

## Meeting Minutes

### Governor's Council on Minnesota's Coastal Program

Date: 9/28/2022  
Minutes prepared by: Marcia Nieman  
Location: Coastal Council met virtually via Microsoft TEAMS.  
Approved: January 18, 2023

## Attendance

---

- Governor's Council on Minnesota's Coastal Program Members: Janice Erickson, Dan Belden, Sophia Green, Bill Majewski, Ellen O'Neill, and Peder Otterson.
- Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program Staff: Amber Westerbur, Clinton Little, Cynthia Poyhonen, Julie McDonnell, and Marcia Nieman
- Guest: Shane Steele, City of Grand Marais

## Decisions Made

---

- There was no MOTION for the Agenda – quorum was not met.
- MOTION by Belden to accept the June 17, 2022, meeting minutes with correction stating: Janice Erickson called the meeting to order using a “medicine bowl” but should state it was a “shell” which is the tradition. Seconded by O'Neill. No quorum was met so the vote will go out via email.
- Appointments to the Grants Committee and Finance Committee were finalized by Chair Janice Erickson.

## Agenda

---

- Welcome and Opening, including adoption of the agenda
- Committee Appointments
- STAR Grand Applications and Discussion
- Program Update
- Meeting Wrap-up/Closing

# Meeting Notes

---

## Call to Order

Janice Erickson gave an opening with a thank you for all the good things we as a council are doing and talked about TEK (Traditional Ecological Knowledge). Miigwech. Round Robin introductions Ice Breaker (What makes fall special in your community? Any special events, happenings or noticeable changes to share?) and to welcome our guest, Shane Steele, City of Grand Marais.

## Committee Appointments

Grants Committee – Peder Ottersen, Barb Luikkinen, Ellen O’Neill, Janice Erickson, and Jim Ericson.

Finance Committee – Currently Don Schreiner and Janice Ericson are on the Finance Committee, and it was asked of the council in attendance if anyone else would like to be on the committee. Peder Ottersen self-nominated himself.

Janice Erickson made the appointments as noted.

## STAR Grant Application Discussion

Before the grant application discussion, the council talked about the fact that it is tough meeting quorum. Thoughts were brought up to possibly send out another poll to see if other dates/times would be better. Also, it was mentioned that maybe more would come if we started meeting in person.

Cynthia Poyhonen introduced the STAR Grant review process. Procedures follow the [Standard Operating Procedures of the Governor’s Council on Minnesota’s Lake Superior Coastal Program](#) (Page 10). Twenty minutes were dedicated for each application. Cynthia Poyhonen introduced each application, asked if there were conflicts of interest on each project and facilitated the discussion.

APPLICATION	APPLICANT	ADDRESS	AMOUNT REQUESTED
1	City of Grand Marais	15 North Broadway, Grand Marais, MN 55604	\$9,174
2	City of Rice Lake	4107 Breyer Road, Rice Lake, MN 55803	\$8,500

*Final scores, project rank and other data in the applications and as part of the evaluation process will be available once the STAR projects start; anticipated start dates vary.*

## Program Update and Closing

Amber Westerbur did a brief overview of the happenings:

- Minnesota is set to receive nearly three quarters of a million dollars in habitat funding from IIJA (Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act).
- NOAA staff gathering input for delivering future federal funding through IIJA and IRA (Inflation Reduction Act).
- USACOE (US Army Corps of Engineers), and eight of the representatives of the Great Lakes signed a cost share agreement for the Great Lakes Coastal Resiliency Study.

## **Program Update and Closing (continued)**

- Minnesota’s Climate Action Framework is complete.
- New tool to help assess vulnerabilities at Minnesota Coastal Public Sites is now available.
- Great Lakes Coastal Programs and Reserves converged on Erie, PA for the Regional Meeting
- Coastal Program’s Annual Grant notice goes live on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

There was some discussion on the updates Amber addressed in the Program Update.

Council suggested we should record the meetings again in the future.

## **Closing**

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 pm

## **Next Regular Meeting**

---

Date: January 18 and 19, 2023

Time: Tentatively 1:00 – 5:00 pm, on January 18 and 9:00am – 4:30, on January 19, 2023

Location: Duluth – Hybrid Meeting