



## MINUTES

### WISCONSIN COASTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL MEETING

Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District  
250 W Seeboth St.  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Thursday, September 22, 2016  
10:00 AM

- I. **Call to Order** by Mayor Larry MacDonald, Chair, at 10:05 am
- II. **Roll Call:** Mayor Larry MacDonald, Dawn Vick, Sharon Cook, Jim Hurley, Julie Kinzelman (for Mayor John Dickert), Vic Pappas (for Steve Galarneau), Representative Joel Kitchens, Greg Coulthurst (for Bill Schuster), Sheri Walz, Stephen Pienkos (for Senator Bob Wirth)  
  
Others Present: Michael Friis, Kate Angel, Todd Breiby, Travis Olson, Adam Bechle, Joe Dwyer, Lauren Leckwee  
  
Absent: Patti Hoeft, Ken Leinbach, Ervin Soulier
- III. **Approval of Agenda:** Moved and approved
- IV. **Approval of Minutes (June 21, 2016):** Moved and approved.
- V. **Welcome: Kevin Shafer**, Executive Director, Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District  
  
Kevin welcomed the Council and discussed initiatives at MMSD, including significant reductions in tunnel overflows, removing concrete from the Menomonee River, and restoration at Underwood Creek. Kevin mentioned the partnerships MMSD has and thanked the Council for coming to Milwaukee. Sharon Cook thanked Kevin for hosting.
- VI. **Public Comments:** None.
- VII. **Action Item: 2017 Wisconsin Coastal Management Council Meeting Dates**  
Thursday February 16, 2017  
Thursday June 15, 2017  
Thursday September 21, 2017  
  
Mike Friis mentioned the proposed dates. Jim Hurley asked about the Project Selection Committee date. (It had not been set.) Julie Kinzelman asked staff to make sure the June date doesn't conflict with the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative. Mike mentioned there will also be a NOAA program review some time in June, though the dates have not been determined.
- VIII. **Reports**
  - A. Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District

Karen Sands, Manager of Sustainability, discussed MMSD's recent work. She talked about the deep tunnel system and water reclamation facilities. MMSD has significant goals for green infrastructure. Karen discussed their partnerships in developing and implementing their green infrastructure plan. MMSD has participated in concrete removal on the Kinnickinnic including fish passage impediments. MMSD is currently working with partners to address issues in the 30<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor.

B. Milwaukee's 30<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor

Dave Misky, Assistant Director of the Redevelopment Authority, City of Milwaukee, talked about the City's role in efforts in the 30<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor. Dave emphasized the partnerships the city works with. He thanked the Council for funding received by the City for multiple projects. The City has a long-term "reinvention strategy," which includes a list of strategies for the area. The area is about 5 miles long by about half a mile wide. The City purchased the old AO Smith/Tower Automotive site with the hope of building an eco-industrial site, similar to what has been done in the Menomonee Valley. The City built a green buffer and stormwater detention. Cream City Farm is up and running on the site. Sharon mentioned there is an article on the 30<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor in the 2016 Wisconsin Great Lakes Chronicle.

C. Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers

Nadia Bogue, Sustainability Development Program Manager, discussed Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers' mission and goals. For the past 13-14 years, they have been focusing on the Kinnickinnic River area. They partnered with MMSD to build on investments of concrete removal. There have been enormous changes since 2004. Nadia thanked WCMP for its funding and partnership. They have long-term strategic planning in place. Chair MacDonald asked how they measure community health. Nadia said they work with "Triumph" from UW-Madison, a 10-year study looking at health indicators. They are still developing the process, but they are beginning to take metrics. Chair MacDonald asked if the Council could take a tour, and Nadia said she'd be happy to give one.

D. SEWRPC Activities

Tom Slawski, Chief Biologist, updated the Council on coastal-related activities at Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. He discussed wetland delineations and environmental corridor assessments. WCMP funding allows SEWRPC to do assessments gratis for communities, which, in turn, helps SEWRPC to view site conditions. A new invasive species was recorded: Vietnamese parsley. It was found in a tributary to the Milwaukee River. Tom discussed work with Ozaukee County and stream restoration efforts in the region. He mentioned Oak Creek's Watershed Restoration Plan, the Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Plan: 2020 Update, and the Wisconsin Wetlands Inventory 2015 update. Mike Friis mentioned the State of Wisconsin's Land Information Program's parcel mapping project. He asked Tom to talk to the State's Geographic Information Officer, Jim Giglierano, about ways to share vector information. Travis mentioned that the Cedar Gorge project in Ozaukee County will be funded by the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program. The proposal was submitted from Ozaukee County through WCMP: it is a \$1 million award from NOAA to purchase an area just north of Lion's Den Gorge. Mike pointed out the fish passage work started out with a WCMP grant: Tom said it has really been a great tool for the entire region. Chair MacDonald asked how Tom and other RPCs communicate. Tom said that happens at a level above him, but he has recently been interacting with Illinois for work on the Fox River. They have had some collaboration with Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission.

E. River Revitalization Foundation

Kimberly Gleffe, Executive Director of River Revitalization Foundation, talked about the foundation which is Milwaukee's urban river land trust. She discussed Milwaukee River Greenway. Twenty-one acres are protected outright through acquisition. There has been a focus on connecting neighborhoods. When the Milwaukee River Greenway Coalition first

started, there were a lot of partnerships that eventually led to the protection of the river through an overlay district. The Coalition is currently developing a master plan for the Greenway. Kimberly mentioned other projects, including a bluff erosion issue at Capitol and Humboldt that they are addressing through County Parks.

F. Wisconsin Coastal Management Program Updates

Mike Friis, Manager, WCMP, and WCMP staff highlighted accomplishments from the written Program Updates. Mike told the Council the June date does conflict with the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative meeting. June 22 may work better. For the Project Selection Committee meeting, January 27 may work. Mike mentioned the Coastal States Organization's meeting in Milwaukee and thanked Sharon, Larry, Ken Leinbach, and Dave Misky for their participation. Sharon congratulated Mike for finishing up his term as chair. Mike thanked Todd for organizing and coordinating the meeting. Mike acknowledged the fellows: Adam Bechle introduced himself, the J. Philip Keillor Wisconsin Coastal Management Sea Grant Fellowship, and the project he will be working on. Joe Dwyer introduced himself as a Coastal Management Fellow and talked about his project. Mike mentioned the Digital Coast Fellow, Jake Thickman, will be working with the Association of State Floodplain Managers.

**IX. Updates from Coastal Management Council**

**Jim Hurley:** Jon Lilley from Sea Grant's National Office introduced himself. UW Sea Grant Institute is preparing for a hill briefing. Jim mentioned the Convocation for Coastal Fellows scheduled for after the Council meeting, from 6:00-8:00. Jim said that UW Sea Grant is going through strategic planning and their call for proposals will go out December. Jim mentioned the Water Resources Institute, a joint effort with the Department of Natural Resources. The organizations issued separate press releases, which led to an open records request.

**Julie Kinzelman:** Julie discussed recent work at Samuel Myers Beach in the City of Racine. There was significant work done for invasive species removal. There have also been documented increases in bird species sighted at Samuel Myers.

**Sheri Walz:** Sheri discussed the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's Harbor Assistance Program. The SS Badger applied for emergency funding to repair damage to a landing area. HAP awarded them \$2 million. HAP received \$17 million in applications. \$5 million are available. Wisconsin Commercial Ports Association should have Phase II of their report coming out soon: they received both WCMP and WisDOT funding. Sheri mentioned the HAP grants article in the 2016 Wisconsin Great Lakes Chronicle. Sheri and Mike continue to participate in the Great Lakes Maritime Task Group. Sheri mentioned there is a proposal to add harbors to the Disaster Damage Aids program.

**Mayor Larry MacDonald:** Heavy rains caused extensive sediment plumes on Lake Superior. There are still a lot of discussions on potential effects of a proposed CAFO in Bayfield County.

**X. New Business:** None.

**XI. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

**Next Scheduled Meeting:** February 16, 2017