



Coastal Advisory Council  
January 30, 2019 - Coastal EMC, Midway  
Meeting Summary

### **Welcome and Introductions**

The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Ashby Worley and round table introductions were made.

### **Old Business**

#### Meeting Summary

There were no comments or edits on the Fall 2018 meeting summary.

### **New Business**

#### Committee Reports

Stacia Hendricks reported out for the Communications Committee. Ms. Hendricks reported that they will be working with staff to determine what CRD projects to report to the CAC.

Charles McMillan stated that the Legislative Committee had several calls since the Fall meeting. He reported that the Legislative Committee is focusing on activities that CRD would have an active role in discussing in the legislative session. One agency issue, the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Act, needs to be cleaned up with more definitions, dates, and a few technicalities.

The Committee discussed that CRD is reviewing the Camden Spaceport project through Federal Consistency, a tool in which Coastal Management Programs can evaluate federally funded and permitted activities for adherence to state laws.

There is no agency legislation this year regarding oysters. However, Mr. McMillan reported that there is rumor that there will be an oyster/agriculture bill dropped. Charlie Phillips stated that Representative Jeff Jones has been working on a bill. Mr. Phillips expects it to be ready in the next couple of weeks. Mr. McMillan acknowledged that it is difficult for the Council to comment on legislation without seeing it and stated that it is notable that we haven't seen something yet.

### **New Business**

Jill Andrews extended a big thank you to the Legislative Committee for doing a great job. There was not much more to add to the legislative update. There is no agency legislation being brought forward this year. There are, however, rumblings that the Shore Protection Act may resurface outside of the agency. If that happens, CRD will offer technical assistance if requested. The Georgia Conservancy bill tracker is a great way to keep up with all the legislation. Mr. McMillan requested that Council members send him an email if they would like to be on the list serve for updates. Crossover day is the end of February so legislation should be identified within the next couple of weeks.

Ms. Andrews reported that from a national perspective appropriations and continuing resolutions look favorable for moving forward. The President's budget still shows NOAA Coastal Programs at \$0 funding but the Coastal Programs do have congressional support and are working on ways to tell the story with other programs.

There is nothing new to report on oil and gas. CRD is waiting on BOEM to let us know if the southeast will be included in the 5 year plan. We do not know the release date of the plan. Mr. McMillan stressed that we need to stay up on this as an important topic that may come up in the near future.

Ms. Andrews reported that there is a current lawsuit in South Carolina federal district court regarding the incidental harassment authorizations issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service in relation to Atlantic geological and geophysical (G&G) permits being considered by BOEM. The lack of an Environmental Impact Statement is the basis for the suit.

Ms. Worley received and appreciated the feedback from everyone on the updating of the bylaws. A draft of the revised by-laws was sent out to the CAC. Clay Montague has submitted some good feedback. Joey Slaughter had some good suggestions as well. It was recommended to create a Policies and Procedures document that adds more information to support the bylaws. The question arose on how the number "four" came into play for numbers or representatives from each affiliation. Jan Mackinnon responded that during a meeting with current and past leadership of the CAC, the number was identified as a good balance to facilitate an effective Council while maintaining diversity within the group. Many questions were identified that should be considered in further revisions including electronic voting, local government representation, Citizen at Large definition, etc. Ms. Worley asked Dr. Montague to go ahead and draft another revision with a Policies and Procedures document with the assistance of Ms. Worley, Ms. Mackinnon, and Paul Wolf. Anyone else that was interested was welcomed to participate. Mr. Slaughter and Mark McClellan volunteered. The CAC will vote on these changes at the next CAC meeting. It is the goal of the GCMP and CAC to reinstate a new council.

### **Presentations**

Haydn Blaize of The Environmental Protection Division's Floodplain Unit presented on "Updating Georgia's Coastal Flood Insurance Rate Maps".

Daniel Rochberg of Emory University presented on the Georgia Climate Project.

### **Other Announcements**

Lori Harlin reported that the GCMP received CIG preapplications for Cycle 22 and the internal technical review was completed. The full applications are due Feb 15, 2019.

Dr. Jennifer Tookes with Georgia Southern University is presenting tomorrow in Statesboro on her "Oral histories of coastal fishing" CIG and in Darien on Friday at 4:00.

Katy Smith announced the upcoming Green Screen to be held on February 2, from 1:30-5:00 at the Ritz Theater in Brunswick.

The meeting was adjourned.