



**WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF  
ADMINISTRATION**

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GOVERNOR

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**WISCONSIN COASTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL MEETING**

Kenosha Civil War Museum  
5400 1st Ave, Kenosha, WI 53140  
262-653-4141

<http://www.kenosha.org/wp-civilwar/>

Thursday, February 18, 2016  
10:00 AM

- I. **Call to Order** at 10:07am. by Chair Mayor Larry McDonald.
- II. **Roll Call:** Mayor Larry MacDonald, Dawn Vick, Senator Robert Wirch, Mayor John Dickert, David Hart for Jim Hurley, Sharon Cook, Ken Leinbach, Sheri Walz, Greg Coulthurst for Bill Schuster

Others Present: Michael Friis (WCMP), Kate Angel (WCMP), Todd Breiby (WCMP), Anne Iwata (WCMP), Travis Olson (WCMP), Paula McGuire ( Senator Wirch's office)

Absent: Representative Thomas Weatherston, Steve Galarneau, Patty Hoeft and Ervin Soulier

- III. **Approval of Agenda:** Moved and approved.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes (Sept. 24, 2015):** Moved and approved.

- V. **Welcome** **Mayor Keith G. Bosman**, City of Kenosha

Mayor Bosman reviewed the repurposing of the Chrysler facility that once employed 6,000 workers. The plant closed in 1988. The area included a football field and old marina. New uses include museums, festival grounds, some commercial space for the Southport Marina and condo/residential use.

Another 109 acres became available five years ago when the engine plant closed. Cleanup took three years at \$30 million cost.

From Carthage College to Southport, 80% of shoreline is publicly accessible (four of five miles). The past few summers the beaches have not been closed for water quality reasons. The city credits the collaborative work with UW-Parkside and City of Racine's Julie Kinzelman.

500 slips or 90% of Kenosha's marina slips are utilized.

Mayor Bosman will retire shortly after two four-year terms as mayor and 12 years on the city council.

**VI. Public Comments:** None

**VII. Action Item: Project Selection Committee Report**

Recusals: 410 Mac Donald  
509 Dickert, Wirch  
103, 514, 202, 511, 206 Coulthurst  
206, 303 Hart  
102, 105, 410 Leinbach

The recommendations contained in Project Selection Committee Report were moved and approved. All Council members voted in favor with the above noted recusals. Mike Friis clarified that the recommendations would go to the Department of Administration, then to NOAA Office of Coastal Management.

Sharon Cook suggested convening a meeting of Milwaukee organizations that routinely submit grant applications to better coordinate submissions and possibly consolidate grant applications. Larry MacDonald mentioned this suggestion could be explored for the Chequamegon Bay area as well.

Sharon Cook asked to have a presentation on Milwaukee River Greenway planning when the Council next meets in the Southeast Region. She also asked for a more concerted effort to have reports back to the Council on completed projects.

Ken Leinbach noted that there are already existing monthly meetings and coordination between organizations in Milwaukee that include the River Keepers, Urban Ecology Center, SWWT, etc. Mike Friis said staff will work with applicants to reflect that there is coordination.

**VIII. Reports**

A. Chiwaukee Prairie

**Marty Johnson**, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Marty noted his experience, 22 years at DNR, 19 at Chiwaukee Prairie Natural Area.

The prairie extends from the Kenosha Dunes to the Illinois State Beach Park and forest preserve. Carol Beach subdivision was platted for development in the 1920s. The DNR and friends group has been acquiring undeveloped lots for restoration. Rare species include the White Fringe Prairie Orchid. Burning is the main tool for managing the prairie. DNR relies on grants to do the work of managing the prairie.

WCMP grants awarded in 2004, 2005, 2007 and 2014. Marty described the tasks undertaken by each of the WCMP grants. Most grants were awarded for land management and acquisition. Management included dunes protection, tree removal, invasive species control and trail development.

35 acres subject to mowing  
28 acres brush removal  
10 acres herbaceous  
20 acres to burn

Emerald ash borer has left 800 dead trees on DNR managed land.

From 1997-2015, 94 parcels 79.83 acres were acquired. There are 97 parcels left to acquire. WCMP funded the acquisition of 13.61 acres. One third of the lots are developed. State is purchasing lots, but Stewardship funds have been cut.

Ramsar Designation has helped the prairie, making it a Wetland of International Importance. It is one of 2000 designations worldwide with five in Wisconsin. The designation provides protection, recognition, tourism and funding. Other accolades have been given to Chiwaukee Prairie by Chicago Wilderness, Wisconsin Wetlands Association, etc. There is more information at <http://rsis.ramsar.org>.

Issues moving forward: Fire and burns, funding for management and acquisition, and invasive species. There are 57 lots left to pursue in The Nature Conservancy area.

Prairie (DNR) received \$60,000 from the Fund for Lake Michigan to evaluate the Kenosha Dunes. The project will assess the shoreline, looking at alternatives to deal with failing riprap.

Also noted were ongoing land management, acquisition and funding issues.

#### B. SEWRPC Activities

**Thomas Slawski**, Chief Biologist  
Southeastern WI Regional Planning Commission

SEWRPC does 100 wetland delineation reports a year, with about 20 in the Coastal Zone. Reports now contain more detail. Wetland delineations continue in the state's coastal areas. And targeted surveys on species level information gathering have been conducted in 2015.

There has been a lot of changes in staff addressing Natural Areas. SEWRPC is updating region-wide maps for Natural Areas. Staff have conducted engineering studies on the Kinnickinnic River and the Menomonee River. WCMP funding allows SEWRPC to assist communities in ways staff could not without the funding, such as hydraulic modeling in the Root River, hydrology work in Fish Creek, assistance with the City of Oak Creek's restoration plan, and fish passages and barrier removals. Soon, SEWRPC will be looking for committee members for the 2020 Natural Areas Plan Update. A lot of communities are looking for more information and tools.

For natural areas have needs and pressures. It's no longer a valid assumption that because they are state lands they are "safe."

Sharon requested a report at the June meeting on public land sell-off and key changes to public land policies. She asked for another report on shoreland zoning.

#### C. Wisconsin Coastal Management Program Updates

**Mike Friis**, Manager  
Wisconsin Coastal Management Program

WCMP staff highlighted and supplemented written updates.

The NOAA Coastal fellow will work with both WCMP and UW Sea Grant and will be selected this spring and start yet this calendar year. Proposed project is public land data in the coastal zone. Wisconsin Land Information Program will provide matching funds.

The Annual Wetlands Conference was scheduled for the following week in Green Bay.

A CELP grant application has been submitted to NOAA on behalf of Ozaukee County.

Wisconsin Point has received funding from NOAA. The funding will pass through the City of Superior for design and engineering work for Wisconsin Point.

Wisconsin Wetlands Association has completed a model ordinance for communities to use. It will be made easily available.

Coastal Hazards Workgroup is reviewing changes to NR 115 and its affects.

Kenosha area projects to note: Clean Marina designation for Kenosha Marina, grant to study how mussels affect shipwrecks. The City of Kenosha has been working closely with the City of Racine to continue monitoring water quality.

Discover Wisconsin episode on Door County's Washington and Rock Islands begins to air this weekend and is available online. Greg Coulthurst is interviewed in the episode.

Mike mentioned the Keillor Fellow at UW Sea Grant. Mike will be at the Coastal States Organization meetings and NOAA Coastal Program Managers meeting in DC next week. The annual Coastal States Organization meeting will be held in Milwaukee in September.

Wisconsin Governor's Conference on Tourism 2016 will be held at the Ho Chunk Convention Center March 13-15, 2016.

David Hart asked if there have been any recent Great Lakes Regional calls with the Coast Guard? Mike said no, the captain who was chair is no longer working there.

## **IX. Updates from Coastal Management Council**

Ken Leinbach: Ken is writing a book on the Urban Ecology Center. He received grant to assist. The book is scheduled for publication end of January 2017.

David Hart: Sea Grant is working on Great Lakes Water Level Integrated Assessment through April 17, 2016. This involves reviewing previous studies, working with area stakeholders, measuring water levels, develop set of alternatives. Sea Grant will have a J. Philip Keillor fellow for which a national search is being conducted. The fellow will work on the Coastal Processes Manual. It will be a 1-year fellowship. Other states have similar programs: California started with one fellow and now has a dozen. Deidre Peroff is the new Sea Grant Social Scientist coming from North Carolina State where she finished her dissertation. There is \$9 million for aquaculture research. Sea Grant is working on its strategic plan for 2018-2021.

Sheri Walz: Harbor Assistance Program will have only one grant cycle this year. No spring cycle anymore. Great Lakes Maritime Task Force will be meeting on Great Lakes transportation in DC.

Greg Coulthurst: State Representative Kitchens is working on ground water protection. Hefer population is increasing in northeast WI and CAFO must comply with 590 plan for nutrient management. No one wants a repeat of Jacksonport well contamination. Door County is wrapping up the second Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant. Six beaches have implemented Best Management Practices from 2013 through 2015.

Larry MacDonald: Bayfield County voted unanimously to have stricter requirements that would affect siting of CAFOs. They expect a lawsuit. No ice caves this year. No ice road from Bayfield to Madeline Island this year. This is the third year in ten years there hasn't been an ice road. Work has begun on a NOAA Marine Sanctuary designation for the Chequamegon Bay and the Apostle Islands. The City of Bayfield received a grant from the State Energy Office.

Mike Friis mentioned a WCMP-funded sediment study for Kenosha Harbor. He has copies of the report.

Bob Wirsch: Natural Resource Committee. He talked about a recent bill that would have allowed for dredging of lakes. The bill has been modified.

**X. New Business:** None

**XI. Adjournment:** 12:22 p.m.

**Next Scheduled Meeting:** June 9, 2016 (staff will send out a poll suggesting an alternative date)