



Coastal Advisory Council

July 18, 2018

Coastal EMC, Midway

Meeting Summary

Welcome and Introductions:

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Joe E. Slaughter and round table introductions were done. Jan Mackinnon announced two new staff members: Lori Harlin is the new Grants Specialist and Sheldon Leiker has moved into the GIS Specialist position.

Old Business:

Meeting Summary

There were no comments on the May 2nd Spring 2018 meeting summary.

Committee Sunset

Joe E. Slaughter announced the sunset of the Maritime Committee but if there are specific scientific or technical issues that arise membership can create an ad hoc committee to address those issues at that time. The CAC will maintain the Legislative and Communications Committees.

New Business:

CIG Cycle 22

Jan Mackinnon went over the CIG timeline and process including DNR Board approval, RFP release, pre-applications and full application timelines.

Themes

Ms. Mackinnon presented the Themes used from previous years as well as the number of projects funded under each them in Cycle 21. The Themes were presented as Oceans and Wetlands, Public Access and Land Conservation, Sustainable Communities, Disaster Resiliency and Coastal Hazards, and Non-point Source Pollution.

Allen Burns brought up concerns over DNR funded projects negatively impacting neighboring properties in the Public Access and Land Conservation Theme. After discussion a suggestion was made to look at 306A guidelines and checklist to see if this is addressed in those documents. Staff will review these documents to look for opportunity to add requirements for applicants to look at bigger picture impacts for 306A projects.

Charles McMillan made a motion to approve the Themes as presented, Gene Keferl seconded the motion. Discussion from Steve Vives on aligning research needs with Theme headings and CRD staff will look into that. Motion passed with one opposed (Allen Burns).

Research and Non-Research Review Criteria

Joe E. Slaughter discussed the edits that were made to the review criteria for Cycle 21 applications to increase points for scientific merit and transferability to practical uses in research criteria as well as narrative edits to Coastal Management Need. Ashby Worley brought up a discrepancy for the matching section of criteria (110% versus 125%). Members agreed to keep it at 110% for both review criteria. There was discussion about planning criteria requirement in application and if there was a need to include planning as a requirement in the preapplication process. Tate Holbrook suggested that a project should already be identified as a planning priority or to demonstrate how it is important in the grant application.

Mark McClellan made a motion to approve the review criteria with one change to make both percentages 110% match to receive 4 points on scoring criteria, Jody Mingledorff seconded the motion. Motion passes with one opposed (Allen Burns).

Tate Holbrook asked if there is a definition of research and non-research in the RFP and Joe E. Slaughter suggested that they be added in future RFPs.

306A Updates

New 306A guidance has been developed by NOAA. The public comment period ended May 2nd with 2 comments received. It is anticipated that the new guidance will be approved and applied to Cycle 22 funding. With new guidance the funding for 306A construction projects can remain at the increased level of \$80,000.

Terms and Funding Updates

Current terms and funding allowances are \$80,000 maximum federal request per year and 2-year term project limit. Cycle 21 will have 7 2-year projects that will carry over into Cycle 22 funding (\$279,976).

Discussion on length of term being sufficient for scientific projects.

Buddy Sullivan made a motion to approve the terms as presented, Larry Miles seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed.

Budget/CSO/Project Updates

Federal Budget

We are currently under a continuing resolution for national CZM Budget. Nationally, CZM Programs received a \$5M bump in funding nationwide to invest in Blue Economy projects. Congress is currently recommending keeping the budget with this increase moving forward. If any CAC members would like any bullets or information to share on behalf of the Program, please contact staff.

CSO Updates

CSO is developing a Blue Economy White Paper and staff will share when available.

GA Coastal Nonpoint Source Program

NOAA and EPA posted their recommendation to fully approve GA's program in the Federal Register and the public comment period will continue until July 26th. This has been a long-awaited moment after initial program submittal in 2002.

Committee Reports

Communications Committee

Katy Smith and Shawn Jordon have joined the Communications Committee.

Legislative Committee

Lori Harlin will be the new staff liaison for the Legislative Committee. Dorset Hurley presented an update on the Committee's considerations on forming a Blue Ribbon Committee to compile information on climate change to educate decision makers. Committee members discussed utilizing an existing effort to satisfy that need with the Georgia Climate Roadmap Project. CAC members requested a presentation at a future meeting from this group.

A second issue discussed was the Camden Spaceport and that members involved in the Environmental Impact Statement can inform CAC Members on details if requested. And lastly the Committee has discussed their support for the GA Outdoor Stewardship Act.

Nominating Committee

This Committee is established to nominate new CAC leadership as terms expire. The Committee consists of CRD Director, Doug Haymans, Current Chair, Joe E. Slaughter, and past Chair, Paul Wolff. This will be Joe E. Slaughter and Ashby Worley's last meeting as CAC Chair and Vice Chair respectively. The Committee has nominated Ashby Worley as CAC Chair and Mark McClellan as Vice Chair. Both have accepted the nominations. Ms. Mackinnon mentioned that the criteria for representation notes that the individual must have served on the CAC for a minimum of one year and the Chair and Vice Chair must reside in different counties.

Allen Burns made a motion to approve the Nomination Committee's recommendations and Buddy Sullivan seconded the motion. The motion passed with none opposed.

Thomas Farmer with The Nature Conservancy gave a presentation on the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Act (GOSA). This proposal authorizes the General Assembly to provide for an annual allocation of up to 80 percent of the revenue derived from the state sales and use tax collected by sporting goods stores to a trust fund to be used for the protection and preservation of conservation land.

A "yes" vote supports amending the state constitution to authorize the legislature to dedicate up to 80 percent of revenue from the sales and use tax on outdoor recreation equipment to the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Trust Fund to fund land conservation.

A "no" vote opposes amending the state constitution to authorize the legislature to dedicate up to 80 percent of revenue from the sales and use tax on outdoor recreation equipment to the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Trust Fund to fund land conservation.

Other Announcements

Beach Week Update: This year CRD held its 12th Annual Beach Week at St. Simons Island and Tybee Island with over 11 federal, state and local partners exhibiting and 2,000 visitors. This event allows GCMP to bring outreach to the public in the actual environment, "the beach".

Georgia Climate Roadmap: Staff are active committee members of the project and gave an update on the project, and next steps.