



**WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF
ADMINISTRATION**

SCOTT WALKER
GOVERNOR

SCOTT A. NEITZEL
SECRETARY

Office of the Secretary
Post Office Box 7864
Madison, WI 53707-7864
Voice (608) 266-1741
Fax (608) 267-3842

WISCONSIN COASTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL MEETING

Yellowjacket Union
UW-Superior
1605 Catlin Ave, Superior, WI 54880
715-394-8244
<https://www.uwsuper.edu/you>
Tuesday, June 21, 2016
9:30 AM

- I. **Call to Order** at 9:50 am by Chair Mayor Larry McDonald.
- II. **Roll Call:**
Present: Mayor Larry MacDonald, Steve Galarneau, David Hart (for Jim Hurley), Bill Schuster, Julie Kinzelman (for Mayor John Dickert), Representative Kitchens, Dawn Vick, Ervin Soulier, Ken Leinbach, Sharon Cook, Patty Hoeft, Stephen Pienkos (for Senator Wirch)

Others Present: Michael Friis (WCMP), Kate Angel (WCMP), Todd Breiby (WCMP), Anne Iwata (WCMP), Travis Olson (WCMP), Lauren Leckwee (WCMP), Liz Mountz (NOAA Coastal Management Specialist)

Absent: Sheri Walz
- III. **Approval of Agenda:** Moved and approved.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes (February 18, 2016):** Moved and approved.
- V. **Welcome** **Mayor Bruce Hagen**, City of Superior

Mayor Hagen welcomed the council. He mentioned WCMP's funding of several projects in the area, including Billing's Park. He discussed efforts at Wisconsin Point.
- VI. **Public Comments:** Kelly Westlund from Senator Tammy Baldwin's office discussed legislation related to the Great Lakes that was introduced by Senator Baldwin. The legislation would benefit the state's coastal communities. The Senator is also supportive of the National Marine Sanctuary efforts in Wisconsin.
- VII. **Action Item: Grant Priorities**

Mike Friis introduced the proposed Grant Priorities. No major changes were proposed. Bill Schuster asked about funding: Mike said it will likely remain at a flat level. Sharon Cook asked about setting up a meeting for education grant applications. She suggested that, under education, changing "projects should be sustainable" to "projects must be sustainable." She also suggested including language on under-represented communities in the document (not just the RFP).

Sharon Cook made a motion to approve the guidance with the following changes: (1) include under-represented communities in the bonus points, (2) changing “should” to “must be sustainable.” The motion was seconded and passed.

VIII. Reports

A. NWRPC Activities

Sheldon Johnson, Executive Director
Northwest Regional Planning Commission

Sheldon Johnson became Executive Director of NWRPC on January 1, 2016. Jason Laumann is now the Deputy Director.

Sheldon discussed the history of NWRPC. NWRPC is trying to better engage with the tribes in their area. They expect Red Cliff will have an application to WCMP this year. Sheldon mentioned that WCMP grant opportunities have gone a long way for community development in the area. He talked about the hazard mitigation plan update for Douglas County as well as Iron County’s community outreach project and farmland preservation plan update. Jason Laumann is working with the City of Bayfield to complete a poster plan as a 10-year comprehensive plan update.

B. Minnesota Coastal Management Program

Amber Westerbur, Manager
Minnesota’s Lake Superior Coastal Program

Amber talked about Minnesota’s Lake Superior Coastal Program, similarities with the Wisconsin Program, and shared issues. She mentioned efforts on the St. Louis River, research on common terns, and projects in the City of Duluth. Ervin Soulier asked if there was a tribal representative on their council: Amber said no, there are 3 members from each community and 3 at-large members. The council in Minnesota has similar functions as the WCMC. Ken Leinbach asked about their funding. Amber said because of the funding formula, with 189 miles of shoreline and a smaller population, they received \$993,000 in federal funding this year. About half was given in grants.

C. Lake Superior NERR Update

Dr. Erika Washburn, Reserve Manager
Lake Superior National Estuarine Research Reserve

This is the sixth year of operation for the Lake Superior NERR, which is led by UW Extension. (UW Superior owns their building.) Erika discussed partnerships. She mentioned long-term needs for research; a research vessel is a pressing need, as the LL Smith is now privately owned.

D. Wisconsin Point

Linda Cardotte, Administrator
City of Superior, Parks Recreation & Forestry

Linda discussed the history of Wisconsin Point. It is listed as an Area of Concern (AOC). She talked about WCMP’s funding for restoring dunes and forested areas, stabilizing shoreline. An engineering firm has been selected and the hope is to get started designs by July. Bill Schuster asked about the loss of informal public access points: Linda said there have been mixed reactions to it.

E. Wisconsin Coastal Management Program Updates

Mike Friis, Manager
Wisconsin Coastal Management Program

WCMP staff highlighted and supplemented written updates.

Lauren Leckwee introduced herself to the Council.

Anne Iwata told the Council that this would be her last meeting.

The Coastal States Organization annual meeting was scheduled for September 12-15, in Milwaukee. Chair MacDonald thanked staff for their work on the regional and national stage.

IX. Updates from Coastal Management Council

David Hart: Sea Grant staff are working on their strategic plan. David is working on a Great Lakes Water Level Integrated Assessment, which involves reviewing previous studies, working with area stakeholders, measuring water levels, and developing set of alternatives. It was one of four projects selected. A meeting was held in Saukville; the next will be in Mequon.

Bill Schuster: High lake levels are affecting beaches in Door County. Animal waste impacts on ground and surface waters are a real issue. Bat populations are falling (down to 200) at the Horseshoe Bay Cave which has received Coastal funding. Bill mentioned he is retiring on July 28 and asked if anyone has opportunities where he can help to please consider him.

Julie Kinzelman: Work at Sam Meyers Beach in Racine is continuing. There has been a noticeable increase in species presence at Sam Myers since the work began. Julie continues to help IL Coastal Management with work at Waukegan Harbor beach.

Representative Kitchens said he has spent a lot of time on surface and groundwater issues, particularly in Kewaunee County. DNR coordinated a work group that will issue a report soon. Progressive farmers voluntarily are taking action, too. He may request a TMDL in the next budget. Ribble's office has done a lot with phosphorus – he would like to see coordination in keeping up these efforts.

Larry MacDonald: Larry said he has recently retired as mayor. The MacDonalds have shut the doors on their bed and breakfast. They are going to Alaska this summer. In Bayfield, there is concern on the potential Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation. They are trying to gather information on the possible impacts. Larry is considering pursuing a fellowship offered by a Washington D.C. group for people who have spent years in government.

Dawn Vick thanked staff and emphasized support for the program.

Ervin Soulier: Data is being collected in Penokee Hills in case of another mine proposal in the area. Bad River is working to address the CAFO issue. A Climate Change Adaptation Plan will be considered by the Tribal Council. Erv mentioned he plans on retiring this year.

Ken Leinbach said he's appreciated being part of a state-wide group as a member of the Wisconsin Coastal Management Council. He talked about the 3 Billion Year Walk, a new path through the Milwaukee Rotary Centennial Arboretum. The Department of Interior will have a press conference at the Urban Ecology Center's Washington Park site as part of Michelle Obama's "Let's Move" initiative.

Sharon Cook said the Waukesha water diversion application decision was due the day of the Council meeting. She mentioned her work on UW Sea Grant's Council. Planning efforts continue at Milwaukee's Inner Harbor District. WCMP funding went to planning for the Milwaukee Lakefront Gateway Project: construction has begun at the site.

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Patty Hoelt expressed gratitude for being on the Council. She just finished her first year of law school.

Stephen Pienkos said Senator Wirch wanted to thank staff for their help with the situation in the Village of Mount Pleasant.

Liz Mountz thanked staff and said she appreciates getting out to sites. Liz also mentioned that Jeff Payne will be visiting Wisconsin in mid-July.

X. New Business: None

XI. Adjournment: 12:00 p.m.

Next Scheduled Meeting: Sept. 22, 2016