



STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

Tony Evers, Governor
Joel Brennan, Secretary
Dawn Vick, Division Administrator

MINUTES

WISCONSIN COASTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL MEETING

Kemper Center – Ambrose Room
6501 3rd Avenue
Kenosha, WI 53143
(262) 925-8043
Thursday, February 13, 2020
10:00 AM

I. Call to Order: 10:15 am

II. Roll Call: Larry MacDonald, Dawn Vick, Chuck Wagner, Deidre Peroff (Hurley), Michael Childers, Bill Schuster, Cory Mason, Paula Maguire (Senator Wirch Proxy), Tom Burzynski (Galarneau Proxy), Mike Halsted, and Lea Patek (Rep. Kitchens Proxy)

Others present: Dan Carter, Robert Stoikes, Matt Collins, Ed Kubicki, Adam Bechle, Mike Friis, Kate Angel, Todd Breiby, Emma Cutler, and Adam Arend.

III. Approval of Agenda: Moved and approved.

IV. Approval of Minutes (September 26, 2019): Moved and approved.

V. Welcome

Matt Collins, Director of Parks for the Kenosha County Division of Parks, welcomed the WI Coastal Management Council and WI Coastal Management Program to Kenosha County and the Kemper Center. Matt provided an introduction to the Kemper Center, noting its history and background, as well as the Kenosha County Park system. Matt discussed the recent coastal storm impacts to Kenosha County shorelines and resulting damage and erosion. Depending on what improvements are made, Matt estimated it may cost between \$14-21 million to repair the damage. Matt also discussed the WCMP financial investments over the past few years to Kenosha County Parks and the Kemper Center. The grants have allowed for coastal engineers to conduct site assessments and collect data, allowing for WEM and FEMA eligibility and claims for emergency assistance from the recent coastal storm.

Ed Kubicki, Executive Director of the Kemper Center, welcomed the WI Coastal Management Council. Ed provided a detailed history and background of the facility, its purpose, visitation as a destination and park space, and current fundraising efforts for building sustainability.

VI. Public Comments: None

VII. Action Item: Report of the Project Selection Committee

Abstain: Chair MacDonald suggested that Council members write down their abstentions and share them with staff.

Comments: Bill Schuster asked about project 203, Milwaukee Veterans Park. Mike Friis said that staff had reached out and were waiting for revisions.

Bill Schuster suggested that: 1) per diem used as match by officials during meetings can only be eligible when specific to the project – when it is a special meeting scheduled to discuss the project; 2) redundant activities should be discouraged; for re-occurring activities, applicants should clearly state how continued funding will be impactful, what that impact is, and what “extra” or new work will be completed with the project; and 3) what is allowable for indirect and if it’s over 15%, we should reject it.

Chuck Schuster asked if there were any funding left over. Mike Friis said final funding numbers had not yet been shared by NOAA, but there would likely be funding left over.

Mike Friis asked for recusals. Jim Hurley recused himself from projects 107 and 311. Mike asked council members to share other recusals if they had any.

Motion to approve recommendations of the Project Selection Committee moved and approved.

VIII. Reports

- A. Dan Carter provided an update to the Council on the work of SEWRPC. This included presenting on the Critical Habitat Update being conducted in southeast Wisconsin. The Update is incorporating new sites and modernizing the database by integrating with GIS. A technical advisory committee is currently reviewing the updates as well as providing guidance on the database. Invasive species are an getting to be a bigger threat to habitat loss than development. Ten of fourteen sites will be removed from the inventory: all of them are due to invasive species. The next steps for this project are to build each site profile and then conduct outreach to habitat stakeholders.
- B. Robby Stoikes, Wisconsin Emergency Management, discussed the federal emergency declaration process and highlighted emergency declaration efforts in Kenosha County following the January storm event. Initial estimates are completed: Wisconsin Emergency Management and the communities affected are waiting for a response. If there is a federal declaration, FEMA will come back out and work with communities. Wisconsin Emergency Management works with counties, local communities, and FEMA as a coordinator and point of contact. Matt Collins said that it was a quick turnaround and the WEM team was very fair. Cory Mason said that it was a good process from the City of Racine's perspective, though he was frustrated that funding may be restrained to putting things back as they were before the storms. The Council discussed other potential funding sources. Mason asked what standards to use to determine the amount of damage? Robby said they are less interested in dollar amounts than what was damaged and the scope of work – costs may change.
- C. Adam Bechle, Wisconsin Sea Grant, provided an update on the NOAA Coastal Resiliency project. WCMP, Wisconsin Sea Grant, UW-Madison and SEWRPC have continued work on the NOAA Coastal Resilience project focusing on addressing coastal hazard issues in southeastern Wisconsin. Bluff erosion rates have been measured throughout the region are available to view on the Wisconsin Shoreline Inventory and Oblique Photo Viewer. Work continues to develop education outreach products for property owners, local governments, and other coastal stakeholders. And six coastal resilience projects are currently being implemented by local governments using grant funds from the NOAA funded project. A meeting on water levels was held in Milwaukee in October, with the Army Corps of Engineers. Three more meeting were scheduled for March. Dawn Vick suggested adding the council members to the project listserv. Council members discussed expanding the project, beaches, and water levels. Todd discussed the Army Corps of Engineers Coastal Resilience Study. Adam Bechle mentioned the Corps' sediment study in the Great Lakes, which was funded with Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding.
- D. Wisconsin Coastal Management Program – staff provided supplemental information to the written Program Updates.

IX. Updates from Coastal Management Council

Michael Childers: The 4th Annual Great Lakes Islands Summit, held by the Great Lakes Islands Alliance, will be held in 2020 on islands in Lake Erie.

Mike Halsted: The Wisconsin DOT Harbor Assistance Program is providing \$14.8 million for infrastructure improvements to the state's ports and harbors. Projects to be awarded include the Apostle Island Marina in the City of Bayfield, City of Manitowoc, and Port Milwaukee.

X. New Business: None

XI. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 12:42pm