



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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

Center for the Inland
Bays Indian River Inlet
Facility
March 6, 2020
Approved: May 29, 2020

ATTENDANCE

<i>Board Members Present</i>	<i>Center for the Inland Bays Staff</i>
Richard Mais (SCAT)	Chris Bason
Susie Ball (Chair, Board-Elected)	Brittany Burslem
Pat Coluzzi (Board-Elected)	Marianne Walch
Aimee Isaac (Board-Elected)	Anna Short
Ken Sigvardson (Board-Elected)	Lisa Swanger
Gerard Esposito (Board-Elected)	
David Baird (SCD, Treasurer)	<i>Board Members Absent</i>
Lori Reynolds (EPA)	Todd Lawson (Sussex County)
Jenn Volk (STAC)	Sec. Michael Scuse (DDA)
	Sec. Shawn Garvin (DNREC)
<i>Other Attendees</i>	Claire Simmers (CAC)
Megan Mackey (EPA)	
Bonny Anderson (MacIntyre)	<i>Board Alternates Present</i>
Tyler Monteith (DNREC)	Richard Watson (CAC)
	Terry Deputy (DNREC)

CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTION

Chair Susie Ball called the meeting to order at 9:32 AM. The meeting attendees introduced themselves. S. Ball announced Mike Dunmyer resigned from the board.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

S. Ball requested a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes, Ken Sigvardson made the motion and Pat Coluzzi seconded. The vote was unanimous.

TREASURER'S REPORT

David Baird drew the board's attention to the updated board budget summary as well the FY2019 financial statement audit which had both been approved by the finance committee. S. Ball requested a motion to approve the board budget summary. P. Coluzzi made the motion and Aimee Isaac seconded. S. Ball requested a motion to approve the financial statement audit. D. Baird motioned to approve, P. Coluzzi seconded.

OTHER REPORTS

Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)

Richard Watson reported the next CAC meeting would be April 2nd with a presentation from Dennis Bartow as well as a representative from Dogfish Head. S. Ball inquired as to whether the CAC would be providing the board with comments received during CAC meetings and R. Watson reported several attendees had been interested in climate change and that the CAC would continue to report on issues citizens are concerned about.

Science and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC)

Marianne Walch reported the January STAC meeting was canceled in favor of time spent in working groups on the modeling white paper. The next meeting is March 27th, featuring presentations from professors at the University of Delaware on an effort focused on water quality and water security. There will also be a discussion at the meeting on STAC's actions in the revised CCMP facilitated by Michelle Schmidt, as well as a discussion on an update to the environmental monitoring plan of the Bays. The STAC as a whole is trying to move towards more of a discussion-based working group as opposed to the previous model of hearing presentations. A State of the Bays workgroup has been established. The STAC is also working on reinvigorating membership, filling vacant seats, and recruiting from the academic community.

Development Committee

Anna Short reported the annual appeal has surpassed its goal resulting in a 5% increase over the previous year. The Quiet Resorts Charitable Foundation made the Center the beneficiary of their annual fundraising event Caribbean Christmas, resulting in an \$8,000 donation to the James Farm Capital Campaign. A. Short reported Bonny Anderson of McIntyre Associates attended a development committee in advance of kicking off the James Farm Capital Campaign. Coming up will be the Spring Appeal with the goals of recapturing lapsed donors and recruiting new donors. Preliminary planning for Decked Out is underway.

CCMP Implementation Committee

Chris Bason reported the CCMP Implementation Committee met in person on December 11th and had a phone call in February to set goals for the year. Three priority goals were identified: land conservation, implementation of BMPs on stream networks, and watershed modeling. The committee has started making assignments and taking on responsibilities in regard to these goals and has made significant progress towards possible land conservation.

Sussex Conservation District

D. Baird gave a report on Sussex Conservation District's cover crop program. Sussex County funding is about \$2.2 million resulting in 63,000 acres of cover crop.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on CCMP Revision

Chris Bason reported the Center has received comments from the EPA on the current draft of the CCMP update. Michelle Schmidt and Megan Mackey have gone through the comments and devised a strategy on the best ways to address them. The Center is currently working on revising the narrative sections in response to the EPA's comments and hope to have this work complete by the end of March. The current timeline puts the public comment period in mid-April. Megan Mackey inquired as to whether the STAC has discussed the comments made on the CCMP revision and Jenn Volk answered they would be shared at the upcoming STAC meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

James Farm Master Plan Phase 2 Capital Campaign

Anna Short introduced the board to Bonny Anderson of McIntyre Associates, a capital campaign contractor hired to assist with the James Farm Master Plan Phase 2 Capital Campaign. B. Anderson gave a brief overview of her company and professional background, as well as her plans to kick off the public portion of the capital campaign in June at the James Farm. In regard to the capital campaign, the development committee is currently working on a case statement and has a goal to raise 40% of the total goal prior to the June event. D. Baird inquired as to how long the campaign might last and B. Anderson estimated about 18 months. P. Coluzzi asked if there was a range for the entire campaign. B. Anderson answered between \$1.5M and \$1.75M with \$500,000 having been already raised.

STAC White Paper on Modelling Implementation Plan Review and Approval

J. Volk and M. Walch gave a presentation on the STAC White Paper on Modelling Implementation Plan. The CCMP Implementation committee is currently working on scoping a watershed nutrient loading model that will examine land use, wastewater input, surface runoff, groundwater flows, precipitation patterns, etc., and will result in an output that details the amount of nutrients entering the Bays at various locations. A hydrodynamic model examines current, water levels, sediment transport, etc. The outputs of these two models can be used in a Water Quality model to determine effects on water quality due to the physical process, chemical process, biological processes and sediment fluxes. The water quality model can then be used to predict changes due to land use and management decisions.

M. Walch gave an overview of the history of the white paper's production dating back to early 2018. J. Volk detailed how the model intersected with the revised CCMP actions and detailed STAC's approval process. As of February 2020, the paper was approved by the STAC.

Next steps are to distribute a request for information and develop a funding strategy.

C. Bason commented that the model will answer the question of what happens when you have huge changes to land use while trying to restore an estuary's water quality, which will attract a lot of interest. The model will also inform us as to how climate change affects our goals.

P. Coluzzi asked whether C. Bason felt our partners were on board with this effort. C. Bason answered Sussex County, DNREC and STAC probably need to come together to ensure we're all on the same page. Terry Deputy answered the DNREC is supportive and that the process should be collaborative. G. Esposito inquired as to who would be responsible for maintaining and running the model. T. Deputy answered that he did not think those details had been ironed out as of yet. T. Deputy expressed his desire that DNREC be involved in conversations regarding these modeling efforts.

S. Ball requested a motion to accept the white paper as presented including the following recommendations:

1. Submit this document to the CIB Board of Directors for consideration at its March 2020 meeting.
2. Share this document with the CCMP Implementation Committee. Coordinate with the IC on watershed loading model development.
3. Develop and distribute Request(s) for Information to model service providers to determine feasibility, interest, and/or available capabilities to develop and maintain watershed loading and HD/WQ models for the Inland Bays. Responses will provide information on practitioners available, timelines, and costs.
4. Identify potential funding sources for each component of the work (e.g., watershed loading model, hydrodynamic model, water quality model, research to address data gaps). At least one STAC meeting or workshop in 2020 should be devoted to this.
5. Develop a detailed funding strategy and timeline for development of both models. This strategy must include a plan and funding to allow future updates to the model(s). The STAC subcommittee and CIB staff will work together to develop this plan.

The STAC will be responsible for developing Requests for Proposals, reviewing responses, and ensuring that the selection process is transparent and neutral.

P. Coluzzi made the motion and A. Isaac seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Nomination of Patricia Ragan for Board-Elected Membership

S. Ball presented the board with Patricia Reagan's resume. P. Ragan currently serves on the development committee and was instrumental in the success of the gala and is a generous donor. She has served on many boards and is currently the operations manager of the Pegasus Foundation. K. Sigvardson made the motion, Richard Mais seconded the nomination. The vote was unanimous.

Approval of Nomination of Jenn Volk for STAC Chair

S. Ball informed the board that Jenn Volk has been serving as acting STAC chair since Scott Andres's resignation and has agreed to serve as Chair officially. The board must first approve the nomination followed by a vote from the STAC. R. Mais motioned to approve the nomination and P. Coluzzi seconded.

Approval of Application of CAC Membership for Amanda Pappas

R. Watson presented Amanda Pappas's CAC application explaining she is currently a Natural Resources Masters student at Delaware State. R. Watson motioned to approve A. Pappas's application for CAC membership. P. Coluzzi seconded, the vote was unanimous.

Review of CIB Comments on Mountaire – DNREC Consent Decree

C. Bason reviewed the comments on the existing proposed consent decree, noting the current consent decree is inadequate. It is noted the consent decree should go back and encompass the larger period of known violations and that an accounting of the pollution occurring as a result of those violations should occur and be incorporated into the mitigation. C. Bason detailed new information revealed by the updated consent decree/conciliatory agreement namely the anaerobic lagoons on the site were leaking and the temporary sludge storage lagoon was also leaking pollution to the groundwater. The comments request that the pollution from both those leaking lagoons be assessed and also included in the mitigation. The CIB recommended in its comments that the company install wide forested buffers along Swan Creek and the Indian River and requested more information on the new wastewater treatment plant set to be constructed.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:06 AM
Respectfully submitted,
Susie Ball/blb –