



BOARD OF DIRECTORS'

Meeting Minutes

Center for the Inland Bays
Indian River Inlet Facility
SEP 23, 2016
Approved DEC 16, 2016

ATTENDANCE:

<i>Board Members Present</i>	<i>Board Alternates Present</i>
Joanne Cabry (<i>Chair, House</i>)	Michelle Price-Fay (<i>EPA</i>)
Diane Hanson (<i>SCAT</i>)	Bob Palmer (<i>DNREC</i>)
Susie Ball (<i>Secretary, CAC</i>)	
Heidi Gilmore (<i>Board Elected</i>)	<i>Center for the Inland Bays Staff</i>
Dr. Scott Andres (<i>STAC</i>)	Chris Bason
David Baird (<i>Treasurer, SCD</i>)	Marianne Walch
Todd Lawson (<i>Sussex County</i>)	Sally Boswell
Vickie York (<i>Board Elected</i>)	Emily Seldomridge
	Steve Maternick
<i>Board Members Absent</i>	
Sec. Ed Kee (<i>DDA</i>)	<i>Members of the Public</i>
Ed Ambrogio (<i>EPA</i>)	Hans Medlarz (<i>Sussex County</i>)
Rob Robinson (<i>Senate</i>)	Mike Hoffmann (<i>EPA</i>)
Sec. David Small (<i>DNREC</i>)	

CALL TO ORDER/MEETING AGENDA REVIEW/WELCOME:

Chair Joanne Cabry called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. and led the pledge of allegiance. She introduced Michelle Price-Fay of the EPA and Bob Palmer of DNREC. Chris Bason introduced Steve Maternick, the Center's Development Coordinator. C. Bason recognized the Center's Office Manager Loretta Smith for her 17 years of service and coming retirement. J. Cabry verified everyone had reviewed the agenda and requested changes; there were no requests.

SECRETARY’S REPORT:

Susan Ball requested any corrections to the minutes and heard none. J. Cabry requested a motion to approve the minutes. Heidi Gilmore made the motion and was seconded by Vickie York. The report was approved unanimously.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

David Baird provided the report. He directed the Board’s attention to the minutes of the Finance Committee and then the FY16 Board Budget Summary. He requested a motion to approve the Summary; J. Cabry motioned and was seconded by V. York. The vote was unanimous to approve.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)

Susan Ball reported that the CAC met June 8 and September 15. The CAC has 10 members and continues to work on membership diversity. She reported the Love Creek subcommittee of the CAC is no longer. However, an informal Friends of Love Creek group separate from the Center has formed. A new CAC sub-committee, Open Space for Recreation in the Watershed, was formed to explore new opportunities for open space access. The CAC approved four suggestions on focus areas of the 2018 County Comprehensive Plan for inclusion in the Executive Director’s recommendation to the Board for approval.

Scientific & Technical Advisory Committee (STAC)

S. Andres reported that the STAC did not meet since the last Board Meeting. The STAC has been focused on providing review of the State of the Bays Report and support for a symposium on emerging contaminants that the Center staff is involved in organizing.

WUPIC

C. Bason informed the Board that WUPIC met on and successfully conducted the Inland Bays Cleanup in June. WUPIC Chair Ed Lewandowski has provided notification that he will end his service to the Committee at the end of the year. A search for a new Chair is forthcoming.

Executive Committee

Joanne Cabry reported that the Committee met on August 22nd to prepare the board agenda and directed the Board to the meeting notes.

BOARD UPDATES:

Sussex County

Todd Lawson regretfully reported the recent passing of Melody Booker-Wilkins, the County’s Economic Development Coordinator. He reported on the results of recent primary elections and

advised that results of the final elections will affect the outcome of the County's Comprehensive Planning process. Hans Medlarz reported that the referendum to form the Herring Creek Sewer was successful and acknowledged the Center's op-ed on the subject. A referendum for the Chapel Branch sewer district is upcoming. The Angola North sewer project, near Love Creek, is the final stages of securing right of way easements and will begin in the next 2 to 3 months. T. Lawson offered a presentation on the County's sewer efforts in the watershed at future meeting.

Department of Natural Resources & Environmental Control

Bob Palmer reported that DNREC is redeveloping stormwater regulations under the directive of recent legislation that specified controlling 1 inch worth of runoff instead of the previous 2.7 inches worth of runoff as in previous regulations. It is now unclear if the regulations under development will meet EPA's requirements for water quality standards. If they do not, there is potential that central sewerage expansion could make up for water quality degradation in certain sensitive watersheds such as the Inland Bays.

He reported that a dedicated funding source for waterway management has been created by recent legislation that will raise approximately \$1 million annually for activities to occur primarily in the Inland Bays. He reported that within its new budget DNREC was able to retain its conservation cost share funding at \$1.5 million and gained funding for the Conservation Reserve and Enhancement Program.

Delaware Department of Agriculture

No representative was present.

Sussex Conservation District

David Baird reported that the public, the District, regulators and developers have been confused about the stormwater regulation situation. Many new poultry house construction starts have been delayed due to the changes.

\$650,000 worth of DNREC's annual conservation cost share funding is spent in Sussex County. However, the SCD receives \$4 million in requests each year for conservation. The District was able to leverage \$1.3 million from the \$650,000 it received from conservation cost share last year. The Chesapeake Bay Program is supporting an effort to verify if historical agricultural best management practices for nutrients still exist. The District is involved in this work county-wide.

Sussex County Association of Towns

Diane Hanson reported that she will be stepping down as the Mayor of Dewey Beach but will continue on as a council person and will continue to represent SCAT on the Board.

Environmental Protection Agency

Mike Hoffmann reported that the EPA has approved the Center's funding application and Michelle Price-Fay reported that the EPA is working through Congressional Reauthorization of the National Estuary Program.

General Assembly Updates

J. Cabry deferred a report in deference to the previous report on legislation from DNREC.

OLD BUSINESS

Removal of Point Source Discharge of Treated Wastewater from the Former Pinnacle Foods/Current Allen Harim Facility

J. Cabry reminded the Board that at the last meeting the Board agreed to hear a plan from DNREC within 3 to 6 months for elimination of the point source. B. Palmer updated the Board that Secs. Small and Kee have been meeting with Allen Harim regularly. Wastewater from the Dogfish Head brewery is no longer being treated at the facility and it is unclear if this will recommence. The facility may be up for lease.

NEW BUSINESS

Recognition of Members of the Board of Directors for 2016

Joanne Cabry thanked and recognized the Board of Directors for their service.

Nomination and Election of Officers.

C. Bason presided at the request of J. Cabry. For the Office of Chair, V. York nominated J. Cabry and was seconded by D. Hanson. No other candidates were nominated and the nominations were closed. The vote was unanimous for J. Cabry as Chair. For the Office of Vice Chair, D. Baird nominated Susie Ball and was seconded by V. York. No other candidates were nominated and the nominations were closed. The vote was unanimous for S. Ball as Vice Chair. For the Office of the Treasurer, S. Ball nominated David Baird for Treasurer and was seconded by V. York. No other candidates were nominated and the nominations were closed. The vote was unanimous for D. Baird as Treasurer. For the Office of Secretary, S. Ball nominated Vickie York and was seconded by D. Baird. No other candidates were nominated and the nominations were closed. The vote was unanimous for V. York as Secretary.

J. Cabry Recessed the Board for 10 minutes.

State of the Bays & Pollution Control Strategy Assessment Update

C. Bason introduced the State of the Bays as one of the most important products of the Center. The first report was in 2004, followed by a much more comprehensive update in 2011. Marianne Walch presented a draft of the 2016 report to be presented as final during a press conference on November 15. A number of new indicators were added including saltmarsh acreage and condition and length of growing season. The State of the Bays continues to be fair to poor with

some water quality indicators continuing to show improvement but with little progress in actions to reduce nutrient pollution. Hans Medlarz remarked that he did not see a large connection between nutrient loading and impervious surface because urban runoff has relatively little nutrient input compared to contributions from agricultural lands. M. Walch agreed and added that impervious surface also alters hydrologic cycles and erodes streams and their capacity to reduce nutrients.

Emily Seldomridge reported on agricultural, wastewater, and stormwater management practices for nutrients. She recommended that improved implementation tracking is needed as is a project level implementation plan for the watershed. H. Medlarz interjected that it is very important to include cost effectiveness of different nutrient removal practices in planning. A recommendation coming from the report is to generate dedicated funding to implement the voluntary goals of the pollution control strategy. C. Bason asked the Board for clarification on the Board's position on legislation that would result in such funding. J. Cabry stated this will be a discussion for the December Board meeting.

CIB's Role in the Sussex County Comprehensive Planning Process.

T. Lawson provided an overview of the County's process. AECOM and McCormick Taylor have been hired to support the process. The Center's CCMP priorities need to be included in the Plan if they are to be realized in zoning or as ordinances.

C. Bason distributed a document entitled CCMP Actions and Recommendations for Consideration during the 2018 Sussex County Comprehensive Plan Process for Board review and approval. The document incorporated the CAC's recommendations, which were passed out separately as well. Michelle Price-Fay asked why no actions on agriculture were included. T. Lawson replied that best management practices for agriculture are not within the Comp. Plan scope but zoning for poultry structures will likely be included. T. Lawson recommended the next step is to assess the political feasibility of the recommendations after the elections. C. Bason stated the next steps after approval would be for staff and Board to explore and advance the concepts with the general public, plan consultants, and decision makers. V. York motioned to approve the document as policy of the Board and was seconded by J. Cabry; the vote to approve was unanimous.

Management of the Wolfe Neck Wastewater Treatment & Disposal Facility.

H. Medlarz and C. Bason informed the Board that the County intends to invest in sub-surface wastewater application on the site that would allow for reforestation of approximately 300 acres of cropland. Plans for enhanced public access via trails on the site would occur. The Center staff would manage reforestation efforts and would be involved in planning along with State Parks, the landowner. The project would result in significant nutrient reductions. J. Cabry

motioned that the Board approve the Center staff pursue the project and was seconded by D. Baird; the vote was unanimous.

OPEN FORUM

ADJOURNMENT

J. Cabry requested a motion to adjourn and received one from Susan Ball who was seconded by Diane Hanson; the vote to adjourn was unanimous and occurred at noon.

Respectfully submitted,
Vickie York, Secretary –
VY/cwb