

**Minutes of the
January 18, 2017 Meeting of the
Coastal Zone Advisory Committee (CZAC)**

The regular meeting of CZAC was called to order at 9:33 a.m. by Mr. Don Benczkowski on January 18, 2017, in the 10th Floor Conference Room of the Rachel Carson State Office Building, Harrisburg, PA.

The following committee representatives were present:

Don Benczkowski	PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
Shayne Hoachlander	PA Game Commission (PGC)
Mark Shaffer	Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC)
Dan Searfoorce	PA Public Utility Commission (PUC)
Mark Lombard,	PA Department of Transportation (PennDOT)
Amy Verbofsky	Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC)
Amy Murdock	Erie County Department of Planning (ECDP)
Ryan Anderson	Erie County Department of Planning (ECDP)
Thomas Hughes	PA Emergency Management Agency (PEMA)
Dan Fitzpatrick	PA Department of Community and Economic Dev. (DCED)
Stacey Box	PA DEP
Jake Moore	PA DEP, Northwest Regional Staff
Kevin Hess	PA DEP
Matt Walderon	PA DEP
Jennifer Orr	PA DEP
James Peifer	PA DEP
Sean Gimbel	PA DEP, Water Resources Planning
Randy Brown	PA DEP, Southeast Regional Staff
Sam Burton	PA DEP
Hayley Jeffords	PA DEP, Policy Office
Joe Sieber	PA DEP
Diana Olinger	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, (NOAA)

Introductions: Don Benczkowski began the meeting at 9:33 a.m., welcomed everyone and introductions were made. Mr. Benczkowski took some time to mention this meeting was sunshined and advertised in the Harrisburg Patriot News on 11/10/2016 and the PA Bulletin 12/17/2016. Mr. Benczkowski also made a point to invite the members of the Coastal Zone Advisory Committee to the next local committee meetings in Philadelphia and Erie. The next meeting of the Lake Erie Coastal Zone Advisory Committee will be held Tuesday March 7, 2017, from 1-3PM at the Erie Maritime Museum. The next meeting of the Delaware Estuary Coastal Zone Advisory Committee has not been scheduled, but is usually held in July. Details will be forwarded once they are set.

Minutes: Minutes of the June 8, 2016 CZAC meeting were unanimously approved.

Public Comments: Mr. Benczkowski asked if there were any comments. Upon hearing none, the meeting moved to the next agenda item.

Overview of PennDOT Extreme Weather Vulnerability Study: Dan Szekeres of Michael Baker International, a PennDOT Contractor, presented an overview of the extreme weather vulnerability study, a pilot project focused on three PA counties. This study of inland and coastal flooding issues focused only on state owned roads and bridges using available climate science on sea level rise and global climate models.

The purpose of this study is to better anticipate the consequences and potential impacts of extreme weather events; to identify funding priorities to improve transportation system resiliency; and to identify potential adaptation strategies to reduce risk. This study will engage stakeholders, identify and compile historic impacts of extreme weather utilizing the Road Condition Reporting System database (RCRS), identify how climate change may affect future flooding locations, identify highest risk locations for flooding and assemble an initial toolbox of strategies to improve resiliency.

The stakeholder outreach for this study will include various webinars, meetings at each PennDOT District office, a survey tool to identify vulnerable locations and other coordination meetings. PennDOT is currently reviewing the plan and it is not finalized, but it will be distributed. Doug Zimmerman is the PennDOT point of contact for this project.

FFY 2016 Coastal Zone Grants Update: Stacey Box stated that since the June meeting, the Coastal Program held the FY2017 grant solicitation (mid-August through Mid-October). A total of 29 applications were received. Ten applications were received from the Lake Erie Coastal Zone and nineteen applications were received from the Delaware Estuary Coastal Zone. All grant applicants and projects were provided on a handout. Program reviews will be completed and selected projects will be sent to NOAA by April. NOAA review is typically completed by September. The FY2016 grants were announced in November 2016.

Section 309 Update: CRM Program's Section 309 Strategy:

- Building Capacity to Facilitate Climate Adaptation Planning and Community Resiliency: Kevin Hess provided an update for section 309 work occurring in the Delaware Estuary. The Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) will be the lead for this project working with local municipalities regarding their climate change vulnerability assessments. DVRPC will start reaching out to municipalities next month to determine the individual needs of the municipalities.
- Coastal Marine Spatial Planning Update: Matt Walderon provided an update on the Marine Spatial Planning effort. The fifth season of data collection concluded on November of 2016. Progress to date includes 410 miles of SONAR transects or approximately 26 square miles. To date 128 videos and/or physical substrate samples have been collected and 13 shipwrecks have been documented. Mr. Walderon also stated that he met with Carrie Tropasso from DEP's Geospatial Data Center to discuss the Interactive Web Map. Sam Burton demonstrated a preliminary version of the public map.

Coastal Zone Updates - Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission:

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- Amy Verbofsky (DVRPC) provided updates on the Delaware Estuary and presented information and visuals on various public access projects. In 2016, circuit trails in the Delaware Estuary received 5.6 million in funding. DVRPC is also working on the City of Chester – Green Stormwater Infrastructure Plan and the Climate Adaptation project.

Coastal Zone Updates - Erie County Planning Department:

- Amy Murdock (Erie County Planning Department) provided an overview of work being completed on the Erie Bayfront. She also highlighted a few recently completed coastal zone projects from the region, and she discussed the National Marine Sanctuary proposal. Mr. Benczkowski has organized a March 7, 2017, meeting at the Tom Ridge Center with NOAA, Erie County, and all concerned state agencies to further discuss this proposal. Erie County's application is available online, and Stacey Box will email out the link after this meeting.

Agency Updates:

- Dan Fitzpatrick (DCED) stated that nine municipalities are getting new flood maps and is working with the municipalities to get the regulations for development permits in place along with the maps.
- Mark Shaffer (PHMC) gave an update on the protection of historic properties disaster planning initiative project in Philadelphia.
- Dan Searfoorce (PUC) introduced himself and explained he was attending this meeting in place of John Van Zant.
- Mark Lombard (PennDOT) mentioned a variety of projects his agency is undertaking including the rebuilding of bridges throughout the state.
- Shane Hoachlander (PGC) discussed the invasive species control program in the Lake Erie watershed. Wildlife Conservation Officer Hoachlander also stated there has not been an increase in cost of a hunting license in the past 18 years.
- Thomas Hughes (PEMA) mentioned the PA Community Development Block Grant, Hazard Mitigation Grant and FEMA Flood Mitigation Assistance programs. He also mentioned the PA Silver Jackets Meeting January 19, 2017 at the PEMA headquarters from 10:30 am to 3:00 pm.

Other Business: The meeting was adjourned at 11:52 am. The next CZAC meeting is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. on June 7, 2017.