



OHIO COASTAL RESOURCES ADVISORY COUNCIL

David Spotts, Chairperson
Tom Denbow, Vice Chairperson

Mission Statement

To advise the Director of ODNR on the Ohio Coastal Management Program and to promote, protect, enhance, and encourage the wise use of Lake Erie's coastal resources and its watershed.



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COASTAL RESOURCES ADVISORY COUNCIL May 5, 2011

Meeting Minutes - Final

10:10 a.m. Call to Order

Welcome/Introductions

- A welcome introduction to the facilities at the University of Toledo Lake Erie Center was given by Meredith Grey.
- Carrie Sowden was welcomed as a new Council member. Ms. Sowden is the Archaeological Director at the Peachman Lake Erie Shipwreck Research Center (PLESRC) which is located on the grounds of the [Great Lakes Historical Society](#) behind the Inland Seas Maritime Museum in Vermilion Ohio. It is a user-friendly facility where researchers, students, and individuals with an interest in shipwrecks and other maritime topics can use the resources within PLESRC for research purposes. Ms. Sowden is also the MAST Coordinator. MAST stands for the [Maritime Archaeological Survey Team, Inc.](#), a nonprofit group dedicated to the documentation of Ohio's underwater historic resources. Formed in March of 2000, MAST is composed of volunteer individuals who support and participate in research, documentation, underwater archaeological surveys, and educational workshops. Each year, PLESRC, GLHS, and MAST host a Nautical Archaeology Workshop. Ms. Sowden said their most recent projects include a survey to help identify exactly where the Battle of Lake Erie in the war of 1812 took place.
- November and February Council Meeting Minutes were unanimously approved:
 - Motion to approve the November and February minutes made by Joe Hayberger. seconded by Jim Kastelic.

10:15 a.m. Office of Coastal Management Update, John Watkins, Chief

- The quarterly Office of Coastal Management Report was distributed to Council members via email and at the meeting in print form. (attached at end of minutes). In addition to the material in the quarterly report, Chief Watkins provided the supplemental information:
 - **Executive Secretary:** OCM is currently in the hiring process for the executive secretary position. The new secretary will be responsible for Council related duties when he/she is hired.
 - **Ohio Coastal Design Manual:** OCM is working with the Ohio Coastal Training Program to coordinate trainings for the Fall 2011 for consultants in the engineering and surveying fields; public officials, property owners and other interested parties will be welcome to attend. OCM will be accepting feedback on the first edition CDM in order to improve the manual for the second edition which include information on additional structure designs. Ms. Bihn suggested that OCM invite local governments'

building and zoning departments' staff to the trainings. Ms. Bihn also suggested incorporating additional information on habitat-friendly structures during trainings and future editions of the Ohio CDM. *(Note: Chapter 1 does include some information on habitat considerations.)*

- **Lake Erie Shore Erosion Management Plan:** The new WebPages featuring each region with the LESEMP were shown to Council members. The WebPages will be populated with information as reaches within the LESMP are finalized. OCM's goal is to have the entire LESEMP complete within two years. Dr. Heath suggested that OCM track the hits on the LESEMP to see how effective the material is/see what audience is accessing the information. Chief Watkins said that the LESEMP is specifically targeted toward the 8,000 to 8,500 coastal property owners. As OCM receives inquires from the property owners, we can direct them to the online resources. Ms. Bihn said that this information should also be shared with the local communities building and zoning departments so they can become advocates to encourage property owners to implement the non-regulatory measures.
- **Ohio Coastal Atlas:** Chief Watkins showcased the new "Use Case Map Viewers" and the new Interactive Ohio Coastal Atlas. Ms. Bihn suggested that OCM contact the Great Lakes Information Network (GLIN) to get them to feature the OCM mapping products.
- **Wind Energy:** OCM has not received an application for a Submerged Lands Lease from LEEDCo. but anticipates receiving one this year.
- **Jason Trapp:** OCM Engineer Jason Trapp introduced himself to council.
- **Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund:** Chief Watkins reviews the material in the HMTF factsheet and further explains the importance of keeping Ohio's ports and harbors open to shipping. D. Donaldson asks if Ohio has a corresponding entity to the Shallow Harbor Coalition.
- **Toledo Harbor:** The Toledo Harbor Dredge Task Force is planning a Public Forum to discuss ideas for the beneficial use of dredged materials on June 16. Chief Watkins represents ODNR on the Task Force. The Toledo Port Authority is in the process of drafting electronic invitations to the scheduled event which is to be held at the Toledo Maritime Center. The invitation will contain additional information on Toledo Harbor, dredging issues and the Forum.

11:00 am Council Business

- Executive Committee Report: *(see attached meeting notes)*
- **New Business:**
 - The August council meeting will be abbreviated and likely take place at 9:30 am prior to/in conjunction with legislative day events being organized for August 4-5 in Erie and Ottawa counties by Ohio Sea Grant and State Representative Dennis Murray.
 - Council discussed whether or not they should review further the issue of legislation regarding drilling in state parks. Chief Watkins noted that ODNR Director Mustine has been very involved in legislative discussions regarding drilling on ODNR landholdings and is taking a very balanced approach to this issue. Director Mustine has asked the legislation to be reworked so it can provide ODNR more oversight and review in what happens on state land. ODNR does not necessarily own all the oil and gas drilling rights under its own land holdings. Council members were directed to the ODNR Division of Mineral Resources Management website www.ohiodnr.com/tabid/10371/default.aspx for more information. After a brief discussion, council decided that they will review the issue more closely if drilling is proposed for any state parks, preserves or wildlife areas that are within Ohio's Lake Erie Watershed, specifically if drilling is proposed for areas

within Ohio's designated Coastal Management Area. (Learn more about Ohio's DCMA here: www.ohiodnr.com/tabid/9352/Default.aspx)

- Council sub committee assignments were reviewed and new council members chose the committees they would like to be on. Ms. Sowden asked to be on the "Recreation and Tourism (water oriented)" and the "Grants, Education and Outreach" committees. Ms. Bihn and Mr. Hageman asked to be added to the "Water Quality and Water Quantity" committee. All council members were asked to review the committee listing and notify OCM staff of any additional committees/changes in committees they would like to serve on. (*see attached listing*)

- Local Updates:
 - **Dr. Heath** – The Great Lakes Burning River Festival is being held July 23-24, 2011 at the Historic Coast Guard Station on Whiskey Island in Cleveland (Cuyahoga County). The eco-fest will feature live music, educational exhibits and fresh local foods and drinks. The festival is 6 – 11 pm Saturday and 1-6 pm Sunday. See www.burningriverfest.org
 - Mr. Hayberger said that the first year renovations to the shore area at the city of Sandusky's Lions Park are nearly complete. The renovations included removing the concrete rubble along the low bluff and prefilling sand to create a swimming beach. The renovations were paid for in part with grants from the ODNR. Future renovations and improvements to the park are planned. Lions Park is one of Ohio's coastal public access sites. Learn more: www.ohiodnr.com/tabid/22625/Default.aspx
 - **Ms. Bihn** – There will be an "invitation only" Lake Erie Improvement Forum from 8:30 am to 4 pm on June 8, 2011 at Camp Perry. The numerous event sponsors include the George Gund Foundation, Freshwater Future, City of Oregon, Ottawa County Commissioners, Scotts, Lake Erie Charter Boat Association, Toledo Lucas County Port Authority, Hull and Associates, and the Lake Erie Waterkeepers. The draft agenda includes morning presentations on the status of the water quality in Lake Erie and the excessive algal growth including the excessive nutrients entering the lake. The afternoon will include breakout sessions to discuss topics ranging from economic impact; wastewater and point source, storm runoff, dredging – open lake disposal, animal manure; agricultural runoff; data/research needs, funding and financing, etc. Those interested in attending should contact Ms. Bihn.
 - **Mr. O'Connor** - The first annual Black River Kayak-A-Thon will be held on July 3rd, 2011 before the Lorain Port Fest. This event will include a competitive race and a casual float for those who want to take their time and view the restoration projects. This event is being held to encourage recreation on the Black River and celebrate the restoration efforts that are underway along the river. Representatives from the Lower Black River Fish Habitat Restoration project team will be on hand to provide more information about the Black River restoration effort and to answer questions. The start location will be at the Colorado Avenue access site in the Lorain Metroparks. Learn more: www.lorainblackriver.com/kayak.html
 - **Dr. Herdendorf** – Sheffield Lake has named all the streams within their watershed. Dr. Herdendorf will be sending the data to OCM to update the watershed maps data layer if necessary.

- Council Questions:
 - Mr. Spotts **Q: What is the status of the Coastal Erosion Area maps?**
 - Chief Watkins A: The updated CEA maps (2010 CEA Maps) were finalized in late December 2010. They can be downloaded online at: www.dnr.state.oh.us/tabid/22349/Default.aspx. The ODNR Division of Geological Survey is in charge of the remapping process. The OCM is tasked with issuing CEA permits for development within designated Coastal Erosion Areas.
 - Mr. Hageman **Q: What is the status with remapping the flood zones for the area?**
 - Chief Watkins A: The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) maps flood zones in the United States. In Ohio FEMA and the USACE Detroit District are undertaking a project taking aerial oblique photos of the state. After the photos are taken, FEMA will begin remapping the open coast flood levels in Ohio. The maps ARE NOT connected to nor associated with any of ODNR OCM's regulatory authorizations in Ohio Revised Code Chapter 1506, but they are connected with local flood plain administration. ODNR OCM will have access to the aerial oblique photos once they are taken. FEMA and USACE Detroit have experienced delays in the project due to cloud cover and rain's this spring.
 - Dr. Heath **Q: What is the status of the Great Lakes Compact?**
 - Chief Watkins A: The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) released the Final Report of the Ohio Great Lakes Compact Advisory Board on 12/17/2010. More information and the report are found on the ODNR Division of Soil and Water Resources website: www.ohiodnr.com/tabid/21511/Default.aspx

12:00 p.m. Presentation on the Huntington Shoreline Management Plan by Jim Kastelic
(see attached)

12:30 p.m. Lunch Break

1:00 p.m. Presentations on the Ohio Department of Health Beach Monitoring Program for 2011 by ODH's Corey Schwab, RS. (see attached)

Public Comment: None

1:40 p.m. Old Business – A discussion was held regarding the letter Council is drafting to ODNR Director Mustine regarding the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study (GLMRIS). Various council members made notations on the draft letter that was circulated at the meeting. Motion: George Goudreau made a motion that the council Executive Committee review the suggested changes, finalize the letter and send it to Director Mustine within the next two weeks and to take this action via email and a conference call. Mr. Herdendorf seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved.

2:00 p.m. Adjourn Mr. Goudreau made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Kastelic. Motion was unanimously approved.