



IRL COUNCIL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
FRIDAY JANUARY 8, 2016
SEBASTIAN CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Board of Directors Attendance

Tom Frick, FDEP; Doug Bournique, SJRWMD; Douglas Daniels, Volusia County Council; Ed Fielding (Chairman), Martin County Commission; Richard Gillmor, Indian River County Lagoon Coalition; Barbara Ross, SFWMD; Kevin Powers, SFWMD, Curt Smith, Brevard County Commission

Call to Order

Ed Fielding, Board Chairman, called the IRL Council Board of Directors meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

Agenda Item 1. For Information: Call to order and pledge of allegiance.

Mr. Fielding led the pledge of allegiance.

Agenda Item 2. Consideration: Agenda revisions.

Mr. Fielding asked for any revisions to the agenda as distributed to the Board. None were offered.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CURT SMITH, SECONDED BY DOUG BOURNIQUE, TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item 3. Consideration: Approval of minutes.

Mr. Fielding asked for any revisions to the minutes of the IRL Council Board of Directors meeting of December 11, 2015 as distributed to the Board, none were offered.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY RICHARD GILLMOR, SECONDED BY DOUG BOURNIQUE, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE IRL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF DECEMBER 11, 2015 AS DISTRIBUTED TO THE BOARD, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item 4. For Information: General public comment.

None.

Agenda Item 5. For Information: Status of Transition from SJRWMD to IRL Council.

Carolyn Ansay, IRL Council attorney, and Jennifer DiMaio, EPA, updated the Board with the transition progress of the IRLNEP from SJRWMD to the IRL Council. Ms. DiMaio congratulated the Board on becoming the new official host of the Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program, and confirmed transfer of the grant fund authority for the FY 2016-2017 IRLNEP Work Plan.

Agenda Item 6. Consideration: IRL NEP Management Conference.

Duane De Freese offered the names of eligible candidates for Board consideration and approval as members of the IRL Council Management Board: Dr. Anthony Catanese (FIT/Urban Planning), Barbara Lenczewski (Florida Department of Economic Opportunity), Mark Crosley (Florida Inland Navigation District), Layne Hamilton (Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge USFWS), Robert Musser (Canaveral Port Authority), Lynne Phillips (NASA), Kristen Kneifl (Canaveral National Seashore USNPS).

A MOTION WAS MADE BY RICHARD GILLMOR, SECONDED BY DOUG BOURNIQUE, APPOINTING THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO THE MANAGEMENT BOARD: DR. ANTHONY CATANESE (FIT/URBAN PLANNING), BARBARA LENCZEWSKI (FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY), MARK CROSLEY (FLORIDA INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT), LAYNE HAMILTON (MERRITT ISLAND NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE USFWS), ROBERT MUSSER (CANAVERAL PORT AUTHORITY), LYNNE PHILLIPS (NASA), KRISTEN KNEIFL (CANAVERAL NATIONAL SEASHORE USNPS). MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Dr. De Freese explained to the Board that the National Park Service requires a memorandum of understanding with the IRL Council in order to allow Kristen Kneifl to serve on the Management Board.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY BARBARA ROSS, SECONDED BY DOUG BOURNIQUE, AUTHORIZING DUANE DE FREESE TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE IRL COUNCIL AND THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ALLOWING KRISTEN KNEIFL TO SERVE ON THE IRL COUNCIL MANAGEMENT BOARD. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Dr. De Freese led the Board in a discussion of several options for appointing members to the Science Technology Math and Modeling Advisory Committee (STEMAC). The Board generally agreed that asking each of the identified STEM centers, agencies, and others, to submit a nomination to the IRL Council for consideration of appointment, was a good and inclusive process.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DOUG BOURNIQUE, SECONDED BY TOM FRICK, AUTHORIZING IRL COUNCIL STAFF TO CONTACT STEM CENTERS, AGENCIES, AND OTHERS, TO SOLICIT NOMINATIONS TO THE IRL COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT TO THE STEMAC, WITH THE GOAL OF SUBMITTING THOSE NOMINATIONS TO THE BOARD ON OR BEFORE THEIR MARCH MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Dr. De Freese presented a process for Board consideration, to seek interested citizens for possible consideration in appointment to the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC). IRL Council staff would create an easy application, and provide the application to all Board members for posting on their respective websites, as well as the IRL Council website. Applicant information would be collected and presented to the Board as potential CAC candidates.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY BARBARA ROSS, SECONDED BY DOUG BOURNIQUE, AUTHORIZING STAFF TO CREATE A CAC INTERESTED PARTY APPLICATION FOR TRANSMITTAL TO ALL BOARD MEMBERS FOR INCLUSION ON THEIR RESPECTIVE WEBSITES, WITH THE GOAL OF CREATING A LIST OF POTENTIAL CAC CANDIDATES FOR BOARD APPOINTMENT TO THE CAC. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Dr. De Freese discussed the Finance Advisory Committee (FAC) appointment process, asking for each Board member to provide one candidate for appointment to the FAC by the Board. Candidates should

have experience in one or more areas, including: accounting, budget, financial planning, deferred gifts, estate planning, major donor identification, financial controls and management. Board members generally agreed that each member would determine who their appointment would be, and then bring that name to the full Board for approval.

Agenda Item 7. Consideration: IRLNEP 2016-2017 Work Plan

Frank Sakuma provided the Board with an update on the IRLNEP 2016-2017 Work Plan RFP, and asked for the Board to create a subcommittee of the Management Board to evaluate project proposals, listen to oral presentations, and provide scores and comments to help facilitate creation of the next year's Work Plan. Several volunteers had been identified, and the Chairman asked for any other Management Board members in the audience who wished to serve on the committee. Several raised their hands.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DOUG BOURNIQUE, SECONDED BY TOM FRICK, CREATING A MANAGEMENT BOARD SUBCOMMITTEE TO REVIEW AND SCORE THE PROJECT PROPOSALS SUBMITTED IN RESPONSE TO THE IRL COUNCIL RFP FOR INCLUSION IN THE IRLNEP 2016-2017 WORK PLAN, WITH THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS: KATHY LAMARTINA, BARBARA LENCZEWSKY, CHRISTIANNE FERRARO, MARTIN SMITHSON, ROBERT ULEVICH, AND BILL KERR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item 8. For Information: Strategic Planning for 2016

Duane De Freese provided the Board with items which are critical to IRLNEP success for this first year: (Complete Management Conference - Begin revision of the IRLNEP CCMP - Management oversight for 13 contracts in IRL NEP FY 2015-2016 Work Plan - Sponsor participation in SJRWMD-FDEP-IRL Council Stormwater feasibility study - Create and submit the IRLNEP 2016-2017 Work Plan to EPA by June 1st - Address core elements and subelements of USEPA NEP Program Evaluation Guidance) Dr. De Freese asked for the Board to provide comments to help guide direction and focus for the next 12 months.

Mr. Fielding began a discussion of septic as a source of pollution to the IRL, not the only source, but a significant source. Mr. Fielding handed out the Martin County Septic System Elimination Report. One approach would be to determine priority based on the most and heaviest pollution inputs to the IRL. Mr. Fielding discussed a system which could be used, and the importance of having a system in place in order to obtain money for these projects.

Doug Daniels mentioned his meeting with Senator Simmons about septic tanks in Volusia county, and his support of changes to the Water Bill. A challenge is that spending to install a sewer line, and then not requiring septic system users to hook-up to the line, is not economical.

Tom Frick noted that we can take action now on septic tanks through the BMAP process. First we need to identify where septic tanks are major contributors to the system, versus stormwater. This is an issue that hits the homeowner in the pocket book. The Martin County Septic Tank Elimination Study is a good example.

Richard Gillmor noted Vero Beach is leading the way with the STEP program, utilizing a 2" line instead of building out a full gravity drain system. Sebastian, and other municipalities, may find economic advantage to this type of system.

Doug Bournique stated the two biggest items we have are to take the major inflows to the IRL and park that water out west where we can, and to deal with septic systems. We need to look at the most polluted, and work our way back to the least polluted items. This is a tough item, SJRWMD just offered free hook-up in the Wekiva springs area, but only 60% accepted, because folks didn't want to pay the \$35 per year service fee.

Mr. Fielding asked for the Board to issue general support of those types of projects, similar to Martin County's, to help attract those state or federal monies to fund these projects.

Kevin Powers asked if staff had a list of project that we can begin reviewing for 2016. Dr. De Freese noted the IRL Council did not currently have those projects, but with this Board discussion, staff can move forward to help position the IRL Council in bringing projects online. Mr. Powers noted it will be important to have a suite of projects available to move forward on several specific areas of restoration.

Mr. Frick noted we are gaining the information necessary to have projects in the pipeline, ready to go, in support of those priority areas in the IRL. Working with communities and agencies in getting these projects into BMAPs is critical, and ongoing.

Mr. Fielding asked if Dr. De Freese would comment on the Comprehensive Lagoon Restoration Plan document handed out during the 12/11/2015 IRL Council Board meeting. Dr. De Freese noted that all the items on that document will be covered under the IRL CCMP revision process. Yet we do have the opportunity to find those "low hanging fruit" projects and fund the ones we know about while we are in the revision process. Mr. Bournique noted that during his discussions with legislators, all of them are asking how the IRL is doing. Mr. Fielding noted that IRL Council staff are strongly encouraged to contact legislators and their staff to make them aware of our issues and plans in moving forward.

Mr. Fielding also noted that DEO and both Regional Planning Councils are involved in a financial analysis of the IRL, and there may be information from them in their progress. Dr. De Freese acknowledged that he has had meetings with DEO. Barbara Lenczewski updated the Board on progress of the economic study of the IRL. Mike Busha has been developing the methodology. DEO has a lot of the labor market statistics data, and is helping to guide the RPCs in the use of that data. Early in the study, the 2008 SJRWMD economic report was reviewed. Lots of that work was done in the field, with significant surveys. It was clear that the RPC work would not have sufficient time nor funding to use a similar methodology. Ms. Lenczewski noted that Dr. De Freese had sent DEO the Ocean Alliance Coastal Study in hopes that some elements of that study could be utilized by the RPCs. There may be further work in cluster analysis in the future. Dr. De Freese mentioned that the Florida Ocean Alliance documented in 2010-2011 the total economic value of the ocean and coastal economic cluster in Florida exceeded \$580 billion dollars per year.

Agenda Item 9. Consideration: Staff reports and general board comments.

Staff Report

- Duane De Freese thanked the City of Sebastian, and their staff, for being such gracious hosts and helping with the meeting. The new IRL Council offices are now located next door in the historic 1927 Sebastian School Building. Dr. De Freese again offered his services for speaking engagements, and noted he would be in Tallahassee for several days in the coming month. IRL Council staff will be travelling to Washington D.C. for mandatory EPA/ANEP meetings. The House and Senate are close to resolving funding for the 2017-2018 EPA NEPs.

Counsel Report

- None.

Board Comment

- Richard Gillmor expressed his desire that we do as much as we can this coming year, in the way of putting funds to use in projects. All of the contributions should be in new projects, in addition to the EPA and License Plate funds.

- Doug Bournique advised the board that on Tuesday, 2/12, SJRWMD is going to look at a dispersed water project at two sites in Indian River County. One site is near the headwaters of the St. Sebastian River, and the second site is adjacent to C-54 which is a 1,600-acre site. Both sites are excellent areas, and available for dispersed water storage. It would help to have the support of the IRL Council for these projects as they go to the SJRWMD Governing Board for approval. Mr. Bournique also advised of progress on funding at the state level, and his pending meeting with state legislators.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY RICHARD GILLMOR, SECONDED BY DOUG DANIELS, THAT THE IRL COUNCIL DRAFT A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR TWO DISPERSED WATER STORAGE/NUTRIENT REDUCTION PILOT PROJECTS SCHEDULED TO GO BEFORE THE ST JOHNS RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT FOR APPROVAL ON JANUARY 12, 2016. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- Mr. Daniels noted that having talking points when speaking to legislators and water management districts about Board supported items is critical. When we band together, we can begin to make some fundamental differences in water quality. Let's get as much publicity as we can to build support in the communities.
- Carolyn Ansay advised the Board that staff can gather information about different projects, and disseminate that information to the Board and other agencies. As long as each Board member is not having discussion out of "Sunshine" then staff may bring back data to each member, and then the Board in a public meeting may decide to take further action. It would not be improper to disseminate information; what staff cannot do is have one Board member use staff as a conduit to other Board members.
- Mr. Powers expressed that it is important to have things to point to in terms of metrics and measurables as we go back to our respective boards. Having a balance of process and action items will be beneficial in the coming year.
- Mr. Frick congratulated the group and staff for bringing this together. We talked about what we can do now, and that is what this IRLNEP has been concerned with. He encouraged everyone to keep that in mind as we move forward. Mr. Frick asked if we could add an update on the IRL Protection Initiative from Dr. Jacoby at the next board meeting at HBOI.
- Curt Smith thought it was a great idea to have the counties working together on the septic tank issue, it's a much lighter load if one county doesn't need to push an issue through the legislature, versus having five work together.
- Barbara Ross presented the Board with a draft legislative outreach document.

Public Comment

- Graham Cox, city of Sebastian, thanked Mayor Gillmor for making sure that Indian River county and Sebastian are included in the IRL Council. In discussion of the Citizen Advisory Committee, there is a need that all voices be represented. Pelican Island Audubon Society has an advocacy program with young people. There should be a way that we can take advantage of what we are already doing, and help young people understand the science of the lagoon, and become advocates for the lagoon. Also, we spend quite a bit of time with people in Gifford, the Gifford Youth Center, and in Fellsmere, with people who have quality of life issues. The IRL watershed

includes a lot of people and a lot of land to the west of the lagoon. I want to be sure that we have representation of those citizens as well. We must make sure that people living in the western end of the system are included in the discussions about the lagoon, and in the CAC.

Agenda Item 10. Adjourn.

Chairman Fielding adjourned the meeting.

Board of Directors meeting adjourned.

DRAFT