IRL COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT BOARD

Minutes from the meeting of

Tuesday, February 7, 2023

10:15 AM

Up the Creek Farms, 3590 Valkaria Road, Grant-Valkaria, FL 32950

Attendance: Marina Barrineau, Terri Breeden, Tom Campenni, Tom Carey, Paul Carlisle, Anthony Catanese, Donald Dankert, Joseph Falzone, Dave Fuss, Doug Gibson, James Gray, Carter Henne, Chuck Jacoby, Elizabeth Kelly, Gretchen Kelly, Bill Kerr, Dale Ketcham, Kathy LaMartina, Vince Lamb, John Leslie, Mike McCabe, Kelli McGee, Matt Mitts, Bob Musser, Judy Orcutt, Beth Powell, Kevin Shropshire, Diana Turner, Charles Vogt III, Greg Wilson, Kelly Young

Guests: Stacy Cecil, Peter Eggert, Jim Cannon, Amy Eason, Keith Ramos, David Jones

1. **Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance** (Tom Carey, Chair)
   The meeting was called to order by Tom Carey at 10:17 a.m. Tom Carey led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **Introductions** (Tom Carey, Chair)
   Tom Carey led roundtable introductions, including new members and guests.

3. **Election of Officers** (Kathy Hill)
   Ms. Hill informed the group that Tom Carey is willing to remain in the role of Chair and Bob Musser as Vice Chair. Ms. Hill opened the floor for new nominations.
   Requested Action: Elect Chair and Vice Chair for Calendar Year 2023 for the Management Board Committee

   MOTION WAS MADE BY TOM CAMPENNI TO ELECT TOM CAREY AS CHAIR AND TO ELECT BOB MUSSER AS VICE CHAIR OF THE MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2023. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY KELLY MCGEE. MOTION PASSED.

4. **Agenda Revisions** (Tom Carey, Chair)
   No agenda revisions were brought forward.

5. **Minutes Approval** (Tom Carey, Chair)

   Requested Action: Approval of Minutes from the Management Board meeting on November 15, 2022.

   MOTION WAS MADE BY TOM CAMPENNI TO APPROVE THE MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 15, 2022. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY PAUL CARLISLE. MOTION PASSED.

6. **Finance Sub-Committee Report** (Tom Campenni, Vice Chair)
   Mr. Campenni reviewed the Finance Subcommittee meeting, which examined the Quarter One Financial Statements. Recommended approval of the following items:
   Approval of Amendment 1 to Contract IRL2022-20 Atmospheric Deposition of Nutrients Monitoring and the Fiscal Year 2024 Tentative Budget

Requested Action: Accept Committee Report

MOTION WAS MADE BY ANTHONY CATANESE TO ACCEPT THE FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY JAMES GRAY. MOTION PASSED.

7. **Public Comment**

Judy Orcutt announced that Clay Henderson was tonight's E-Series speaker at the Emerson Center in Vero Beach and encouraged members to attend.

8. **Water Quality Reports**

a. Northern IRL (Dr. Chuck Jacoby)

Dr. Chuck Jacoby reported that all water levels continue to recede. Salinity in December and January was highest in Mosquito and Vero, as is consistent. Water temperatures dipped in late December and returned. Chlorophyll-a showed activity at Cocoa and Eau Gallie, which coincided with the temperature dips. The C-1 Canal re-diversion of water from October to December removed nitrogen and phosphorus.

b. Southern IRL (Kathy LaMartina)

Kathy LaMartina reported that the release of water from Lake Okeechobee has caused a slight decrease in salinity. The water remains at the optimal level for oysters at HR1 and US1 Bridge, and the A1A Bridge site fell to the upper stressful range. Oyster recruitment rates peaked in the Spring of 2022, decreased in July, then occurred consistently through December. Densities have increased steadily since March 2022.

9. **Presentation**

Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (David Jones)

David Jones, Diversity of Thought, Inc., presented the benefits of communicating and building bridges with priority populations to advance the goals of the IRLNEP and to develop access to the IRLNEP for the priority populations. With Mr. Jones' guidance, staff will define goals, determine measurable outcomes and outline the duties and commitments of a task force.

10. **Old Business**

None

11. **New Business**

a. Fiscal Year 2024 Water Quality RFP (Daniel Kolodny)

Mr. Kolodny reviewed the top three RFPs. Tom Carey opened the floor for discussion on the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority RFP, as it contains a line item to use IRLNEP funds to cover the cost of public water hookups. Mr. Kolodny explained that the contract can include details in the scope of work to exclude IRLNEP funds to be used for public water hookups.

Requested Action: Motion to recommend that the IRL Council Board of Directors accept the IRLNEP Management Board 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 TOM CAMPENNI TO REMOVE THE LINE ITEM FOR PUBLIC WATER HOOKUPS FROM THE FORT PIERCE UTILITIES AUTHORITY RFP AND RECOMMEND THAT THE IRL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS ACCEPT THE IRLNEP MANAGEMENT BOARD 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. SECONDED BY CHARLES VOGT III. TWO OPPOSED. MOTION PASSED.

b. Fiscal Year 2024 Habitat Restoration RFP (Daniel Kolodny)

Mr. Kolodny reviewed the two Habitat Restoration RFPs.

Requested Action: Motion to recommend that the IRL Council Board of Directors accept the IRLNEP Management Board 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 ANTHONY CATANESE TO RECOMMEND THAT THE IRL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS ACCEPT THE IRLNEP MANAGEMENT BOARD 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. SECONDED BY TOM CAMPENNI. MOTION PASSED.

c. Fiscal Year 2024 Science and Innovation RFP (Daniel Kolodny)

Mr. Kolodny reviewed the two Science and Innovation RFPs. The Mote Marine Lab will not be fully funded due to the current budget; additional funding could be made available in the future.

Requested Action: Motion to recommend that the IRL Council Board of Directors accept the IRLNEP Management Board 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 JAMES GRAY TO RECOMMEND THAT THE IRL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS ACCEPT THE IRLNEP MANAGEMENT BOARD 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. SECONDED BY KEVIN SHROPSHIRE. ANTHONY CATANESE ABSTAINED. MOTION PASSED.

d. Fiscal Year 2024 Tentative Budget (Danial Kolodny)

Mr. Kolodny reviewed the tentative budget for FY 2024.

Requested Action: Recommend that the IRL Council Board of Directors review and adopt the tentative budget for FY 2024 by Resolution 2023-01, pursuant to Florida Statutes.

MOTION WAS MADE BY TOM CAMPENNI TO RECOMMEND THAT THE IRL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS REVIEW AND ADOPT THE TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FY 2024 BY RESOLUTION 2023-01, PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTES. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY BILL KERR. KELLI MCGEE ABSTAINED. MOTION PASSED.

e. Upcoming RFPs (Daniel Kolodny)

1. Small Grants Application
2. Fiscal Year 2024 Restoration Benefiting Priority Communities (IIJA)

Mr. Kolodny informed the committee that the Citizens' Advisory Committee will review the Small Grants Application at the upcoming meeting. The IIJA may not be available until August due to the requirements are not fully outlined at this time, and the projects must fit the new requirements.

Requested Action: Authorize staff to develop and release RFPs for FY 2024 Small Grants and IIJA.

MOTION WAS MADE BY TOM CAMPENNI TO AUTHORIZE STAFF TO DEVELOP AND RELEASE RFPS FOR FY 2024 SMALL GRANTS AND IIJA. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY VINCE LAMB. MOTION PASSED.

f. Fiscal Year 2024 EPA Workplan and 2024 IRLNEP Business Plan (Daniel Kolodny)

Requested Action: Recommend that the IRL Council Board of Directors authorize staff to finalize and submit the FY 2024 EPA Workplan and complete the FY 2024 IRLNEP Business Plan

MOTION WAS MADE BY MIKE MCCABE TO RECOMMEND THE IRL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS AUTHORIZE STAFF TO FINALIZE AND SUBMIT THE FY 2024 EPA WORKPLAN AND COMPLETE THE FY 2024 IRLNEP BUSINESS PLAN. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY JAMES GRAY. MOTION PASSED.

12. IRLNEP Staff Reports

a. Communications Report (Kathy Hill)

Ms. Hill reported that the social media posts reach and interaction is increasing. The activity of the three Community Engagement Coordinators' collaboration was noted for the increase. The CECs are busy connecting and performing outreach throughout the length of the lagoon. Eight podcasts will be produced this year, requesting suggestions for topics and speakers.

b. Information Technology and Data Science Update (KJ Ayres)

Ms. Ayres reported that the FDEP Innovative Technology Project 13, GeoCollaborate, is completed, and the report has been submitted. The One Lagoon website has a link to all materials pertaining to this project. Envirothon will take place on February 24th, 2023, after a three-year hiatus. Website updates are ongoing.

c. IRL Project Update (Daniel Kolodny)

Mr. Kolodny reported that CCMP Projects/Activities are in progress, with two projects completed during FY 2023 Quarter 1. Mr. Kolodny highlighted the two completed projects; City of Stuart – Tressler Drive Water Quality Improvement and the Florida Atlantic University/Harbor Branch – Sampling to Assess Toxins Produced by Harmful Algal Blooms in the Indian River Lagoon.

d. Executive Director Report (Kathy Hill)

Ms. Hill reported that Executive Director Dr. Duane De Freese is recovering from recent cancer treatment. Prior to treatment, Dr. De Freese met with NEP Directors and attended the FWC Fall Manatee Forum in November. December meetings included the State and Federal Interagency Emergency Response Team and the Interagency Coastal Resilience with FDEP and Space Florida. Multiple conversations with state and federal elected officials, office staff members, and agency representatives regarding strategic planning for 2023 continue.

13. Final Comments (Committee, Staff, Public)

Kathy LaMartina asked for the status of the IRL license plate. Ms. Hill responded that the next step was to purchase the remaining stock then the new plate will be available.

James Gray reported that the annual Sebastian Inlet Seagrass monitoring report is in Draft form and is expected to be completed this March. The report will contain 10 years of seagrass data. The Balmoral Group has been contracted to update the SITD Regional Economic Benefits study, with expected completion in August/September 2023.

Kathy Hill announced that an opening on the Financial Sub-committee is available and requested a volunteer. Paul Carlisle volunteered to fill the vacancy.

14. Next Meeting

Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at 10:15 a.m.

Up the Creek Farms, 3590 Valkaria Road, Grant-Valkaria, FL 32950

15. Adjourn

MOTION WAS MADE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING BY MIKE MCCABE AT 11:53 A.M.

NOTE: If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes (2014).

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this workshop/meeting is asked to advise the agency at least 48 hours before the workshop/meeting by contacting: Erin Bergman at (314) 347-5854. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1(800) 955-8771 (TDD) or 1(800) 955-8770 (Voice). For more information, you may contact: Erin Bergman, IRL Council, 1235 Main St, Sebastian, FL 32958, (314)347-5854, or by email at bergman@irlcouncil.org.