

Meeting Minutes

Governor's Council on Minnesota's Coastal Program

Date: 1/11/2021
Minutes prepared by: Marcia Nieman
Location: Due to Executive Order 20-20, the Coastal Council met via Microsoft TEAMS.
Accepted: April 5, 2021

Attendance

- Governor's Council on Minnesota's Coastal Program Members: Bill Majewski, Janice Erickson, Barb Liukkonen, Dan Belden (joined at 12:30pm), Sophia Green, Jim Ericson, Matthew Brown, Ellen O'Neill, Dick Brenner, Don Schreiner (joined at 11:10am), 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 Brenner to accept the January 11, 2021, agenda, Seconded by Liukkonen. AFFIRMATIVE All. MOTION ADOPTED.
- MOTION by Ericson to accept the September 28, 2020 meeting minutes as written, Seconded by Erickson-Ropes. AFFIRMATIVE All. MOTION ADOPTED.
- MOTION by Brenner to recommend \$100,000 for STAR funding, Seconded by Belden. Discussion. AFFIRMATIVE All. MOTION ADOPTED.
- Adjourned at 5:03pm

Agenda

- Call to Order-Roll Call, Adoption of the Agenda, Introduce Microsoft TEAMS meeting platform
- Special meeting discussion
- STAR grant review and recommendations
- 2021 Annual grant review and recommendations
- 2021 Funding Recommendations

Meeting Notes

Call to Order

Majewski called the meeting to order at 10:02am. Majewski conducted a roll call of members. The minutes and agenda were voted on and approved (roll call).

Special Meeting Discussion

Westerbur outlined when the council can call a special meeting. She noted that several items of interest have come up from members. They are: (1) clarifying program and council goals, including what the program funds; (2) discussing how committees are working or supposed to be working; (3) revisiting NOAA’s recent evaluation; and (4) incorporating diversity, equity and inclusion into grant making and council.

Staff polled members about their interest in a special meeting in February or March 2021. The majority (6) were in favor (two said no and one person was unsure). The majority of the Council decided that incorporating diversity, equity and inclusion into grant making/council would be the number one topic to discuss at the meeting. Some members asked for topic expansion, specifically “incorporating diversity into the grant making, review, and council membership.”

Action Item: Staff will send out a “Doodle Poll” to decide on topic and date for the special meeting.

STAR Grant Review and Recommendations

Majewski facilitated the discussion, scoring and ranking of the December 2020 STAR grant applications.

01 – Crystal Bay Township, PO Box A Finland MN 55603, \$7,500. No conflicts of interest. Application discussion

02 - Regents of the University of Minnesota, 450 McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. SE Minneapolis MN 55455-2070, \$10,000. No conflicts of interest. Application discussion

Application	Applicant	Weighted Total	Grant Request	Rank
1	Crystal Bay Township	84.75	\$7,500	2
2	Regents of the University of Minnesota	92.67	\$10,000	1

Projects ranked above 70% will be recommended to the Commissioner for funding.

Annual Grant Review and Recommendations

Majewski facilitated the discussion, scoring and ranking of the 2021 Annual grant applications.

01 – Cook County Soil and Water Conservation District, 411 West 2nd Street, Grand Marais, MN 55604, \$19,979. Conflict of Interest – Clinton Little—Members decided he was unable to talk about the application (staff do not score). Application discussion.

02 – South St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District, 215 North 1st Avenue East, Duluth, MN 55802, \$96,797. Conflict of interest – Clinton Little and Julie McDonnell—Members decided Little and McDonnell could only provide technical information (staff do not score). Application discussion.

03 – Regents of the University of Minnesota, 450 McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak Street, SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455-2070, \$81,179. Conflict of interest – Barb Liukkonen–Members decided she could score and participate in discussion; Don Schreiner – Removed himself from discussion and scoring. Application discussion.

04 – Regents of the University of Minnesota, 450 McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak Street, SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455-2070, \$86,435. Conflict of interest – Barb Liukkonen–Member decided she could score and participate. Application discussion.

05 – Regents of the University of Minnesota, 450 McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak Street, SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455-2070, \$28,157. Conflict of interest – none. Application discussion.

06 – Regents of the University of Minnesota, 450 McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak Street, SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455-2070, \$60,051. Conflict of interest – Sophia Green and Clinton Little- Members decided no discussion or scoring (Little does not score); Don Schreiner-Removed himself from discussion and scoring; Barb Liukkonen- Members decided she could participate in discussion and score. Application discussion.

07 – North Shore Scenic Drive Council, 221 West First Street, Duluth, MN 55802, \$25,000. Conflict of interest – Dick Brenner-Members decided no scoring or discussion. Application discussion.

08 – Science Museum of Minnesota, 120 West Kellogg Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55102, \$96,671. Conflict of interest – Barb Liukkonen-Members decided she could participate in discussion and score. Application discussion.

09 – Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District, 408 First Avenue, Two Harbors, MN 55616, \$29,080. Conflict of interest – Rick Goutermont-Not present and did not score; Sharon Erickson-Ropes- Members decided she could participate and score; Melonie Perello and Clinton Little- Members decided they could provide general technical input (staff do not score). Application discussion.

10 – Arrowhead Regional Development Commission, 221 West First Street, Duluth, MN 55802, \$47,200. Conflict of interest – Dick Brenner-Members decided no participation in discussion or scoring; Melanie Perello and Clinton Little- No participation in discussion (staff do not score). Application discussion.

11 – Hamline University-Center for Global Environmental Education, 1536 Hewitt Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55104, \$93,338. Conflict of interest – Don Schreiner-no participation or scoring; Barb Liukkonen- Members decided she could participate in discussion and score. Application discussion.

12 – Ecolibrium3, 2014 West Superior Street, Duluth, MN 55806, \$37,033. Conflict of interest – none. Application discussion.

Application	Applicant	Weighted Total	Grant Request	Rank
1	Cook County Soil and Water Conservation District	81.00	\$19,979	7
2	South St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District	82.46	\$96,797	5
3	Regents of the University of Minnesota	87.33	\$81,179	3
4	Regents of the University of Minnesota	85.69	\$86,435	4

Application	Applicant	Weighted Total	Grant Request	Rank
5	Regents of the University of Minnesota	64.15	\$28,157	11
6	Regents of the University of Minnesota	80.64	\$60,051	8
7	North Shore Scenic Drive Council	60.33	\$25,000	12
8	Science Museum of Minnesota	87.54	\$96,671	2
9	Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District	76.25	\$29,080	9
10	Arrowhead Regional Development Commission	89.50	\$47,200	1
11	Hamline University – Center for Global Environmental Education	82.33	\$93,338	6
12	Ecolibrium3	75.08	\$37,033	10

Projects ranked above 70% will be recommended to the Commissioner for funding.

2021 Funding Recommendations

Members voted to recommend setting aside \$100,000 for 2021 STAR Grants. Members encouraged staff to go as far down the list of Commissioner selected Annual projects, while maintaining close to \$100,000 for future STAR grants.

Meeting adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting

Date: April 5, 2021

Time: Tentatively 1:00 – 5:00 pm

Location: Lake County (if safe to do so)