



DELAWARE CENTER FOR THE
INLAND BAYS
 Research. Educate. Restore.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS'

Meeting Minutes

Center for the Inland Bays
 Indian River Inlet Facility
 MAY 29, 2015
Approved OCT 08, 2015

ATTENDANCE:

<i>Board Members Present</i>	Holly Porter (DDA)
Joanne Cabry (Chair, House)	Steve Britz (CAC)
Diane Hanson (SCAT)	
Rob Robinson (Senate)	<i>EPA Representatives</i>
	Ed Ambrogio (EPA Reg. III)
<i>Board Members Absent</i>	Mike Hoffmann (EPA Reg. III)
Todd Lawson (Sussex County)	
Dr. Scott Andres (STAC)	<i>Center for the Inland Bays Staff</i>
David Small (DNREC)	Chris Bason
Susie Ball (Secretary, CAC)	Bob Collins
Secretary Ed Kee (DDA)	Sally Boswell
David Baird (Treasurer, SCD)	Roy Miller
	Marianne Walch
<i>Board Alternates Present</i>	
Hal Godwin (Sussex County)	<i>Members of the Public</i>
Robin Tyler (STAC)	Kenny Niblett (Town of Millsboro)
Frank Piorko (Vice Chair)	Ron Graeber (DNREC)

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:

Chair Joanne Cabry called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m., led the Board in the pledge of allegiance, and welcomed Holly Porter of DDA to her first CIB Board Meeting.

MEETING AGENDA REVIEW:

J. Cabry noted that the Secretaries report will be delivered by Steve Britz for Susie Ball, and with no objections the Board accepted the agenda as presented.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

S. Britz requested any corrections to the minutes and heard none. J. Cabry requested a motion to approve the Secretary's report. Hal Godwin made the motion and was seconded by Diane Hanson. The report was approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Chris Bason provided the report in David Baird's absence. C. Bason directed the Boards attention to the Finance Committee approved FY2015 Board Budget Summary and requested a motion for approval. Hal Godwin made the motion and was seconded by Frank Piorko. The report was approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)

S. Britz reported that the CAC met on April 6, 2015. Two members resigned from the CAC. CAC received a presentation on Livable Lawns and the Center's Clean Water Campaign. Chris Bason will now represent the CAC's involvement with the Burton Island cleanup. The CAC heard a report on the Love Creek Team, a report on changes to the proposed Route 113 Millsboro bypass proposal, and an update on work of Center staff. The bacteria subcommittee of the CAC had met. A CAC meeting is scheduled for June 18.

Scientific & Technical Advisory Committee (STAC)

STAC Vice Chair Dr. Robin Tyler reported that the met on April 24th to hear three presentations. Marianne Walch presented on being a citizen scientist. Presentations were heard on Your Creek. Allison Rogerson presented on beneficial reuse of dredged material project on Pepper Creek. Some members of the STAC will be focusing on the Inland Bays Monitoring Plan over the summer.

Water Use Plan Implementation Committee

Bob Collins, WUPIC liaison, reported that WUPIC met on May 6 and May 15th. Saturday June 13 is the scheduled date for the Inland Bays cleanup. He reported that the Whitehouse Beach Hazardous Debris Removal project has been completed. WUPIC will prepare a priority list of debris cleanup sites for recommendation to the Board at its next meeting.

Executive Committee

J. Cabry reported that the Committee met on May 15.

AGENCY REPORTS:

Sussex County

Hal Godwin reported that Sussex County continues to expand central sewer in the watershed focusing on Herring Creek and Angola. C. Bason added the funds spent on this work are used as match for the Center's EPA grant.

Department of Natural Resources & Environmental Control

Frank Piorko reported that DNREC is producing another 5-year strategic plan to support the Wetland Program Development Plan. Part of the plan will support the recommendations of the General Assembly's Wetland Advisory Committee. The Coastal Program of DNREC is developing a similar plan per the requirements of NOAA. He reported the State Revolving Loan Fund capital grant from the EPA may require match from the State's non-federal administrative account this year if the State does not fund other match as they have in the past. This could affect funding for Community Water Quality Improvement Grants and Surface Water Planning Grants that benefit the CCMP. The Water Infrastructure Advisory Council will be discussing this potential at its next meeting. Legislatively, DNREC will be involved in a both a regulatory accountability and sunset review this session. The cost for the Middle Island Restoration project is now priced at \$2.5 to \$3 million per an evolving design. DNREC continue to work with its agricultural partners on stormwater regulations for poultry houses.

Delaware Department of Agriculture

Holly Porter reported that little legislative activity is affecting Dept. of Agriculture this session. The poultry industry is growing. An estimate of 80 new poultry houses for DE over the next five years was provided by a number of poultry companies. She reported that bird flu could have devastating impacts if it hits this area.

Sussex Conservation District

D. Baird could not attend the meeting so no report was provided.

Sussex County Association of Towns

Diane Hanson reported that she attended the Loop Canal Living Shoreline Project Press Event. She has invited C. Bason to attend a meeting of the SCAT in fall to present on living shorelines and discuss aquaculture.

Environmental Protection Agency

Ed Ambrogio reported that C. Bason and the Executive Directors of the Maryland Coastal Bays Program and the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary are scheduled to present to Region III. In June, EPA Office of Water officials will visit the Regional EPA Office. He reported that Dave Wilson, Executive Director of the MCBP, has resigned. The Trash Free Waters Program of the EPA is underway.

General Assembly Updates

House & Senate

J. Cabry reported for both the House and Senate that the House lawyers have drafted a bill adding new Board Members to the Center's Board by amending the Inland Bays Watershed Enhancement Act as a result of the Center's Strategic Plan.

Ed Ambrogio asked about the initiative to generate additional funding for clean water. Roy Miller reported that the Center remains involved in this initiative and that a June Clean Water Rally is being held outside Legislative Hall in Dover in June to build public support for such legislation.

OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Removal of Member from CAC

J. Cabry referenced a written document provided to the Board at the beginning of the meeting regarding CAC member Nancy Cabrera Santos. J. Cabry described how N. Cabrera Santos, through a series of communications, has demonstrated a consistent misunderstanding of the role and rules of the CAC and business of the Board. She reported that a May 19 meeting was held between N. Cabrera Santos, C. Bason, J. Cabry, and CAC Chair Susie Ball where C. Bason raised his concerns with N. Cabrera Santos regarding inappropriate communication with CIB staff and disruptive behavior at CAC meetings. At this meeting C. Bason requested her resignation and N. Cabrera Santos agreed amicably to resign. N. Cabrera Santos then sent an accusatory and demanding email to a group regarding the meeting and her resignation. Ed Ambrogio asked if non-CAC members can attend CAC meetings and J. Cabry answered yes. J. Cabry recommended that N. Cabrera Santos be removed from the CAC and referenced the by-laws which allow for such removal by the Board with or without cause. F. Piorko asked if she recanted her resignation and replied that she did until she attends another CAC meeting. J. Cabry motioned to remove N. Cabrera Santos from the CAC and was seconded by F. Piorko; the vote passed unanimously.

Approval of CAC Member Application

S. Britz referenced the application for membership from Dennis Bartow included in the Board Packet. Sally Boswell provided summary of his involvement with the Center. J. Cabry motioned for approval and was seconded by S. Britz; the motion passed unanimously.

The Chair called a five minute recess.

FY2016 Proposed Workplan Highlights

C. Bason presented that 9 total projects were completed from the FY2015 workplan. Ten new projects are proposed and are focused on the Managing Living Resources focus area of the CCMP. He described the migratory fish passage design project and the project entitled demonstrating cultivation of switchgrass for poultry bedding as bay friendly crop. Ed Ambrogio asked if there are other uses of switchgrass. C. Bason replied that it is also used for biogas. R. Tyler asked about habitat value of switchgrass and C. Bason that it can be good bird habitat, but perhaps not in a dense production stand. C. Bason also briefly described projects to develop a new general brochure, a project to review progress on the pollution control strategy, a state of the bays report, ambient water quality monitoring, ecological and economic benefits of living shorelines whitepaper, and a living shoreline siting and concept design study, a living shoreline demonstration project, and a shoreline condition assessment. Upon the request of Ed Ambrogio, C. Bason discussed the climate change implications associated with the workplan.

Approval of the Proposed FY2016 Budget

C. Bason reported a total budget increase of 6.6% over fiscal year 2015. He directed the Board to the draft proposed budget and asked for any questions. J. Cabry requested a motion to approve the budget as presented. H. Godwin made the motion and was seconded by Diane Hanson. The vote passed unanimously. J. Cabry requested a presentation on private development at the next Board meeting. F. Piorko requested some history on the Center's private development efforts.

Loop Canal Living Shoreline Project

Marianne Walch and Bob Collins presented the project. D. Hanson requested that nutrients reduced by the project be related to something a layman can understand. S. Britz asked if the reduction numbers could be extrapolated to a larger system for clarity. F. Piorko suggested converting the numbers to bags of fertilizers. Robin Tyler commented that such communication is difficult because nutrient pollution is abstract; he questioned if communicating nutrient reductions to the public was necessary. F. Piorko responded that it was key communication for EPA and other water quality grant funders. M. Walch mentioned that the previously discussed workplan had a project that will better quantify the benefits of living shoreline management. C. Bason detailed the monetary value of the projects ecosystem services over thirty years as another way to communicate the benefits to the public. D. Hanson reiterated that communication of the

benefits had to be tailored to a particular audience. E. Ambrogio asked about the project permitting. B. Collins replied that state and federal permits were required and were easy to obtain.

Presentation on the Millsboro Wastewater Treatment Plant

Ron Graeber of DNREC presented the project. C. Bason asked what the load reduction to the Indian River was a result of the process including the upgrade of the treatment plant and removal of the discharge. He replied a discharge of 25 milligrams per liter nitrogen was going directly into the river was reduced to 5 milligrams per liter going into an infiltration basin. R. Tyler mentioned testing for a response in the river would be a good study. R. Graeber mentioned no new NPDES permits have been issued in Delaware since 1984. C. Bason remarked that Allen Harim has recently applied for a renewed NPDES permit to discharge for the Indian River. R. Miller asked if rapid infiltration basins were experimental. R. Graeber replied that they are not experimental and have been used for some time. C. Bason remarked that a press event could celebrate the success of this. R. Miller asked if monitoring was required and R. Graeber remarked that the Town was responsible for collecting this data.

OPEN FORUM

D. Hanson asked about the outcome of the pre-sale cocktail party. C. Bason replied those numbers were not available yet. D. Hanson asked about the effect of the recent fire in Delaware Seashore State Park and C. Bason remarked that it might benefit the area by stimulating growth.

ADJOURNMENT

J. Cabry adjourned the meeting at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully submitted,
Susie Ball, Secretary –
SB/cwb