



STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

Scott Walker, Governor
Ellen E. Nowak, Secretary
Dawn Vick, Division Administrator

MINUTES

WISCONSIN COASTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL MEETING

Ozaukee County Administration Center
121 West Main Street
Port Washington, WI 53074
262-284-9411
Thursday, February 15, 2018

- I. Call to Order** by Larry MacDonald, Chair, at 10:21 AM
- II. Roll Call:** Chair Larry MacDonald, Steve Galarneau, Sharon Cook, Mike Friis, Dawn Vick, Bill Schuster, Jim Hurley, Joe Severance (for Representative Kitchens), Ken Leinbach
- Others Present: Tom Mlada, Andrew Struck, Tom Slawski, Kathy Tank, Lauren Leckwee, Joe Dwyer, Adam Bechle, Todd Breiby, Kate Angel
- III. Approval of Agenda:** Moved and approved. Chair MacDonald asked council members to email their abstentions for proposals to Mike Friis.
- IV. Approval of Minutes (September 21, 2017):** Moved and approved.
- V. Welcome:** **Lee Schlenvogt**, County Board Chairman, Ozaukee County
Jason Dzwinel, County Administrator, Ozaukee County

Lee welcomed the council to Port Washington.

Jason reminisced about the first NOAA grant they received and how fundamental that grant was to the accomplishments the City has achieved since. Jason highlighted the county building and provided a brief history of the restoration.

VI. Public Comments

Kathy Tank commented on the great asset that Lake Michigan is to the community, residents and tourists. Public access improvements are due, in no small part, to the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program. Harbor Towns acknowledged WCMP partnerships and the Program's help in the production of the Harbor Towns Guides. Kathy looks forward to working with the Program in the future.

VII. Action Item: 2017 Wisconsin Coastal Management Council Meeting Dates

Report of the Project Selection Committee.

Larry noticed that only 7% of the grant dollars are going to Lake Superior and more is needed in that region. Mike responded that the Program will try to solicit more applications from the Lake Superior region during the next RFP in August. Ken asked what the percentage of shoreline is for each lake. Sharon asked where there are more people – and states the public access issues are on Lake Michigan. Mike said NOAA gives Wisconsin credit for 820 miles, but actual miles are closer to 1000. Lake Superior has maybe 200 miles.

Bill asked if anything has changed since the PSC meeting. Mike responded, no – only thing is to check on Egg Harbor to see if they are going to get the FFLM funding. Bill mentioned he contacted the Egg Harbor administrator. Mike will follow up with the Admin.

Sharon wants a sense of the peer review issues with a concern that members of the Technical Advisory Committee are primarily located in Dane County. Mike commented that he would never characterize it as only

in Dane County. Staff seeks a mix of TAC members to best represent the different regions, and state and local expertise. Sharon would like to be more involved in finding members for the TAC especially for education. Bill asked if council members can be part of the review process. Mike stated that they can, and they have in the past, but if they did they would be required to abstain from review and voting during the PSC.

Larry thanks the staff and Mike and Dawn for their hard work.

Moved and Approved.

VIII. Reports

A. Coastal Issues in Ozaukee County

Andrew Struck, Director, Ozaukee County Planning and Parks Department, presented on the fish passage program, the GIS modeling work they have been doing, and on the ground investments that WCMP has supported.

Andrew talked about the County's role with the coastal hazards work group. They used to work with Alberto Vargas on assessing some issues that the residents were having. The County had over 100 people come to the first workshop back in 2001. People are concerned about their properties, but also about the coastal issues and how to resolve it on regional scale. Andrew has been a part of the County's outreach efforts. Chin and WCMP have helped with bluff erosion outreach efforts.

The County has on going in situ monitoring of bluff stability. CM3 is one of the pilot sites looking at coastal erosion and what leads up to these events. All the work has led to discussion and policy work on setbacks. Helping people understand the life and structure of the bluffs. Best safeguards are talking about setbacks. County has been working with development and municipalities on having these conversations.

In 2005 WCMP funded a public opinion survey of the residents. County still references this survey on public opinion, gives insight on what is important to the residents and helps inform the County board of the residents' concerns

The 2006 stream impediment and habitat inventory grant supported an inventory of 11 tributary streams – an effort to drive a discussion for better infrastructure for cars and crossings but also to talk about what is down below- sediment movement, wildlife, water movement, etc. New idea at the time. Investment from WCMP was seed money for a \$5 million comprehensive solution for the identified impediments. Now covers 51 tributaries and has over \$12 million invested. Started with a \$15,000 WCMP grant. How can this be replicated in other counties?

2013 GIS tool grant \$28k+ to look at water quality & TMDLs. County is working diligently to prioritize these elements. Have used this from a preservation standpoint. It has helped inform the Clay Bluffs Cedar Gorge acquisition. County used the tool to present to the board why this area was important for preservation and why they should work to acquire it. Lion's Den Gorge – keystone of the park system. Virmond County Park staircase to provide access much like at Lion's Den.

Steve asked if Cedar Gorge has happened? Andrew – it has not happened yet, but they are working towards closing

Dawn asked about the stairs, how long until you decide which method you'll pick? Andrew said they are working on the concept planning for the next couple months, then bid the project (more than \$25,000) in spring. Hoping for construction for the fall. Can't be out there in the winter

Schuster mentioned the hardwood wetlands in the fish passage, stated that it looks like they are going to become large patches of reed canary grass. Andrew said they were the first county in WI to have EAB positively identified. They have taken an active role of planting/under planting of high diversity of species. Lots of investment of re-planting. Taking down the ash trees and reusing where possible. Using some of the trees for the fish passage projects.

Sharon curious about bluff setback and shoreland zoning. Andrew said, for the County, the bluff setback is not directed at the shoreline and is not part shoreland zoning. The changes to shoreland zoning did not affect the County's setback requirement.

Sharon asks how changes in wetland regulations and what the effects will be: how many wetlands will be filled in? Andrew the changes will affect wetlands in the County. A high percentage of wetlands will not have protection. They are working on permanent easements for wetlands that were previously protected. It will be a big issue due to development pressures.

B. Coastal Issues in City of Port Washington

Tom Mlada, Mayor (now former), City of Port Washington, provided updates to the council.

Many local and regional partners researching rip currents. City put together a waterfront safety initiative with WCMP, UW Sea Grant, and other UW Madison partners. Warning signs and life rings provided – from north beach to south beach. INFOS system. Ladder repair on the breakwater. Life jacket loaner stations.

Great Lakes Surf Rescue Team – gets a message to all the elementary kids on personal water safety.

Water quality - City has had very few beach closures because of effective environmental planning and mitigation/management. Ecopalooza hosted at the schools to give students an idea on how to be impactful. City is trying to encourage and incentive green/green roof installation

Bluff integrity. City did a study on the area near north beach. Lots of beach loss due to water level rise. Huge impact on residents.

Marine Sanctuary important and impact that a designation would have on the communities. People are mindful of the fact that it would only be the 2nd designation in the GL and it would be right on their shores.

Breakwater repair. Nearly \$4 million in outside funding for repair work. Has had to repair a section of railing after the first year due to water levels or poor installation. Work continuing on the south breakwater in April by the ACE. Adding an ADA paddle craft launch. Will be the only one to Lake Michigan in Ozaukee Co. 6 miles of coast and there is no place in between where the public can't access the lake.

C. Updates from SEWRPC

Tom Slawski, Chief Biologist, Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission provided updates to the council.

Much of the work is wetland delineation for both public and private as long as they are made through the public municipality. Provide it free of charge but is helped offset by WCMP funding.

Estabrook dam removal proposal: SEWRPC can provide unbiased and objective opinions and information to help the project. Continues to assist the MMSD on making improvement in the Milwaukee Estuary AOC.

Proposed Pike River streambank restoration. Most of this is in a designated natural area known as the petrifying spring words. New occurrence of invasive species including tall manna grass and Japanese knotweed. Also noticed fig buttercup on a nearby property.

Several sites have the rusty patch bumblebee and may act as the champion for preservation/restoration activities in the future.

Oak creek watershed restoration plan, 2016-17. 20.3 stream miles surveyed

D. Wisconsin Coastal Management Program Updates

Staff gave updates, supplementing the updates document.

Dawn asked about WCMP's upcoming 40th Anniversary. Sharon asked Mike to include council members in the planning.

IX. **Updates from Coastal Management Council**

Sharon: Eastabrook dam – the DNR said rip it out, and a county board member did not want to rip it out. A fight ensued. It was transferred to MMSD who took management of the actual dam and transferred the rest of

it to the County. Once the dam is removed, that parcel will again move back to the County. Project took some creative thinking to learn how to best accomplish that.

Joe: None

Schuster: WCMP helped fund a number of efforts on Dunes Lake. June 28th there will be a celebration

Jim: Feb 1st start of the 4-year projects. Under the continuing resolution UW Sea Grant is still operating. Washington Sea Grant wants Senator Baldwin to be a keynote presenter at the working waterfront conference in Traverse City. Putting a joint testimony in to the house of all the coastal programs showing their value. Going to visit the Hill for Great Lakes Week.

(Jim moves to submit a letter) Sharon seconds a movement to submit a letter. Jim makes an amendment to encourage the members of congress to submit a letter of request. Larry asks Jim to send him details on how to submit the request to congress. Sharon seconds the amendment. Dawn, Steve abstain. So moved.

Ken: proud to be part of the Council and the Program and to see and have impacts on the region. Mentioned he would be speaking at the annual Wisconsin Wetlands Association's Conference.

Larry: there is an ice road from Bayfield to Madeline. No sea caves or ice caves due to the winds.

X. New Business: None

XI. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 12:45PM

Next Scheduled Meeting: September 20, 2018, Door County