IRL COUNCIL
CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes from the meeting of

Thursday, May 4, 2023

1:30 P.M.

Sebastian City Hall, Council Chambers,

1225 Main Street, Sebastian, FL 32958

Attendance: Christine Bamberger, Frank Brownell, Frank Catino, Graham Cox, Cheryl McPhillips, Jim Moir, Doug Patterson, Linda Roberts, Suzanne Scheiber, Tess Sailor-Tynes

Guests: None

1. **Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance** (Frank Catino, Chair)
   Mr. Catino called the meeting to order at 1:35 P.M. and led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Introduction & Public Comments** (Frank Catino, Chair)
   Mr. Catino led the introductions of the group.
3. **Agenda Revisions** (Frank Catino, Chair)
   No agenda revisions were brought forward.
4. **Approval of Minutes** (Frank Catino, Chair)

   Requested Action: Approve Minutes from the CAC Meeting on February 9, 2023.

   MOTION WAS MADE BY DOUG PATTERSON TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 9, 2023. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY FRANK BROWNELL. MOTION PASSED.
5. **Public Comment**
   No public comments were made.
6. **Old Business**
   None
7. **New Business**

   a. Small Grants (Kathy Hill)

   Ms. Kathy Hill shared that 19 proposals were submitted. Nine scored 70 or higher. One proposal eligible for an award was withdrawn; this allowed five proposals to be awarded within the budgeted amount. During the meeting, the funding of the three proposals that scored above 70 was discussed, as well as one proposal that scored 69.9. The CAC supported funding all four proposals and recommended them to the BOD.

   Requested Actions: Motion to recommend that the IRL Council Board of Directors accept IRLNEP Management Conference recommendations, approve the final ranked list of proposals,

and fund the top proposals contingent and consistent with available funds and budgetary authority. Authorize staff to negotiate and enter into contract agreements with those applicants.

MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM MOIR TO RECOMMEND THAT THE IRL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS ACCEPT THE IRLNEP MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATIONS, APPROVE THE FINAL RANKED LIST OF PROPOSALS AND FUND THE TOP PROPOSALS CONTINGENT AND CONSISTENT WITH AVAILABLE FUNDS AND BUDGETARY AUTHORITY. SHOULD ADDITIONAL FUNDS BE AVAILABLE, THE CAC RECOMMENDS THAT THE REMAINING FOUR ELIGIBLE PROJECTS BE FUNDED. AUTHORIZE STAFF TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT AGREEMENTS WITH THOSE APPLICANTS. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY DOUG PATTERSON. MOTION PASSED.

The committee meeting included a discussion regarding the grant writing skills displayed in the submitted proposals. It was recommended to utilize the grant writers funded by the IRLNEP to organize a workshop that would enhance the ability to write grants.

MOTION WAS MADE BY FRANK BROWNELL TO HAVE THE IRLNEP DEVELOP A GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP AND TO INVITE THE LOW-SCORING ORGANIZATIONS. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY GRAHAM COX. MOTION PASSED.

b. FY 2024 Final Budget (Daniel Kolodny)

Mr. Dan Kolodny noted some minor modifications, including an increase in administrative services to accommodate the extra workload undertaken by Special Services District due to an uptick in IRLNEP staffing. SDS negotiated a higher interest rate on behalf of the IRL Council.

Requested Action: Motion to recommend that the IRL Council Board of Directors review and adopt the Final Budget for FY 2024 by Resolution 2023-02, pursuant to Florida Statutes.

MOTION WAS MADE BY FRANK BROWNELL TO RECOMMEND THAT THE IRL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS REVIEW AND ADOPT THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FY 2024 BY RESOLUTION 2023-03, PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTES. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY JIM MOIR. MOTION PASSED.

c. One Lagoon Monitoring Plan Final Draft (EPA Concurrence Document) (Duane De Freese)
[One Lagoon Monitoring Plan Draft]

Dr. Duane De Freese expressed his gratitude to Dennis Hanisak, David Heuberger, and their team for their outstanding work in completing the contract project. The plan underwent a thorough peer review process, resulting in six valuable recommendations and the identification of gaps. The capability to update monitoring maps was also noted.

Requested Action: Motion to recommend that the IRL Council Board of Directors adopt the One Lagoon Monitoring Plan and authorize staff to submit the plan to EPA for review and certification. If revisions are requested by EPA, the IRL Council Board of Directors authorizes staff to make recommended changes and finalize the document.

MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM MOIR TO RECOMMEND THAT THE IRL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS ADOPT THE ONE LAGOON MONITORING PLAN AND AUTHORIZE STAFF TO SUBMIT THE PLAN TO EPA FOR REVIEW AND CERTIFICATION. IF REVISIONS ARE REQUESTED BY EPA THE IRL COUNCIL BOARD OD DIRECTORS AUTHORIZES STAFF TO MAKE RECOMMENDED CHANGES AND FINALIZE THE DOCUMENT. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY FRANK BROWNELL. MOTION PASSED.

d. Long-term strategy for use of BIL Funds (EPA Required Document) (Duane De Freese)

Dr. Duane De Freese outlined the methods employed to create the Priority Communities classification for the IRL Watershed included in the strategy. These methods involved the use of various tools and documents, including detailed maps. The directed RFP is under development, and it is anticipated to be issued in early 2024.

Requested Action: Motion to recommend that the IRL Council Board of Directors adopt the long-term strategy for use of BIL funds and authorize staff to submit the strategy to EPA for review and certification. The EPA deadline is on or before June 1, 2023. If revisions are requested by EPA, the IRL Council Board of Directors authorizes staff to make recommended changes, finalize the document, and resubmit to EPA.

MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM MOIR TO RECOMMEND THAT THE IRL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS ADOPT THE LONG-TERM STRATEGY FOR USE OF BIL FUNDS AND AUTHORIZE STAFF TO SUBMIT THE STRATEGY TO EPA FOR REVIEW AND CERTIFICATION. THE EPA DEADLINE IS ON OR BEFORE JUNE 1, 2023. IF REVISIONS ARE REQUESTED BY EPA, THE IRL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS AUTHORIZES STAFF TO MAKE RECOMMENDED CHANGES, FINALIZE THE DOCUMENT, AND SUBMIT TO EPA. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY GRAHAM COX. MOTION PASSED.

e. Resolution to support East Central Florida Regional Planning Council in seeking funding from the Military Installation Resilience Review Program. (Duane De Freese)

Dr. Duane De Freese has noted that support resolutions are not commonly employed. Given the extensive growth and advancements at the Kennedy Space Center, it is imperative to address the vulnerability of coastal infrastructure, as it directly affects the IRL. The resolution grants the express permission of the Board for the Executive Director to pursue discussions and offer input as resilience plans move forward.

Requested Action: Motion to recommend that the IRL Council Board of Directors accept the Citizens' Advisory Committee recommendations to adopt Resolution 2023-03, supporting ECFRPC's efforts to seek funding from the MIRRP and other coastal resilience initiatives.

MOTION WAS MADE BY FRANK BROWNELL TO RECOMMEND THAT THE IRL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS ACCEPT THE CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2023-03, SUPPORTING ECFRP'S EFFORTS TO SEEK FUNDING FROM THE MIRRP AND OTHER COASTAL RESILIENCE INITIATIVES. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY TESS SAILOR-TYNES. MOTION PASSED.

8. IRLNEP Staff Reports

a. Community Engagement Update (Kathy Hill)

Ms. Kathy Hill reported a significant increase in social media engagement thanks to the efforts of the three Community Engagement Coordinators. Brevard County has been ranked highly with cities with the most engagement, based on the metrics. Facebook followers are largely individuals aged 45 and above, while Instagram followers are mostly under 45 years old.

b. Information Technology and Data Science Update (Kathy Hill on behalf of KJ Ayres-Guerra)

Ms. KJ Ayres-Guerra discussed the completed Maps & Database for Equity Plan to identify priority communities in the IRL watershed. A standard for publishing all Metadata has been

established. Past Project Information has been organized and posted. The ArcGIS Online Data Hub has been successfully developed, and multiple datasets have been integrated. Future tasks will include Internal & External Project Map, an editorial in ECO – Environmental, Coastal & Offshore Magazine, and reorganizing the website.

c. IRL Project Update (Daniel Kolodny)

Mr. Daniel Kolodny reported that the end of Quarter 2 of FY 2023 had 49 CCMP Projects/Activities in progress. Additionally, there was one CCMP Project pending, but no projects were completed during the quarter.

d. Executive Director Report (Duane De Freese)

Dr. Duane De Freese reported that the EDC Space Coast feasibility study has gained significant momentum and support. The Florida Legislative budget has been released, and it includes funding requests for various projects aimed at improving the Indian River Lagoon. Ms. Kathy Hill and Mr. Dan Kolodny recently represented the IRLNEP in Washington, D.C., at the EPA Transformational Coastal Management Event. Ms. Hill delivered a presentation and participated in a panel discussion. Both the House and Senate Appropriation letters have been submitted with bipartisan support seeking funding for NEPs. Although the IRLNEP did not receive the NOAA funding grant, the proposal was ranked in the highest tier. An analysis of the project funding breakdown was presented, and it has been determined that future proposals should align with NOAA's traditional historic priorities, which focus on designated habitats.

9. Final Comments (Committee, Staff, Public)

Duane De Freese thanked the committee members for their concern and support during health treatments.

10. Next Meeting

Thursday, August 10, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. Sebastian City Hall Council Chambers,
1225 Main Street, Sebastian, FL 32958

11. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:18 p.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.