, UK (2000-2001)
- **BA (Hons.) Religious Studies and Theology**, University of Kent, UK (1997-2000)

APPOINTMENTS

- **Member, Town of Poughkeepsie Conservation Advisory Commission (CAC)**, NY (2025)
- **Expert Member, European Commission: Sino-EU Panel on Land and Soil**, Italy (2018-20)
- **Professor, Coventry University Vice Chancellor's Advisory Council**, UK (2016-2025)

ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP

- Founder, **Kucinich Institute for Human and Ecological Security** (2017 - on)
- Founder, **Strawberry Hill Farm and Nature Preserve**, Poughkeepsie, NY (2015 - on)
- Board Member, **Hudson Carbon,** M.M.R. & V. for soil carbon and ecosystem services (2023-2025)
- Board Member, **Groundswell International**, strengthening agroecology internationally (2019-2022)
- Board Member, **HER Resiliency Center**, helping DC's vulnerable women to thrive (2017-2021)
- Board Member, **UNRWA USA** supporting UN's work for Palestine Refugees (2014-2018)
- Board Policy Chair, **Rodale Institute**, America's oldest organic agriculture institute (2012-2018)
- Founding Board Member, **J/P HRO**, Sean Penn's Haitian Relief Organization (2010-2015)
- Helped to establish the **Plant Based Foods Association**, the **Organic Farmer's Association, Regenerative Organic Alliance** (ROA) and the **Regenerative Organic Certification** (ROC)

PUBLIC SPEAKING & CONFERENCE PANELS (examples)

- **Keynote:** Transforming Restoration Finance, ***Caux Dialogues on Land and Security*, Switzerland**
- **Full Day Keynote: *US-China Dialogue on Food, Soil and Health*, Kunming, China**
- **Panel:** Changing the Narrative and the Importance of Language, ***UNCCD COP13*, Inner Mongolia**
- **Panel:** Women and the Green Energy Economy, ***Future Energy World Expo*, Astana, Kazakhstan**
- **Keynote:** Transforming Ag., ***Addressing the Climate Threat (Soil Climate) Conference*, Paris, France**

- **Keynote:** Empowering Women through Education, ***M. McNamara Foundation*, World Bank, USA**

WORK HERSTORY

- **Partner, Consultant, Kucinich Consulting LLC, (2015 - present)**
  Areas include appreciative inquiry, international relations, agriculture and nutrition, new economics, innovative finance, regenerative capitalism, debt-based monetary reform, land stewardship and regeneration, climate, energy, human security, health and wellness, peace and compassion. Examples of engagements:

  - **Global Partnerships Director** to GEM, a Monaco-based environmental media company (2020-21)
  - **Agriculture Policy, Campaigns, Government Engagement, Exec. Advisor**: Compassion in World Farming (2024 - on), TNC (2021/22), Earthjustice (2020), Kiss the Ground (2021)
    Helped to organize the US Congressional Agriculture Committee's first hearing on regenerative agriculture
  - **Business & Leadership Development, Investor Relations and Global Partnerships** - MyLand, a US soil health company focused on the role of indigenous soil microalgae (2020-2024); Hudson Carbon (2023)

- **Congressional Liaison for the 63rd President of the UN General Assembly**, NYC/DC (2008/2009)
  Worked with the UNPGA and his staff throughout 'The Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress/**Stiglitz Commission**,' promoted commission's suggested reforms to prevent a repeat 2007/08 international financial system collapse to US Congressional leadership
- **Policy Director**, ***Center for Food Safety***, Washington, D.C. (2013-2015)
  Advocacy and legislative campaigns. Fundraising and donor relations. Spokesperson. Writer. Strategic relationship building: US gov., Hollywood, UN, the food industry; media; advocacy relating to GMOs, pollinator protection, factory farms, drugs and chemicals in industrial food, governance and regulation.
- **Government Affairs Director**, ***Physicians Committee***, Washington, D.C. (2009-2013)
  Campaigns, fundraising, government and donor relations. Op-ed author. Spokesperson
  Focused on disease prevention, Child Nutrition Reauthorization and nonanimal medical research
- **Gov Relations, *American Monetary Institute***, N.Y. (2005-08)
  Organized AMI's first international conference. Worked with Congressional legislative counsel to write and introduce HR 2990: The NEED Act, reforming US debt-based money system
- **Fundraising Trusts and Legacies Officer**, ***The Mission to Seafarers***, London, UK (2003-2005)
- **English Teacher & Community Development Worker**, ***VSO***, Rural Tanzania (2002-2003)
  Developed an intermediate technology rainwater harvesting and micro-biogas project opened by VP of Tz.

MEDIA & DOCUMENTARY PRODUCTION

- **Contributor & Editor, *The Kucinich Report***, current affairs, foreign & domestic policy, 91K+ subscribers
- **Producer & Narrator *Organic Rising*** (released 2023)
- **Producer**, ***Hot Water***, award-winning doc. on uranium and radioactive ground water (released 2016)
- **Executive Producer**, ***GMO OMG***, winner of Hollywood's '2014 Environmental Media Award' (2011-14)
- **Advisor & Narrator**, ***Circle of Poison***, on US-banned yet exported agricultural chemicals (2015)
- **Advisor**, ***Ground Operations: From Battle Fields to Farm Fields*** - veterans in agriculture, healing PTSD

VOLUNTARY POSITIONS

- **Volunteer**, ***Iona Community for Peace & Social Justice***, Isle of Iona, Scotland (Apr-Jun 2015)
- **Refugee Case Worker**, ***British Red Cross***, London, UK (2004-2005)
- **Detained Asylum Seeker Support Worker**, ***London Detainee Support Group***, London, UK (2004-2005)
- **Executive Assistant, *Forum for Stable Currencies*, House of Lords**, London, UK (1997-2005)
- **Project Director & Teacher**, education project for 'untouchable' children, Dhandupura, India (1996-1997)
- **Care Assistant**, ***Missionaries of Charity*** (Mother Teresa Home), Agra, India (1996)
- **Volunteer Park Ranger Assistant**, ***Belhus Woods Country Park***, Essex, UK (1994-1996)
- **Citizen Lobbyist, *Compassion in World Farming, UK,*** London, Brussels & Luxemburg (1990-2005)

ADVISORY BOARDS

- ***Liberal Arts and Food Studies Advisory Council,*** *Culinary Institute of America,* Hyde Park NY (2017-22)
- ***DC EFF***, the world's largest environmental film festival, Washington, DC (2015-2020)

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Poughkeepsie NY 12601
Phone (cell) 845 220-8841
Email: akinshill89@gmail.com

Jefferson H. Akins, P.E.

Objective

Apply professional, academic and practical experience to promote societal resource management, education and/or protection strategies for private, public or non-profit agencies. Work may include travel beyond my home region as required for projects, conferences, networking, business or professional development.

Education

B.S. Civil Engineering, 1987
Lafayette College – Easton, Pennsylvania

M.S. Environmental Policy, 2004
Bard College – Annandale-on-Hudson, New York

Work experience

March 2018 – June 2019 R.K. Hite & Co. Inc. Avon, NY

Property Rights Specialist

- Conduct real property acquisitions for federal-aid and New York State financed public works projects in accordance with Eminent Domain Procedure Law. Facilitate public participation and understanding of municipal agencies purchasing FEE simple, permanent and temporary easements allowing construction of publicly funded projects impacting private property. Negotiate solutions with a variety of property owners (e.g. – individuals, corporations, religious institutions, etc.) by coordinating with engineering consultants, municipalities and federal/state/county agencies to ensure compliance with state/federal regulations.

Nov. 2005 – Sept. 2016 Dutchess Co. DPW Poughkeepsie, NY

Assistant Civil Engineer II

- Design and construction management of highway, rail-trail, drainage and related public works projects. Manage federal-aid and grant funded projects while supervising consultants and in-house personnel. Negotiate and supervise real property acquisitions. Developed and implemented County-wide Phase II stormwater management compliance and assisted other County Departments with various other federal, state and/or local regulatory compliance issues. Designed water & wastewater systems and recreational amenities for Parks Department. Closed and monitored County solid waste facility. Trained and supervised junior engineering staff and a wide variety of County staff.

2005 –2011 Dutchess Community College, Poughkeepsie, NY

Adjunct Instructor

- Prepared syllabus, coursework, examination plus lecture/laboratory materials for surveying course taught to architectural, construction and engineering technicians.

1997 – 2005 Dewkett Engineering, P.C. Rhinebeck, NY

Project Manager/Project Engineer

- Application of environmental and civil engineering principles as project manager (*coordinating in-house staff and consultant*s) and professionally licensed engineer. Projects include: residential and commercial development (*roadway design, drainage, utility relocation, water/wastewater system, etc.*), construction management, land development assessment (*wetlands, archeological, environmental, bioassay*), brownfield remediation (*NY Gold Medal, Year 2000 - Environmental Engineering*), structural design (*retaining wall, concrete slab*), Phase II Stormwater management, hydrology/hydraulics, M&PT, solid waste management, dam analysis and permitting, procedural SEQR, expert testimony, municipal Planning Board Engineer, geotechnical evaluations, specification writing, grant preparation and municipal park design. Professional duties include technical engineering, proposal and contract development, client development/management, consultant marketing and project fiscal accounting.

Fall 2003 Dutchess Community College Poughkeepsie, NY

Adjunct Instructor

- Prepared syllabus, coursework, examination and presentation materials for technical drafting course taught to engineering technicians.

1989 – 1997 Morris Associates Poughkeepsie, NY

Senior Engineer

- Civil/environmental design of projects including: solid waste management (*landfill closures, transfer station design), hydrologic/hydraulics/drainage design, geotechnical investigations (groundwater monitoring, subsurface boring programs*), Town/Planning Board engineer, SEQR assessment (*Short and Long EAF/DEIS/FEIS preparation*), public water system design, construction management and federal/state/local environmental permitting.

1987–1989 Lippincott Engineering Associates Riverside, NJ

Staff Engineer

- Civil engineering design primarily involving residential and commercial development as well as local, state and federal environmental permitting.

1985-1987 (summers) Estate Developers & Engineers Easton, PA

Survey Party Chief

- Run instrumentation/supervise crew with projects including: topographic surveying, boundary surveys, construction layout (residential/commercial development, storm sewer, sanitary sewer) and deed research. Reduction of field data into site plans and surveys.

1983-1985 D'Onofrio Associates East Hanover, NJ

Survey Party Chief

- Similar to above description

Professional Development

NYS Professional Engineer, current since 1992 (P.E. # 69679)
Boundaries, Easements & Ethics (2018)
Federal Wetlands Delineator, Institute for Wetland & Environmental Education & Research (IWEER), 2004 (lapsed)
Advanced SEQRA (Marist College) 1991
Understanding SEQRA (Marist College) 1990
Coordinating Zoning & Planning Board Actions (DCPD) 1990

Computer Skills

Macintosh & Microsoft operating systems (hardware & software), ArcGIS, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, AutoCAD and various other "packaged" (purchased) software. Also competent at hardware configuration and software/hardware trouble-shooting.

Activities

Winnakee Land Trust Easement Advisory Committee (2016 – 2018)
Wallkill Valley Rail Trail Association Board Member (2016 – 2017)
Highland United Soccer Club Board (2000-2003)
Head Men's Volleyball Coach – Dutchess Com. Col. (1996-1997)
Head Men's Lacrosse Coach – Vassar College (1993-1994)
Head Men's Club Lacrosse Coach – S.U.N.Y. New Paltz (1991-1992)
Charter Member – Mid-Hudson Volleyball Association (1994-2000)

Personal Interests

Avid hiker and outdoors person who enjoys gardening and adores rescue dogs. Developed through the course of grad-school academia; I read voraciously and practice "condensed writing" via Op-Ed journalism regarding environmental, political and philosophical topics. I strive to humbly emulate satirist Will Rogers, an apolitical provocateur of civic conversations who incited people to laugh at and somberly bemoan daily life. I appreciate the role of advocate-agitator, being respected as was Mary Harris "Mother" Jones who at one time was referred to by President Teddy Roosevelt as the "most dangerous woman in America ("*and she was 83 years old.. that's some kind of dangerous*" - Utah Phillips). Struggling for societal decency is a communal mitzvah.

References

Available upon request.

Environment Committee Roll Call

District	*Name*	*Yes*	*No*
District 7 - Hyde Park and Pleasant Valley	Truitt*	✓	
District 25 - Amenia, Washington, Pleasant Valley & Millbrook	Houston*		
District 3 - LaGrange	Polasek*		
District 16 - Fishkill and Beacon	Valdés Smith*		
District 9 - City of Poughkeepsie	Atkins*		
District 1 - Town of Poughkeepsie	Gorman	Absent	
District 4 - Hyde Park and Town of Poughkeepsie	Lawler		
District 5 - Town of Poughkeepsie	D'Aquanni (C)		
District 6 - Town of Poughkeepsie	Kaul		
District 13 - East Fishkill and Wappinger	Paoloni (VC)		
District 18 - City of Beacon and Fishkill	Page	Absent	
District 24 - Dover and Pawling	House		

Present: 10
Absent: 2
Vacant: 0

Resolution: ✓
Motion: ___

Total : 10 (Yes) 0 (No)
Abstentions: 0

2025076 REAPPOINTMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS TO THE DUTCHESS COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

JUNE 5, 2025

Roll Call Sheets

District	Last Name	YES	NO
District 7 - Hyde Park and Pleasant Valley	Truitt	✓	
District 25 - Amenia, Washington, Pleasant Valley & Millbrook	Houston		
District 3 - LaGrange	Polasek		
District 16 - Fishkill and Beacon	Valdés Smith		
District 9 - City of Poughkeepsie	Atkins		
District 1 - Town of Poughkeepsie	Gorman		
District 2 - LaGrange, Pleasant Valley & Town of Poughkeepsie	Travelpiece		
District 4 - Hyde Park and Town of Poughkeepsie	Lawler		
District 5 - Town of Poughkeepsie	D'Aquanni		
District 6 - Town of Poughkeepsie	Kaul		
District 8 - City and Town of Poughkeepsie	Brendli		
District 10 - City of Poughkeepsie	Johnson		
District 11 - Clinton, Pleasant Valley, and Rhinebeck	Kearney	absent	
District 12 - East Fishkill	Metzger	absent	
District 13 - East Fishkill and Wappinger	Paoloni		
District 14 - Wappinger and Town of Poughkeepsie	Versaci		
District 15 - Wappinger	Faust		
District 17 - Town and Village of Fishkill	McHoul		
District 18 - City of Beacon and Fishkill	Page	absent	
District 19 - North East, Stanford, Pine Plains, Milan & Red Hook	Drago		
District 20 - Red Hook, Tivoli, and Rhinebeck	Munn		
District 21 - East Fishkill	Caswell	absent	
District 22 - Beekman and Union Vale	Garito		
District 23 - Pawling, Beekman and East Fishkill	Rolison	absent	
District 24 - Dover and Pawling	House		

Present: 20 **Absent:** 5 **Vacant:** 0

Resolution: ✓ **Motion:** ____

Total : 20 (Yes) 0 (No)

Abstentions: 0

2025076 REAPPOINTMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS TO THE DUTCHESS COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

JUNE 9, 2025