

Draft Meeting Minutes

Governor's Council on Minnesota's Coastal Program

Date: 6/21/2021
Minutes prepared by: Marcia Nieman
Location: Due to Executive Order 20-20, the Coastal Council met via Microsoft TEAMS.

Attendance

- Governor's Council on Minnesota's Coastal Program Members: Bill Majewski, Barb Liukkonen, Janice Erickson, Dan Belden, Sophia Green, Jim Ericson, Matthew Brown, Ellen O'Neill, Dick Brenner, Don Schreiner, Sharon Erickson Ropes, and Peder Otterson.
- Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program Staff: Amber Westerbur, Clinton Little, Cynthia Poyhonen, Julie McDonnell, Melanie Perello, and Marcia Nieman

Decisions Made

- MOTION by Liukkonen to accept the June 21, 2021, agenda, Seconded by Otterson. AFFIRMATIVE ALL. MOTION ADOPTED.
- MOTION by Otterson to accept the March 31, 2021 Special meeting minutes as written, Seconded by Brenner. AFFIRMATIVE ALL. MOTION ADOPTED.
- MOTION by Belden to accept the April 5, 2021 meeting minutes as written, Seconded by O'Neill. AFFIRMATIVE ALL. MOTION ADOPTED.
- Approved priorities for 2021-2022:
 - Projects to improve the water quality of Lake Superior. The project must improve or protect a waterbody on the Minnesota's Impaired Water List or identified in one of the following: One Watershed/One Plan, Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy, or a county/Tribal water plan.
 - Projects to mitigate the impacts of coastal hazards. The project must focus on coastal resiliency to climate change and/or erosion. The projects must use natural or nature-based features or techniques.
 - Projects to improve coastal habitat. The project must prevent or mitigate the spread of invasive or non-native species and/or promote native species throughout the coastal area.
- Approved scoring criteria for 2021 – 2022:
 - Impact to Coastal Area – 20 points
 - Relevance to the Coastal Program – 18 points
 - Diversity, Equity and Inclusion – 15 points

- Priorities – 15 points
 - Results – 12 points
 - Scope of Work – 8 points
 - Project Management – 6 points
 - Budget – 6 points
- 2021 – 2022 Chair is Janice Erickson. Vice-chair is Barb Liukkonen.
 - 2021-2022 Grants Committee consists of Matthew Brown, Ellen O’Neill, Peder Otterson and Jim Ericson.
 - 2021 – 2022 Finance Committee consists of Matthew Brown, Sharon Erickson Ropes and Don Schreiner.

Agenda

- Call to Order-Roll Call, Adoption of the Agenda, Introduce Microsoft TEAMS meeting platform
- Presentation by Bradley Harrington, DNR Tribal Liaison
- Finance Committee Report
- Grants Committee Report
- Annual Meeting Business Items
- Closing

Meeting Notes

Call to Order

Majewski called the meeting to order at 1:04 pm. Majewski conducted a roll call of members. The minutes for both the March 31 and April 5, 2021 and agenda were voted on and approved (roll call).

Presentation by Bradley Harrington

Bradley Harrington, DNR Tribal Liaison, presented on his perspectives of the DNR’s tribal engagement efforts. Some of his suggestions for the council and staff regarding tribes in and around the coastal waters would be to do research on websites that have an abundance of information; and reach out to the tribes themselves (i.e. Tribal Historians or Story Tellers). There was a question and answer period where the council members and staff were free to ask questions.

Finance Committee Report

Matthew Brown presented the Finance Committee Report and a “round robin” for questions followed. Committee members shared their perspectives on what it is like to serve on the committee.

Grants Committee Report

Barb Liukkonen presented the Grants Committee report, which involved their work on the priorities and criteria rating. Discussion followed the report. Majewski called a VOTE TO APPROVE THE PRIORITIES AS REFINED DURING DISCUSSION AND SCORING CRITERIA AS PRESENTED (committee recommendation so no motion needed). PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. Committee members shared their perspectives on what it is like to serve on the committee.

Annual Meeting Business Items

Chair and Vice Chair Elections

Westerbur went through the process for electing the Chair and Vice Chair. In accordance with the bylaws, Schreiner received an automatic nomination to the Chair position. He asked that members not consider him, as he has other commitments. Liukkonen nominated Janice Erickson to the Chair position, and Peder Otterson nominated Barb Liukkonen to the Vice Chair position. MOTION to close the nominations and call for a vote by O'Neill, Seconded by Brenner. AFFIRMATIVE ALL. MOTION ADOPTED.

Finance and Grants Committee Appointments

Janice Erickson, in her first order of business, nominated/established the Grants Committee and Finance Committees.

Setting the Schedule for 2021/2022

A Microsoft Teams poll was attempted but many members could not access it so Westerbur asked that the council members take the poll via email later. Results will help inform the council's meeting schedule and format. Westerbur and Erickson will evaluate the results and set the meeting dates.

Closing

Farewell to Melanie

Melanie's last day with the Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program will be August 27, 2021. All wished her the best in her future and stated how very appreciative they were of her work.

Members and staff shared closing thoughts.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 pm

Next Regular Meeting

Date: September 29, 2021

Time: Tentatively 1:00 – 5:00 pm

Location: Cook County (if safe to do so)