



---

# IRL COUNCIL STEM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

---

## Minutes from the meeting of August 6, 2019

9:00 AM

*Up the Creek Farms, 3950 Valkaria Road, Grant-Vakaria, FL*

### **Attendance:**

Rich Paperno, Lisa Krinsky, Chad Truxall, Anne Birch, Leesa Souto, Leroy Creswell, Dale McGinnis, Linda Walters, Kevin Johnson, Dave Cox, Beth Powell, Dennis Hanisak, Jennifer DiMaio, Chuck Jacoby, Valerie Paul, Patti Gorman, Mitch Roffer.

### **Agenda Item 1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

Dr. Jacoby called the meeting to order and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Agenda Item 2. Agenda Revisions**

None.

### **Agenda Item 3. Minutes Approval**

Requested Action: Approval of Minutes from STEM meeting on May 7, 2019.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CHAD TRUXALL, SECONDED BY ANNE BIRCH TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE MAY 7, 2019 MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

### **Agenda Item 4. Introductions and Updates**

Members introduced themselves. There were no new members.

### **Agenda Item 5. Public Comment**

None.

### **Agenda Item 6. Water Quality Reports**

- a. Dr. Chuck Jacoby, northern and central IRL  
Chuck Jacoby gave the water quality report for the northern and central portions of the IRL.

b. Dianne Hughes, Martin Co., southern IRL

Chuck Jacoby gave the water quality report for the southern portion of the IRL, including Lake Okeechobee, from data relayed by Dianne Hughes.

**Agenda Item 7: Presentation: Update on Development of an Action Plan for Coastal Adaptation Management**

Dr. Randall Parkinson, R.W. Parkinson Consulting, and Dr. Valerie Seidel, Balmoral Group.

Dr. Randall Parkinson gave a presentation on progress being made on the coastal resiliency planning grant for coastal adaptation. He noted that three issue areas: increased precipitation, increased storminess and sea level rise account for the majority of risk factors requiring planning for adaptation. He suggested that utilizing the BMAP/TMDL structure, already in place, as the logical place to additionally address resiliency issues.

Discussion followed focused on policy development, gaining cooperation from DEP and other agencies, and implications for statewide resiliency planning.

**Agenda Item 8. Old Business**

- a. CCMP Update (Jennifer DiMaio, EPA Region 4, and Duane De Freese)  
Requested Action: Motion to recommend adoption of the IRLNEP Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP): *Looking Ahead to 2030*.

Jennifer DiMaio, EPA Region 4, announced that the CCMP had been certified by the US EPA on July 23, 2019. She congratulated staff and the Management Conference on completion of the task and the dedication to addressing all comments and concerns in producing the plan.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY ANNE BIRCH, SECONDED BY LISA KRIMSKY, TO RECOMMEND ADOPTION OF THE CCMP BY THE IRL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b. *Science 2030* document development (Duane De Freese)  
Requested Action: Committee consideration and discussion of the overarching concepts, research priorities, and emerging innovations that should be considered and included in the development of a forward-looking document to promote lagoon science and research in the next 10 years.

Duane De Freese reviewed the impetus for producing the Science 2030 document, wishing it to be a forward-looking driver for technology and innovation in lagoon management and restoration. He requested comments

and review of the draft document included in the meeting package, with any needed discussion at the next meeting.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN.

- c. FY 2019-2020 Planning Documents – Pathway forward (Duane De Freese)  
Update on the planning meeting held with contractors for the planning documents to be produced (IRL State of the Lagoon Technical Report, Habitat Restoration Plan, Monitoring Plan, Asset Mapping)  
Requested Action: Committee discussion of how best to review and evaluate progress, and contribute toward development of these planning documents.

Duane De Freese discussed the RFPs for planning documents and the meeting held with the contractors at the IRLNEP. He noted that staff has requested these projects each vet their progress via the STEM.

Question regarding tying quarterly progress reports to the STEM Meetings, are the cycles going to be coordinated? Duane replied that they won't need to align completely.

Comment on whether STEM will receive quarterly progress reports to assist in framing discussion. The suggestion was made that these progress reports be made available by staff well ahead of the meeting date so there would be time to consider any follow-up questions and considerations.

Dune also requested that the committee consider which lagoonwide asset maps need to be produced. Suggestions included: bathymetry, water quality, hardened vs. natural shorelines, habitat, land uses, muck, oxygen and algae, outfalls, and shoreline types.

#### **Agenda Item 9: New Business**

- a. FY 2019 – 2020 Funding Reallocation for Additional Projects (Daniel Kolodny)  
Requested Action: Committee recommendation for approval of funding reallocation to projects in FY 2019-2020.

Staff presented additional projects available for funding based on FY 2019-2020 RFP ranking and identified available funds.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY VAL PAUL, SECONDED BY LEESA SOUTO, TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF FUNDING REALLOCATION TO FUND ADDITIONAL PROJECTS IDENTIFIED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

b. RFQ Scores and Funding Recommendations (Daniel Kolodny)

i. RFQ 2019-01 Microalgae and HABs

Requested Actions: Committee recommendation to approve entering into service contracts with the top ranked applicant(s) based on program needs and contingent and consistent with budget authority.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY ANNE BIRCH, SECONDED BY LEROY CRESWELL, TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF ENTERING INTO CONTRACTS WITH THE TOP RANKS APPLICANT(S) BASED ON PROGRAM NEEDS AND CONTINGET AND CONSISTENT WITH BUDGET AUTHORITY. MOTION CARRIED, WITH DENNIS HANISAK RECUSED FROM VOTING.

ii. RFQ 2019-02 Atmospheric Deposition

Requested Actions: Committee recommendation to approve entering into service contracts with the top ranked applicant(s) based on program needs and contingent and consistent with budget authority.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY KEVIN JOHNSON, SECONDED BY LEESA SOUTO, TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF ENTERING INTO CONTRACTS WITH THE TOP RANKS APPLICANT(S) BASED ON PROGRAM NEEDS AND CONTINGET AND CONSISTENT WITH BUDGET AUTHORITY. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

iii. RFQ 2019-03 Species Biodiversity

Requested Actions: Committee recommendation to approve entering into service contracts with the top ranked applicant(s) based on program needs and contingent and consistent with budget authority.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY KEVIN JOHNSON, SECONDED BY LEESA SOUTO, TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF ENTERING INTO CONTRACTS WITH THE TOP RANKS APPLICANT(S) BASED ON PROGRAM NEEDS AND CONTINGET AND CONSISTENT WITH BUDGET AUTHORITY. MOTION CARRIED, WITH VAL PAUL RECUSED FROM VOTING.

c. FY 2020-2021 RFP process (Duane De Freese)

Staff will present a proposed strategy for RFP categories, priorities and general budget allocations to guide the FY 2020-2021 RFP process.

Requested Action: Committee discussion and recommendation for funding priorities and allocation for FY 2020-2021 RFPs.

Duane De Freese presented the staff proposal for RFP funding priorities and funding allocations within categories for FY 2020-2021.

STEM general consensus is that the \$100,000 for science was not adequate. Lisa Krinsky inquired as to why program evaluations and other social science considerations are not prioritized, particularly when citizen science and engagement is involved. Duane replied that it would be up to the review teams as to whether social science projects are competitive within RFP categories.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CHUCK JACOBY, SECONDED BY LEROY CRESWELL TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE RFP CATEGORIES, FUNDING PRIORITIES AND GENERAL BUDGET ALLOCATIONS TO GUIDE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FY 2020-2021 BUDGET AND RFP PROCESS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

d. EPA Supplemental Grant – HABs (Duane De Freese)

Duane De Freese will provide an overview of the \$25K grant IRLNEP received from EPA for the purpose of transitioning SJRWMD's algal bloom task force to the IRLNEP.

Requested Action: Committee discussion on optimizing the value of this supplemental grant.

Duane De Freese briefly reviewed the proposal to continue the Algal Bloom Task Force and transition it to the IRLNEP. He requested ideas for how to make the best use of the grant funding via workshops and meetings to bring the best knowledge forward to optimize funding.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN.

e. 2020 Meeting Calendar

- STEM Meetings will continue to be held on Tuesdays at Up the Creek Farms in Grant-Valkaria.
- Meetings will be held at 1:00 p.m.
- Draft meeting calendar is provided.

Requested Action: Motion to recommend adoption of the 2020 meeting calendar.

Kathy Hill presented the draft meeting calendar for 2020, noting that STEM time had been moved to the afternoon.

THERE WAS GENERAL CONSENSUS TO APPROVE THE MEETING CALENDAR.  
NO FORMAL VOTE WAS TAKEN.

**Agenda Item 10. IRLNEP Executive Director Report**

Duane De Freese briefly reviewed the legislative position statements for the upcoming session. He touched on a potential water technology conference that he is working to hold on Florida's east coast in conjunction with the Marine Technology Society and Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast. Details will follow.

**Agenda Item 11. Final Comments (Committee, Public, Staff)**

No other comments.

**Agenda Item 12. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned.