

JUNE 25, 2020 LWI REGION 8 STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING MATERIALS

Agenda..... 1

Meeting Minutes..... 2



LOUISIANA
WATERSHED
INITIATIVE

LWI Region 8 Steering Committee

Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, & St. Charles Parishes

LWI Region 8 Steering Committee Meeting

June 25, 2020

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

- I. Regional Steering Committee Introductions**
 - a. A brief overview of online meeting procedures
- II. Approval of April 17, 2020 Minutes (*vote required*)**
- III. Discussion & Approval of RSC Work Plan (*vote required*)**
- IV. Discussion & Approval of RSC Bylaws & Procedures (*vote required*)**
- V. LWI Program Updates**
- VI. Round 1 Projects and Project Inventory**
- VII. Steering Committee Regional Priorities**
 - a. Issues brought up by steering committee members
- VIII. Upcoming Meetings**
- IX. Questions/Adjourn (*vote required*)**

LWI Region 8 Steering Committee

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LWI Capacity Building Grant – Region 8 Regional Steering Committee Meeting

June 25, 2020 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

I. Virtual Meeting Procedures

- a. Microphones/Phones on mute unless you are speaking

Questions may be asked via question box

Votes: Motion, second, & online poll or voice/email tally (committee members only)

Public comments will be at end of meeting, notify staff via question box or verbally

II. Committee Roll Call

Present

- Tyler Antrup
- Derek Boese
- Stephanie Bruning
- Jessica Dandridge
- Ken Dugas
- Matt Falati
- Blaise Pezold
- Albertine Kimble
- Maggie Talley

Absent

- Ronald Carrere, Jr.
- Danielle Honor

III. Approval of April 17, 2020 Minutes

- a. Moved by: Tyler Antrup; Seconded by: Derek Boese
- b. 100% in favor to approve the April 17, 2020 Minutes

IV. Guest Participant Introductions

- a. Miriam Belblidia with the Arcadis CSRs consultant team suggested introducing meeting attendees.
- b. Regional Planning Commission attendees
- Malissa Givhan: Public Outreach Coordinator
 - Jeff Roesel: Executive Director
 - Leslie Couvillion: Senior Planner
- c. State LWI & Consultant attendees
- Nicolette Jones: Louisiana Office of Community Development
 - David Lessinger: CSR Program Management Consultant
 - Makida Zackery: Arcadis CSR Consultant
 - Matthew Sanders: Louisiana Office of Community Development
 - Miriam Belblidia: Arcadis CSR Consultant

V. Discussion & Approval of RSC Work Plan

LWI Region 8 Steering Committee

Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, & St. Charles Parishes

a. Work Plan Deliverables

- Hold the first steering committee meeting which occurred on April 17, 2020.
- Establish steering committee bylaws that will be voted on later in the meeting
- The project recommendations and coalition governing structure will be created over the next few months during steering committee meetings.

b. Other Committee Milestones

- In July OCD will present to the committee on Region 8's regional flood risks. (Please note that in the original work plan document sent to the committee is incorrect and each state presentation will be pushed back by one month.)

c. The steering committee is scheduled to meet once a month through November in order to meet the deadlines established by this program.

- Originally Region 8 tentatively scheduled future meetings for the fourth, Wednesday of every month, but after being informed by committee member Maggie Talley, Region 6 announced it would be using the fourth, Wednesday of every month as a standard meeting date.
- In response Region 8 will potentially move that to the fourth Thursday of every month as a standard meeting date.

d. Updates from the state LWI team

- The state consultant team is looking for ways to accelerate within the timeline and support the regional efforts. This could be achieved with some exercises in a combined format. It also could be achieved by combining some items in the work plan.

e. Approval of RSC Work Plan

- Moved by: Blaise Pezold; Seconded by: Maggie Talley
- 100% in favor to approve the RSC Work Plan

VI. Discussion & Approval of RSC Bylaws & Procedures

a. Key points of the RSC bylaws:

- Conformity with the state open meetings law
- Duties and responsibilities: Attendance rules that can be grounds for removal.
 - Missing three consecutive meetings or four meetings in total. If a committee member falls under grounds for removal the committee will take a vote, to remove the member and be replaced by someone else.
 - If there is some reason a committee member can't attend a meeting, please let the RPC staff know. We're happy to work with you.
- Alternative designee for RSC meetings
 - If a committee member cannot attend a meeting a designee can be sent in the committee member's place. This is because it is preferable to have a full committee even if some attendees are designees rather than have the chance of not achieving a meeting quorum.
- Steering committee members are subject to the Louisiana government code of ethics and HUD conflict of interest rules.
 - As stated in the bylaws, a committee member must recuse themselves from deliberation and abstain from voting on any matter, taken up by the committee that may affect a business or other entity in which he or she has a significant interest.

b. Committee Discussion

- Committee member Stephanie Bruning pointed out a duplicate paragraph in the bylaws and so any vote to approve will be contingent upon us correcting that typo.

LWI Region 8 Steering Committee

Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, & St. Charles Parishes

- Chairwoman Jessica Dandridge asked about the public comment in regards to virtual meetings.
 - For in person meetings forms will be available at the meeting entrance. For online forums the public comment form is essentially substituted by the chat box and for people calling in it requires people to just speak up.
 - Upon recommendation from the committee additional language regarding online meetings will be added to the bylaws.
- c. Vote to approve RSC Bylaws and Procedures.
 - Moved by: Stephanie Bruning on the contingency to add language regarding online meetings.
 - Seconded by: Tyler Antrup. 100% in favor to approve the RSC Bylaws and Procedures

VII. LWI Program Updates

- a. The Round 1 projects selection does not have a set date yet because the state has not entered into a grant agreement with HUD.
 - Once OCD enters into the grant agreement the application period will be open for three months. Following that OCD will require approximately a month for the state selection. Then the regional selection would come after that process. The state is anticipating that the regional selection should happen in fall or early winter.
 - Before the committee goes through the completed applications the scoring criteria should be established to prevent selection bias.
- b. The preliminary coalition structure deadline has been moved to November 30, 2020. This task will include coalition structure and authority.
- c. The Region 8 Steering Committee, completion is looking to be April 30th, 2021 as of now. The deadline for our first coalition meeting is September 30th, 2021.
- d. Building the project inventory list

VIII. Round 1 Projects and Project Inventory

- a. To collect the list of current projects we will reach out to the flood protection agencies, parish governments, municipalities, private sector, and nonprofits.
 - The goal of this process is to begin the communication process to see what is going regionally to have a better coordinated effort.
 - Types of projects can include stormwater management, flood protection, wetland preservation, rebuilding of degraded wetlands, water quality and pollution, and developing community water assets to make waterways viable community places.
- b. One way the information will be collected is by using the OCD data collection tool that collects data in one location and view project locations.

IX. Steering Committee Regional Priorities

- a. Issues brought up by steering committee members:
 - Integrated planning with stormwater management
 - Taking a holistic approach of looking at what happens up river and how it affects down river.

LWI Region 8 Steering Committee

Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, & St. Charles Parishes

- Long term effects of pollution and looking at water treatment in response to what is going into the river and lakes.
- Community oriented, planning, and involvement and that's like really, looking at an educational standpoint.
- Proactive community conversation about tax dollar usage regarding aging infrastructure.
- Creative flood prevention and management i.e. Sankofa's work in the Lower Ninth ward with flood parks.
- Proactive policy work for building codes.
- Promoting projects that do not impede or damage natural water processes, especially canals that allow salinity spikes.
- Incentivizing home elevation to prevent flooding.
- Better coordination as a regional body towards finding efficiencies via sharing knowledge and coordination.
- Mitigation of existing problems areas to create a more robust region.
- Establishing a written record that water is a public good or recreation.

X. Upcoming Meetings

a. July

- Regional Risks presentation from the state LWI leaders
- Discussion of Round 1 funding project scoring criteria
- Project inventory discussion and check-in

b. August

- Finalize Round 1 funding scoring criteria and selection process procedures
- A presentation from state LWI leaders regarding regional risks.

c. September

- Project inventory creation
- Looking at next steps for the community engagement process
- Discuss coalition structure

XI. Public Comment and Questions

- a. The RPC will be sending out information organizations to help generate project ideas and the criteria for the project list.
- b. Tom Haysley: begin thinking about if you are part of an organization that would be adding projects to this be looking for the RPC to reach out to various people for project inventory items.

XII. Adjourn

- a. Moved by: Blaise Pezold; Seconded by: Albertine Kimble
- b. 100% in favor to adjourn