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# IRL COUNCIL CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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## Minutes from the meeting of February 10, 2022

**1:30 PM**

Sebastian City Hall Council Chambers, 1225 Main Street, Sebastian, FL

**Attendance:** Frank Brownell, Libby Lavette, Jessy Wayles, Christine Bamberger, Frank Catino, Doug Patterson, Cheryl McPhillips, Keith Winsten, Dr. Graham Cox, Heather Stapleton, Gerome Gayman, Jim Moir, D. Greg Braun.

**Guests:** None

**Agenda Item 1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance** (Frank Catino, Chair)

Frank Catino called the meeting to order at 1:38 PM and led the Citizens' Advisory Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Agenda Item 2. Introductions & Public Comments** (Frank Catino, Chair)

Frank Catino led introductions. There were no public comments.

**Agenda Item 3. Agenda Revisions** (Frank Catino, Chair)

There were no agenda revisions.

**Agenda Item 4. Approval of Minutes** (Frank Catino, Chair)

**Requested Action:** Approval of minutes from the meeting of May 6, 2021, August 12, 2021 and November 18, 2021.

MOTION WAS MADE BY HEATHER STAPLETON TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES FROM MAY 6, 2021, AUGUST 12, 2021 AND NOVEMBER 18, 2021. JESSY WAYLES SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Agenda Item 5. Old Business**

- a. Quorum Reduction Discussion (Duane De Freese)

**Requested Action:** Discussion and recommendation to the IRL Council Board of Directors regarding meeting quorum and potential by-law change.

Dr. De Freese led the discussion of potential adjustments to the quorum for the Citizens' Advisory Committee. The committee discussion included alternates, to follow-up with members who are consistently absent, and the three-strike rule. The committee also appreciated the two week out email to confirm who indeed was attending, which the IRLNEP will continue. Dr. De Freese discussed how he would speak to the IRLNEP Board of Directors to change the policy to three unexcused absences, and you may be replaced by the appointed commissioner.

### **Agenda Item 6. New Business**

a. Election of Chair and Vice Chair (Duane De Freese)

Dr. De Freese reviewed the election of officers. The Citizens' Advisory Committee would like to see Frank Catino and Jessy Wayles to continue in leadership roles as Chair and Vice Chair.

**Requested Action:** Elect Chair and Vice Chair to serve on the Citizens' Advisory Committee in calendar year 2022.

MOTION WAS MADE BY KEITH WINSTEN TO ELECTION FRANK CATINO AS CHAIR AND JESSY WAYLES AS VICE CHAIR FOR THE 2022 CALENDAR YEAR. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY GEROME GAYMAN. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

b. Review and Accept Small Grants Application Packet (Daniel Kolodny)

Mr. Kolodny reviewed the small grants application packet

**Requested Action:** Recommend that the IRL Council Board of Directors authorize staff to release FY 2022 Small Grants application.

c. Fiscal Year 2023 RFPs (Daniel Kolodny)

Mr. Kolodny discussed the fiscal year 2023 RFP's including the highest ranked projects in the categories of water quality restoration, habitat restoration, community-based habitat restoration, Science and Innovation and Market Research.

**Requested Action:** Motion to recommend that the IRL Council Board of Directors accept the IRLNEP Management Conference recommendations and approve the final ranked list of proposals; fund the top proposals contingent

and consistent with available funds and budgetary authority; and authorize staff to negotiate and enter into contracts with those applicants.

MOTION WAS MADE BY GEROME GAYMAN TO RECOMMEND THAT THE IRL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS ACCEPT THE IRLNEP MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATIONS AND APPROVE THE FINAL RANKED LIST OF PROPOSALS; FUND THE TOP PROPOSALS CONTINGENT AND CONSISTENT WITH AVAILABLE FUNDS AND BUDGETARY AUTHORITY; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO CONTRACTS WITH THOSE APPLICANTS. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY D. GREG BRAUN. RECUSALS INCLUDED JESSY WAYLES AND KEITH WINSTEN. MOTION WAS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY EXCEPT FOR RECUSALS.

d. Fiscal Year EPA Workplan and IRLNEP Business Plan (Daniel Kolodny)

Mr. Kolodny discussed the EPA Workplan and how the budget and projects from the category four (Science and Innovation) will be included in the workplan. The deadline is June 1<sup>st</sup> and the IRLNEP is looking to assemble this plan with the projects that were awarded. This workplan goes into the IRLNEP Business Plan.

**Requested Action:** Recommend that the IRL Council Board of Directors authorize staff to finalize and submit the FY 2023 EPA Workplan and complete the IRLNEP Business Plan.

MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM MOIR TO RECOMMEND THAT THE IRL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS AUTHORIZE STAFF TO FINALIZE AND SUBMIT THE FY 2023 EPA WORKPLAN AND COMPLETE THE IRLNEP BUSINESS PLAN. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY HEATHER STAPLETON. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

e. Planning for Congressional Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Law (Duane De Freese)

Dr. De Freese summarized the Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Law. The timeline could be a challenge as EPA would like these projects to hit the ground quickly. The IRLNEP has identified five projects, one in each county, that meet the definition. These projects will start this year by allocating \$500K to those five projects. This will be a budgeting change, but not a project change. The IRLNEP plans going into October 2022 with 1.3 million in projects.

**Requested Action:** Discussion of procedures for identifying and funding eligible projects; authorize staff to develop and release a Request for Proposal or Request for Qualifications as appropriate.

MOTION WAS MADE BY KEITH WINSTEN TO AUTHORIZE STAFF TO DEVELOP AND RELEASE AND RELEASE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL OR REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS AS APPROPRIATE. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY D. GREG BRAUN. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

### **Agenda Item 7. IRLNEP Staff Reports**

b. IRL Project Update (Daniel Kolodny)

Mr. Kolodny highlighted the projects completed at the end of quarter one of fiscal year 2022, which included Coastal Resources: Pelican Island Phase V Restoration, IRLT: Validation of Inexpensive Impoundment Management Strategies to Increase Their Value as Vital Fish Nurseries Phase I, and FAU: Monitoring Prevalence of Microcyston Toxins Using SPATT.

c. Communications Report (Kathy Hill)

Ms. Hill discussed the 2021 Annual Report in her Communications Report, along with metrics from the Guiding Flow Television IRLNEP sponsored episodes. Ms. Hill reviewed the social media metrics for October, November and December of 2021 and highlighted the top performing posts on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Also discussed was the IRL Specialty Tag update, which included next steps with the Florida Department of Transportation.

d. Executive Director Report (Duane De Freese)

Dr. De Freese highlighted the Manatee UME update in his Executive Director Report. He additionally discussed the Florida Legislative Sessions and the attached IRL appropriations. Dr. De Freese reviewed upcoming events including the FAU-HBOI IRL Science Symposium, the Bat Area Scientific Symposium, the 8<sup>th</sup> Biennial Water Institute Symposium and the Marine Technology Tech Surge with FAU-HBOI.

### **Agenda Item 8. General Public Comments**

There were no general public comments.

### **Agenda Item 9. Adjourn**

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 5, 2022

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 3:45 PM.