



Coastal Advisory Council  
May 1, 2020  
Virtual meeting via Go To Webinar due to COVID 19  
Meeting Summary

**Welcome and Introductions:**

The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Ashby Worley. Ms. Worley acknowledged Mr. Scott Hendricks, the newest CAC member serving in the Citizen At Large capacity.

**Old Business:**

Meeting Summary

There were no comments on the January 2020 meeting summary.

Committee Reports

**Communications Committee, Stacia Hendrix**

Ms. Hendrix stated that there was nothing to report at this time, however, she and Jan Mackinnon have discussed a follow up and will schedule a committee meeting prior to the next CAC meeting.

**Legislative Committee, Charles McMillan**

Charles McMillan provided the following updates on behalf of the Legislative Committee. Mr. McMillan presented several categories of legislation: directly related to the GCMP, related to the GCMP and “of interest” to the CAC.

*The following legislation is directly related to the GCMP:*

**HB 833: Anchorage Regulations**

Relating to waters of the state, ports, and watercraft, so as to prohibit overnight anchoring in anchorage restriction areas; to provide for definitions; to establish anchorage restriction areas; to establish short-term and long-term anchoring; to prohibit unlawful acts pertaining to live-aboard vessels within estuarine areas; to remove record-keeping requirements; to provide that the commissioner may grant exemptions; to revise definitions; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws.

Status: House passed on 3/12/20

**HR 1369: Recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the Coastal Marshland Protection Act**

Status: House read and adopted 3/3/20

**HR 1122: Recognizing and commending the Georgia Sentinel Landscape Partnership**

Status: House read and adopted 2/18/20

**SR 88:** Georgia's Coastal Tourism and Fisheries; opposing seismic testing and oil and gas drilling activities

Status: Senate read and referred 2/6/20

*Legislation related to the GCMP:*

**HB 901:** Georgia Environmental Finance Authority

Amendment to the Official Code of Georgia to provide for the power to make loan commitments and loans to local governments and nongovernment agencies for projects that permanently protect land and water

Status: Senate read and referred 3/13/20

**HB 906:** Conveyance of Heritage Preserve Properties

Amendment to the Official Code of Georgia relating to the Heritage Trust Program, so as to condition the method utilized for conveyance of heritage preserve property on the property's amount of acreage

Status: Senate read and referred 3/13/20

**HB 592:** Surface Mining Exemptions to the Forest Land Protection Act

Amendments relating to the "Georgia Forest Land Protection Act of 2008," to provide that short-term mineral surface mining shall not constitute a breach of a covenant for forest land conservation use property; to provide that under certain circumstances the covenant shall be considered breached

Status: Did not move out of the House

*Legislation of interest to the CAC:*

**HB 1015:** Carbon Sequestration Registry

Proposed amendments to the Georgia Carbon Sequestration Registry, so as to provide for the inclusion of building products in construction on the registry; to revise definitions; to allow participants in the registry to voluntarily record the utilization of carbon sequestration; to provide for an advisory committee; to provide for certified third-party organizations to measure the amount of carbon sequestered from building materials that sequester carbon dioxide; to require the State Forestry Commission to publish a list of certified organizations

Status: Senate read and referred 3/13/20

**SB 123:** Increase of Coal Ash Disposal Surcharge

Proposed amendment relating to waste management, so as to eliminate the coal ash surcharge imposed by host local governments regarding municipal solid waste disposal facilities operated by private enterprise

Status: House second readers 2/26/20

**HB 959:** Solid Waste Management

Amendment relating to waste management cost reimbursement and surcharges, so as to increase surcharges imposed by local governments regarding municipal solid waste facilities operated by private enterprise; to revise a provision relating to the disbursement of surcharges for certain expenditures

Status: Senate read and referred 3/13/20

**SB 297 and HB 756: Lining Systems for Solid Waste Facilities**

A bill relating to general provisions relative to solid waste management, so as to provide for conditions for the issuance of a permit for solid waste or special waste handling for a coal combustion unit or landfill; to amend Part 3 of Article 2 of Chapter 7 of Title 16 of the O.C.G.A., relating to damage and intrusion on property relative to criminal trespass and damage to property, so as to provide for a conforming cross-reference; to amend Part 1 of Article 3 of Chapter 8 of Title 48 of the O.C.G.A., relating to county sales and use tax relative to county special purpose local option sales tax

Status: Senate read and referred 1/15/20 and House second readers 1/15/20

**HB 929: Post-Closure Care of Coal Ash Surface Impoundments**

Relating to general provisions relative to solid waste management, so as to provide for post-closure ground-water monitoring at closed coal combustion residual impoundments; to amend code relating to criminal trespass and damage to property relative to waste control, so as to provide for a conforming cross-reference; to amend Title 48 relating to county special purpose local option sales tax

Status: House passed 3/12/20 and Senate referred 3/13/20

**HB 93: Coal Ash Landfill Dewatering Notifications**

Relating to control of water pollution and surface-water use, so as to provide notice to local governing authorities prior to the dewatering of coal combustion residual surface impoundments; to provide for minimum notice requirements to the public of such dewatering

Status: House passed 3/12/20 and Senate referred 3/13/20

**SB 384: Prohibiting Landfills Near Certain Blackwater Rivers**

Relating to general provisions relative to solid waste management, so as to prohibit the location of any municipal solid waste disposal facility or any coal combustion residual landfill within a certain distance of a blackwater river wholly contained within the borders of this state and originating on the coastal plain, and which flows directly into the ocean; to amend Title 16 relating to criminal trespass and damage to property relative to waste control; to amend Title 48 relating to county special purpose local option sales tax, so as to provide for conforming cross-references

Status: Senate passed 3/12/20 and Senate first reads 3/13/20

**HB 926: Increase Solid Waste & New Tire Fees**

Relating to waste management cost reimbursement fees and surcharges, so as to increase certain solid waste disposal surcharges; to amend code relating to waste management tire disposal restrictions and fees, so as to increase certain tire disposal fees

Status: House Committee favorably reported by substitute 3/5/20

The Capitol staff expect to return for business May 18. Committee meetings start May 19 and the session is tentatively scheduled to start June 11 (House).

For future CAC meetings, the legislative committee has interest in the Golden Ray, oyster aquaculture rules/ implementation, and a carbon registry discussion.

## **New business**

### **Presentation**

#### Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program

Rob Stokes, Georgia DNR Grants Unit, gave a presentation on *Year 1 funding of the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program*. Mr. Stokes' presentation can be found on the CRD website at [https://coastalgadnr.org/sites/default/files/crd/CZM/CAC/Stokes\\_GOSP\\_CAC\\_Presentation%205.1.20.pdf](https://coastalgadnr.org/sites/default/files/crd/CZM/CAC/Stokes_GOSP_CAC_Presentation%205.1.20.pdf). Three projects were funded in the coastal zone.

#### CAC membership

Ms. Worley brought to the Council's attention that there were 5 nominations from the last advertisement of the CAC vacancies: 1 State/Regional and 4 Local Government nominations. The nomination applications were sent to everyone via email. Ms. Worley clarified that there are 2 State/Regional positions and 1 Local Government position. She opened the floor to questions. Shawn Jordan mentioned a nominee from McIntosh County who was nominated by the McIntosh Board of Commissioners. Ms. Mackinnon noted that the bylaws state that "Any Local Government may nominate one representative for the Coastal Advisory Council."

### **Announcements**

Ms. Mackinnon announced that Staff Updates were included in an email to the CAC members on May 1. Please note the Climate Conference announcement dates and the oyster mariculture update included in the attachment. If anyone has questions, please feel free to reach out to any staff member for clarification.

The next meeting of the CAC will be in July, location TBD. A poll to schedule will be sent.