

NERACOOS Board of Directors December 03, 2014 Minutes

Approved by the Board February 24, 2015

Board Participants: Christine Tilburg, Steve Withrow, Matt Nixon, Andy Thompson, Joe Salisbury, Justin Manley, Anthony Kirincich, Matt Lyman, Steve Lohrenz, Jim O'Donnell, Dave Hebert, Peter Smith, Ames Colt, Steve Couture, Malcolm Spaulding, Andy Pershing;

Other Participants: Tom Shyka, Ru Morrison, Cassie Stymiest, Jackie Ball, Zdenka Willis, Matt Liebman

Malcolm Spaulding called the business meeting to order at 2:41 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Steve Lohrenz motioned to approve the August 21, 2014 board meeting minutes, seconded by Steve Couture. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Finance Committee Report

Matt Lyman presented the Finance Committee report, referencing the financial report that was previously distributed to the board. Initial results of the audit indicate there are no findings. Ru reviewed the new fiscal budget with the board, the total income available for this fiscal year is approximately \$3.3 million, which doesn't include carry forward. The next proposal will be due in July 2015. Ru also reviewed the indirect cost budget and the membership outlook for next year. Jim O'Donnell motioned to approve the fiscal budget, seconded by Matt Lyman, and was unanimously approved.

The personnel and fiscal policy were unable to be completed for the December Board Meeting, but will be drafted for the February 2015 Meeting.

Executive Committee

Malcolm Spaulding reviewed the Quorum Issue memo that was previously distributed to the board. The Executive Committee has recommended changing the bylaws to read, "the number of directors attending a properly noticed board meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the board. Directors may not vote by proxy." This suggested change doesn't effect NROC or NEAC nominations, although there are concerns about the balance of conflicted members on the board, but NERACOOS needs to be able to continue to make decisions to move forward.

Once 2/3 of the board was present, Anthony motioned to approve the bylaw change as recommended by the Executive Committee, seconded by Justin Manley, unanimously approved based on the assumption that the notice requirement was waved. The NERACOOS staff will review the notice required for changes to bylaws and if further action is required.

Malcolm then presented Ru Morrison's review results that was conducted by the Executive Committee. The review was based on outreach to staff and board members, the IOOS Association, and the IOOS Program Office. Overall it was a great review and Ru was approved for an increase in pay and fringe benefits. A more detailed review will be held following this meeting with Malcolm, Steve Lohrenz, and Ru.

Nominating Committee

Anthony presented the nominating committee slate, which was previously distributed to the board (and appended here). Anthony motioned to approve the board of director's slate, seconded by Justin Manley, and was unanimously approved. Anthony then motioned to approve the officers of the board slate, seconded by Jim O'Donnell, and was unanimously approved. Ru thanked all the NERACOOS board members that are stepping off the board, including: Malcolm Spaulding, Linda Mercer, Christine Tilburg and Jon Pennock.

IOOS Program Office

Zdenka gave the IOOS Program Office Update. Congress should be making the announcement regarding FY15 funds on Monday, December 8th. The next competitive proposal will be made available at the end of January. From the date of release Regional Associations will have six months to complete. The certification process continues, which is not connected to funding. Ru added that NERACOOS intends to have certification application submitted before the proposal. PacIOOS has submitted the first certification packet, which will be shared with all other RA's. Zdenka was then asked how this RFP is different from the last. Zdenka was unsure and will get back to the board with an answer, but the current proposal is based on what the system looks like now. The Program Office has also been continuing their working on ocean enterprise. Currently it appears the U.S. Private Sector is worth \$3 billion a year. The Program Office will be looking more closely at small contracts through surveys solicitation through marine trade journals.

IOOS Association

Ru gave an IOOS Association Update since Josie Quintrell had a last minute conflict and could not attend. The IOOS Association held their Annual Fall Meeting in November which focused on strategic planning in conjunction with the Restore America's Estuaries Conferences.

NERACOOS Operations

Ru administered an operations update. The NERACOOS office has continued to work on strategic planning. The two new awards, Marine Sensor Innovation and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation awards have begun. The Sandy Supplemental award is almost complete. Ru provided a list of stakeholder engagement activities since August 2014, Jim O'Donnell noted that he'd like NERACOOS to attend more meetings in Southern New England. The Integrated Sentinel Monitoring Network (ISMN) project continues, work on the science and implementation plan and is projected to be completed at the end of February. NECAN, the Northeast Coastal Acidification Network will begin their stakeholder engagement workshops next week in Maine. NECAN is expected to host additional workshops in the following states, including: Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts and maybe New York. It was suggested that this get brought up at the Gulf of Maine Council. Peter also indicated there's interest in ocean acidification at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography. NERACOOS has continued to support NeCODP, the Northeast Coastal Ocean Data Partnership, and has hosted a series of webinars. The NeCODP executive committee is also assisting with the data management plan for ISMN. Communication and Outreach continues through activities

like the newsletter, Facebook and the IOOS video on Penobscot Bay Pilots. NERACOOS once again was a major sponsor of the NEOSEC Summit, with well over 200 attendees. Joe Salisbury and Cassie Stymiest presented on Ocean Acidification.

SPI Team

Anthony provided a SPI Team update. The SPI team is continuing their work on the strategic goals and the proposal review process. A larger call for project templates will be made to the region to promote an open process. The SPI team has recommended that an unbiased panel of the board review the proposed projects for funding. Malcolm added that this panel could contain previous members of the NERACOOS Board. Steve Lohrenz motioned for this issue to be taken up by the executive committee, seconded by Al Hanson, unanimously approved.

The NERACOOS office will send around a doodle poll for 2015 Meetings.

Matt Lyman motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jim O'Donnell, unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

Nominating Committee Election Slate

Officer Nominations:

- President: Steve Lohrenz (University of Massachusetts Dartmouth)
- Vice President: Peter Smith (Emeritus, Bedford Institute of Oceanography)
- Treasurer: Matt Lyman (Department of Energy and Environmental Protection)
- Secretary: Anthony Kirincich (Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution)

Returning Board of Directors Nominations

- Al Hanson has been nominated to serve a second term. (NEAC member)
- Matt Lyman has been nominated to serve a second term (NROC member)

New Board of Directors Nominations

- The nominations committee has nominated Andy Pershing to replace Blaine Grimes's seat on the board. Andy provided a brief biography that is included at the end of this document.
- Joe Salsbury has been nominated to fill Jon Pennock's position on the Board (NEAC). Joe has provided a brief biography that is included at the end of this document.
- Ames Colt has been nominated to fill Malcolm Spaulding's position on the Board (NROC). Ames has provided a brief biography that is included at the end of this document.

Alternate Nomination:

- Peter Smith has requested that Dave Hebert become his alternate on the Board of Directors. Dave provided a brief biography that is included at the end of this document.
- Andy Pershing has requested that Blaine Grimes become his alternate on the Board of Directors. Blaine Grimes is a current Board of Director.

Background Information

Andy Pershing: *Dr. Andrew Pershing is the Chief Scientific Officer at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute, where he also runs the the Ecosystem Modeling Lab. His entire career has been spent studying the Gulf of Maine, first as a graduate student and eventually a faculty member at Cornell University, then as a professor in the University of Maine School of Marine Sciences and GMRI.*

Dr. Pershing's research focuses on the causes and consequences of changing conditions in the Gulf of Maine, and he is an expert on how climate variability and climate change impact the ecosystems in the northwest Atlantic. He uses a variety of techniques, including analysis of past changes in the physical and ecological conditions, as well as advanced mathematical and computer models of how marine populations change through time. He has worked primarily on zooplankton, especially rice grain-sized crustaceans called copepods, but he has also studied lobsters, herring, cod, salmon, bluefin tuna, and right whales. He has a strong track record of academic publications and grant funding.

In addition to his research and management responsibilities at GMRI, Dr. Pershing is also actively involved in regional resource management questions. He is currently a member of the Scientific and Statistical Committee of the New England Fishery Management Council. He is actively involved in regional and international efforts to understand and adapt to climate change.

Joe Salsbury: *My interests focus on the biogeochemistry and ecology of coastal regions, particularly those influenced by riverine processes. I'm presently working on two strands of research. The first seeks to characterize distributions of carbon dioxide, air-sea carbon exchange, productivity and acid stress in freshwater-influenced coastal regions. The second strand involves the use of data from a variety of space-borne sensors to characterize net community productivity and carbon exchanges in coastal waters. For these projects we use a variety of remotely sensed data including ocean color, sea surface temperature and microwave radiometry. I'm currently the co-leader of a science-working group planning a NASA satellite mission called Geostationary Coastal and Atmospheric Pollution Events (GEO-CAPE). Our UNH Coastal Carbon Group maintains several autonomous data collecting assets in the Gulf of Maine and is active in cruise campaigns throughout the western Atlantic. Joe has been an author on over 40 peer-reviewed publications.*

Ames Colt: *Dr. Colt has worked in government, academia, and the private sector for the past 28 years in marine and fresh water resources policy, planning and science. In 2006, he was appointed by Governor Carcieri to serve as Chair of the Rhode Island Bays, Rivers, and Watersheds Coordination Team, a state interagency commission dedicated to restoring, managing and sustainable developing Rhode Island fresh and marine waters and watersheds. Dr. Colt has also served since 2006 as a Rhode Island delegate to the Northeast Regional Ocean Council.*

Prior to his current position, he worked as Associate Director of the Rhode Island Sea Grant College Program. Dr. Colt has also worked in the private sector on wastewater treatment and water reuse systems, and taught environmental policy at Tufts University. In 1993, he

received his Ph.D. in coastal environmental sciences with a specialization in policy analysis from the University of Massachusetts at Boston.

Dr. Colt has served on numerous advisory and oversight committees, including the Citizens' Advisory Committee of the Narragansett Bay Commission, The Partnership for Narragansett Bay, The Rhode Island Aquaculture Initiative, the University of Rhode Island Outreach Council, the National Sea Grant Coastal Communities and Economies Theme Team, the URI Coastal Institute, the Rhode Island Sea Grant Senior Advisory Council, the Gulf of Maine Regional Ocean Science Initiative, the Technical Committee of the Rhode Island State Planning Council, The Narragansett Bay Estuary Program Management Committee, the Rhode Island Climate Change Commission, and the Northeast Sea Grant Consortium Advisory Board.

Dave Hebert: *Dave Hebert is a Research Scientist at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography. He is the lead physical oceanographer for the Maritimes component of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) Atlantic Zone Monitoring Program. As well, he is a co-investigator of an Ocean Tracking Network project to examine the variability of the Nova Scotia Current south of Halifax using an array of bottom-mounted ADCP/CTDs and glider transects across the shelf. He is an Adjunct in Dalhousie University's Department of Oceanography. Prior to working for DFO, Dave was a professor at the Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island for nearly twenty years. He undertook a wide range of studies of small-scale mixing processes on a variety of topics such as air-sea gas exchange under high winds, biophysical interactions at the New England shelf break and evolution of eddies generated by the North Atlantic Current. He is a Research Professor at the University of Rhode Island.*