

Approved Meeting Minutes- Approved July 15, 2020
Barnstable County Coastal Resources Subcommittee
Virtual Meeting
March 25, 2020, 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was held by remote participation by the Barnstable County Coastal Resources Subcommittee pursuant to Massachusetts Governor Charles D. Baker's Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law dated March 12, 2020.

The Chair announced that because the meeting was being held virtually all votes and other actions would be done by roll call. She stated that the members participating remotely would be announced as roll call is taken.

Attendance:

Members –

Nina Coleman	Barnstable	Absent
Sam Haines	Bourne	Present
Chris Miller	Brewster	Present
Robert Duncanson, PhD	Chatham	Present
Karen Johnson	Dennis	Present
Shana Brogan (Arrived at 10:25 am)	Eastham	Present
Jennifer Lincoln	Falmouth	Present
Heinz Proft	Harwich	Absent
Ashley Fisher	Mashpee	Present
Tim Famulare	Provincetown	Present
David Deconto	Sandwich	Present
Emily Beebe	Truro	Present
Hillary Lemos (Arrived at 10:25 am)	Wellfleet	Present
Karl Von Hone	Yarmouth	Present
Vacant	Orleans	

Non-voting Members –

Shannon Hulst (Staff/Acting Chair)	Deputy Director/Cape Cod Cooperative Ext.	
Present		
Jo Ann Muramoto, PhD	MassBays Regional Coordinator for CC	Present
Stephen McKenna	At large	Present
Donald Liptack	At large	Present

Others Present –

Rick DeVergillio		CC Conservation District
April Wobst	Restoration Ecologist	Association to Preserve CC
Christine Player	Dredge Consultant	Foth Engineering
Heather McElroy	Natural Resources Manager	Cape Cod Commission
Siobhan Cavacco	Administrative Assistant	Cape Cod Commission

Summary of Actions taken

The Board voted Robert Duncanson as Chair and Steven McKenna as Vice-Chair of the Committee.

The Board voted to adopt its website as its alternate posting location for purposes of posting notices as required by the Open Meeting Law and its regulations.

Staff announced that the BCCRS would schedule future meetings of the Board on the third Wednesday of each month beginning July 15, 2020.

Staff provided the Board with an overview of its transition from Coastal Resources Committee to Barnstable County Coastal Resources Subcommittee, an update on the Barnstable County Coastal Management Committee including an overview of its October 17, 2019 meeting, and the Barnstable County Dredge.

Cape Cod Conservation District Update on Projects Funded by the Cape Cod Water Resources Project.

Committee members gave updates and discussed future agenda items.

Call to Order

Shannon Hulst called the meeting to order at 9:04 am with a Roll Call Vote in the following order to confirm members present for the meeting:

Nina Coleman	Not present
Sam Haines	Yes
Chris Miller	Yes
Robert Duncanson, PhD	Yes
Karen Johnson	Yes
Shana Brogan	Not present at roll call; joined at 10:25 am
Jennifer Lincoln	Yes
Heinz Proft	Not present
Ashley Fisher	Yes
Tim Famulare	Yes
David Deconto	Yes
Emily Beebe	Yes
Hillary Lemos	Not present at roll call; joined at 10:25 am
Karl Von Hone	Yes
Jo Ann Muramoto	Yes
Stephen McKenna	Yes
Donald Liptack	Yes

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Discussion and vote on chair and co-chair of the BCCRS

Ms. Hulst opened the floor for nominations for chair and vice-chair of the subcommittee. She reminded members they can nominate themselves. JoAnn Muramoto nominated Robert Duncanson for chair and Steve McKenna for vice-chair. Karen Johnson seconded the nomination. Ms. Hulst confirmed with Mr. Duncanson and Mr. McKenna they were willing to accept the nominations. Ms. Hulst asked if there were any other nominations. Ms. Hulst confirmed with Heather McElroy that a vote can take place with only one nomination for each position.

Roll call vote for Robert Duncanson as chair and Steve McKenna as vice-chair

Sam Haines	yes
Chris Miller	yes
Robert Duncanson	yes
Karen Johnson	yes
Jennifer Lincoln	yes
Ashley Fisher	yes
Tim Famulare	yes
David Deconto	yes
Emily Beebe	yes
Karl Von Hone	yes

Shana Brogan and Hillary Lemos had not joined the meeting in time for this vote.

Ms. Hulst confirmed the subcommittee members present unanimously nominated Robert Duncanson and Stephen McKenna as chair and co-chair respectively of the Barnstable County Coastal Resources Subcommittee.

Alternate Posting Location

Ms. Hulst opened the discussion on adopting the Barnstable County Coastal Resources Committee (BCCRS) website as the official notice posting for meeting notices in accordance with the Open Meeting Law. She explained this would alleviate the need to physically post the notices outside the county buildings. Ms. Hulst informed the subcommittee the BCCRS website will be posted on the Cape Cod Commission website under the Barnstable County Coastal Management Committee (BCCMC) page.

Upon a motion by Robert Duncanson, seconded by Sam Haines, and by a roll call vote, the members unanimously agreed to adopt the Barnstable County Coastal Resources Subcommittee website as the official notice posting method for posting meeting notices in accordance with the Open Meeting Law.

Roll Call Vote

Sam Haines	yes
Chris Miller	yes
Robert Duncanson	yes
Karen Johnson	yes
Jennifer Lincoln	yes
Ashley Fisher	yes
Tim Famulare	yes
David Deconto	yes

Emily Beebe	yes
Karl Von Hone	yes

Shana Brogan and Hillary Lemos had not joined the meeting in time for this vote.

Meeting Schedule

Ms. Hulst began the discussion for creating a regular meeting schedule by pointing out doing so would alleviate the need for Doodle polls. She suggested the third Wednesday of the month at 9:00 am. Ms. Muramoto said, although she is a non-voting member, she often has monthly MassBays Management meetings in Boston on Wednesdays. Ms. Lincoln added she has a standing meeting on Wednesdays at 10:00 am so she would have to leave the BCCRS meetings a little early. Ms. Hulst then suggested the third Tuesday or Thursday of the month as alternative days. Thursday did not work for a member and Tuesday does not work for the new chair, Robert Duncanson. Heather McElroy interjected, asking Ms. Hulst if she plans on meeting monthly or quarterly. Ms. Hulst confirmed the meetings will be held quarterly. Ms. Muramoto confirmed her MassBay meetings in 2020 are May 20th, September 16th, and December 16th which would not conflict with the BCCRS meetings. Ms. Lincoln indicated she could adjust her conflicting meeting for Wednesday morning if these meetings were quarterly, not monthly. Ms. McElroy suggested they start the meetings in July. Ms. Hulst agreed and confirmed the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 15, 2020 at 8:30 am.

Overview of Transition from Coastal Resources Committee to Barnstable County Coastal Resources Subcommittee

Ms. Hulst asked Ms. McElroy to provide an overview from the county perspective of this transition. Ms. McElroy explained there was an interest at the county commissioners level to re-establish various county committees, including a committee to oversee coastal management issues at the regional scale. She said the commissioners did not want to have members from every community because they were interested in having a regional perspective. Ms. McElroy said many others continued to advocate for the importance of having local representation to bring issues of local concern and have those voices represented. The ordinance established the coastal management committee, which allowed for the creation of a coastal resources subcommittee to include representatives from each town. Ms. McElroy continued, stating that although the terminology is a little bit confusing, the idea is to ensure that there is communication between the two committees. She pointed out there is dual representation between committee members Chris Miller and Steve McKenna and that she and Ms. Hulst will participate in each committee's meetings. Also, both committees will provide an annual report to the county commissioners to keep them apprised of the work of both committees. This concluded Ms. McElroy's overview.

Ms. Hulst asked Mr. Duncanson if he would like to provide an overview of the transition from the subcommittee perspective. Mr. Duncanson began by providing some history of the committees, stating the original Coastal Resources Committee (CRC) was a combination of two committees in the 70s & 80s when the CDM Management Committee and the Water Quality Committee merged and created the Coastal Resources Committee. The purpose of the new committee was to provide a platform for the communities to get together, talk about common issues, learn from each other's experiences, and look at issues that were of a regional nature. Mr. Duncanson stated the Barnstable County dredge program originated with the CRC and the Stormwater Managers group was another outgrowth of CRC. He said the CRC recognized it made more sense to tackle issues at a county level instead of each individual town.

Ms. Hulst thanked Mr. Duncanson for his overview and added that she will refer to the group as the BCCRS instead of CRS. Ms. Muramoto asked if the written history and timeline of the CRC achievements had been distributed to the BCCRS members. Ms. Hulst responded that the Open Meeting Law posting requirements and challenges with the coronavirus resulted in not being able to post documents for this meeting other than the agenda. She said now that the committee has voted to post things electronically, this information can be shared and posted on the website along with the minutes.

Mr. Duncason said Ms. Muramoto reminded him of two big things the CRC has been involved in, the MassBays Local Governance Committee and the Cape Cod Water Resources Restoration Project. He said the CRC had an integral role in getting those things wrapped up and they were beneficial to Cape Cod.

Ms. Hulst asked for any additional comments or questions and then moved on to agenda items 7.

Update on Barnstable County Coastal Management Committee including an overview of the October 17, 2019 meeting

Ms. McElroy began the discussion by informing members the BCCMC has been putting a lot of energy into getting various subcommittees organized along with activities that are going on around the county regarding coastal management issues, including coastal resiliency bylaw work. The focus for several BCCMC meetings has been discussing the roles and responsibilities of and the need for the BCCRS and they are grateful to finally be having the meeting today.

Ms. McElroy continued, stating another important area of focus has been dredging. She said there have been discussions that included updates from the county, updates from the county's dredging consultant on dredging activities around the Cape, and discussions about the organization of the dredging program and potentially around the need for a dredging subcommittee under the BCCMC. Ms. McElroy said the discussions are ongoing and were supposed to have been part of a February 26, 2020 BCCMC meeting that was postponed due to not having a quorum. The next meeting will hopefully be in April. Ms. McElroy added, once the subcommittees are established, she sees the BCCMC focusing on trying to address county policies and advocacy efforts toward issues that are raised by the BCCRS. This concluded Ms. McElroy's update. Ms. Hulst asked members for questions or comments. A member asked for the total number of subcommittees allowed. Ms. McElroy responded that the ordinance allows for the creation of two specifically, this group and a dredging subcommittee or if something is determined necessary.

Ms. Hulst asked for any further questions or comments then moved on to the next agenda item.

Barnstable County Representative to provide update on Barnstable County Dredge

Ms. Hulst asked if Christine Player from Foth Engineering had joined the meeting to provide the dredge update. While members waited to see if Ms. Player had joined, Ms. Hulst explained Ms. Player's role as the county's consultant and manager of the county dredge program. It appeared Ms. Player had not joined the meeting so Ms. Hulst asked Ms. McElroy and Mr. Miller if they had more information on the dredge program.

Ms. McElroy offered to provide some information and asked Steve McKenna to collect his thoughts since he has been working closely with the county administration on the dredge. Ms. McElroy said the new dredge had many issues but is now deployed and working. She said Ms. Player was hired about a year ago to help the county revamp the dredging program after the longtime dredge operator Wayne

Jaedtke retired. The county had brought on a new dredge and was trying to keep the original dredge, the *Codfish*, running and effective. They needed assistance with keeping the two dredges operating as efficiently as possible while dealing with the ongoing challenges that included juggling time of year restrictions and weather related delays. Ms. Player was able to locate the appropriate person within each town to coordinate dredging projects, identify permits for the various dredging sites in each community, help communities work toward required permitting and figure out a schedule to move the dredges around the Cape as efficiently as possible.

Ms. Hulst asked Mr. Miller and Mr. McKenna if they had anything to add. Mr. Duncanson interjected, stating Chatham received a notice two days ago for two projects that were scheduled to start now that the dredging program had shut down. Mr. McKenna added that the county does have two dredges that can work right now. However, the booster pump used for certain longer projects blew up, which will impact their scheduled booster projects for this year. Mr. McKenna continued, stating the dredge team was looking at some extension projects to carry them into next season. He said the program schedule was impacted by windy weather last fall that severely curtailed mobilization of activities and resulted in falling behind. Mr. McKenna ended his discussion by stating many of the projects are grant funded and because of coronavirus there will be extensions granted to the various grant funded projects.

Ms. Hulst asked Mr. Miller if he had any comments. Mr. Miller responded that he received reports from Ms. Player that confirm Mr. McKenna's comments. Ms. Hulst added she just emailed Ms. Player and it appears there was a communication issue. She said Steve Tebo or Jack Yunits was supposed to be covering the discussion for her, however, they were both called into a department managers meeting. She asked if there were any further comments on the dredge program before moving on to the next agenda item.

Cape Cod Conservation District Update on Projects Funded by the Cape Cod Water Resources Project (CCWRP) and discussion on the resources area ranking criteria for CCWRP.

Ms. Hulst informed the committee that Donald Liptack would be providing an update on the status of projects funded by the Cape Cod Water Resources Restoration Project. Mr. Liptack said he would like to defer the conversation to Rick DeVergilio for a brief summary and then follow-up with some of the revision items.

Mr. DeVergilio began his summary, stating the Cape Cod Water Resources Restoration Project is a federal congressionally authorized project plan that was developed around 2006/2007 to restore anadromous fish ways, to remediate stormwater for the benefit of shellfish growing areas, and to restore restricted tidal marshes. The project received money back in 2010 through 2013 and approximately 25 or so projects were installed. He said 2013 to 2018 were pretty lean years with federal funding for these type of projects. However, in 2018, the project received a resurgence of funding under the Natural Resource Conservation Services Program. The program is broken out into three segments.

The first segment began in early 2018 and involves actual project installations. Mr. DeVergilio said there are about 15 individual projects, some have been completed and others are underway, and are based on cooperative agreements between the individual towns, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The Cape Cod Conservation District has been helping NRCS with all the due diligence that is involved with installing these projects.

Mr. DeVergilio gave a quick rundown on the projects installations:

Oyster Pond Furlong in Chatham (*completed*) was part of a larger project that the Town of Chatham had sponsored to do stormwater remediation work to benefit shellfish resources.

East End of Commercial Street in Provincetown (*completed*) was a stormwater remediation project to protect shellfish growing areas. The project involved a lot of new technologies relative to force pavement and infrastructure underneath the roadway to infiltrate and treat stormwater runoff.

Sandwich Harbor stormwater project (*completed*) was a three-phase project in Sandwich that involved stormwater remediation work in Town Neck Beach parking area, the Boardwalk Beach parking area and the surrounding residential roadways around Sandwich Harbor.

Sampson's Mill Pond Road (*completed*) culvert was replaced with a three-sided box culvert for improving fish passage, but also has other wildlife passage benefits relative to meeting the state stream crossing standard.

Baxter Grist Mill fish passage on Route 28 in Yarmouth is pretty much completed. The project involves replacing a fish ladder and the dam was also revitalized as part of the project.

Parkers River salt marsh restoration in Yarmouth is underway. The Cape Cod Water Resources Restoration Project was able to put some funding into that.

Barley Neck Landing and Meetinghouse Pond (*completed*) is a stormwater project in Orleans to improve water quality for shellfish growing in Meetinghouse Pond.

The Coonamessett River restoration project involves replacing several culverts on John Parker Road, which has been deemed to be a restriction for fish passage, and a three-sided culvert meeting the bridge stream crossing standards is in the process of being installed right now.

Upper Marstons Mills fish way is still in the design process but slated to go in soon.

Crosby Landing in Brewster is a small salt marsh restoration and stormwater remediation for benefiting shellfish from the landing and the roadway on Crosby Lane and slated to go in this fall.

Eagle Neck Creek is a salt marsh restoration project in Truro and at about a 90% for having that become a reality.

Johns Pond fish way in Mashpee has completed an H&H study and is basically in the design stage for making improvements on erosion around the structure and trying to prevent shoaling of the fish passage structure itself.

This concluded Mr. DeVergilio's update on the first segment of what the Cape Cod Water Resources Restoration Project has been involved with that is either completed or ongoing. The ongoing projects have agreements with the towns and have a deadline at the end of this calendar year.

Mr. DeVergilio continued with the second segment of his review with a list of projects that have been identified and budgeted and are ready to go if/when additional funding is received. Mr. DeVergilio said funds are often provided for projects that are ready to start immediately. He wanted to be clear that the list is of possible projects and there is no guarantee they will be completed. Currently, they are meeting

with individual towns to discuss how to go about doing the studies, develop scopes of work, and decide if the towns would retain A&E firms or whether they would like the Conservation District to handle it.

Stony Brook fish way in Brewster there is a failing retaining wall on the upper section. Apparently, the town has a commitment from the state to install the project and they need a design. Mr. DeVergilio said the Conservation District is working with the Town of Brewster to secure a design. He added they are surveying the entire run to see if there are any other improvements that could be made within the run.

Stillwater Pond and Lovers Lake fish passage in Chatham is another possible project. Mr. DeVergilio said there is a culvert under Route 28 that looks like it has collapsed. He said this is a priority project for Chatham and a scope of work to secure a design has been developed. Mr. DeVergilio added that MassDOT has been contacted to see how they would like to handle it. He added if this is a priority project for them, they may contribute additional funding.

Restoring Cold Brook cranberry bog in Harwich from an abandoned cranberry bog back into natural wetland. The Cape Cod Water Resources Restoration Project has contracted with the Cape Cod Cooperative Extension to look at how best to go about restoring the anadromous fish habitat and see how we may be able to get fish into the upper reaches of spawning habitat into Grassy Pond.

Snows Creek in Barnstable is listed as a salt marsh restoration and is currently being discussed with the Town of Barnstable.

Freemans Pond in Brewster has funding budgeted to evaluate and come up with a design to stabilize eroding areas that are threatening the marsh. The culvert was replaced back in 2012 as part of the initial phase of the water resources restoration project, but there has been subsequent erosion around the structure that needs to be figured out and treated.

Weir Creek salt marsh restoration project in Dennis is a complicated project because there is so much urban development around it. There was a study done in 2008 to look at it and now there is discussion with the town of Dennis to see if they want to move forward with developing a scope of work to investigate it.

Oyster Pond in West Falmouth Harbor. A feasibility study for West Falmouth Harbor was completed in 2014 and a couple of the marshes in there are clearly restricted. The discussion now with the town is the idea of replacing the culvert underneath the bike path to help restore the tidal marsh east of the bike path.

Jones Lane/Scorton Creek in Sandwich is looking to evaluate possible restriction at that culvert and to design a replacement culvert.

Pamet River in Truro has a complicated hydrology situation involving breaching of Ballston Beach. There is a draft agreement for a scope of work with the Town of Truro to evaluate and design a culvert replacement under Truro center row, which is the first culvert moving upstream in the Pamet River system. East of that upstream is a culvert under Route 6 that will also be part of the evaluation. Mr. DeVergilio said they do not want any restrictions to tidal flow and want to make sure that any breaching of the ocean beach with the contribution of water is able to drain out effectively to prevent flooding.

Doane Way in Nauset Landing in Orleans is looking to secure a design for stormwater remediation.

West End of Commercial Street in Provincetown is looking to do a design pretty similar to what was completed in the east section.

Little Bay in Bourne is looking to do a stormwater remediation project.

In Wellfleet there's a couple of culverts in the upper reaches of a river Mr. DeVergilio was unable to name at the time but have come up as possible restrictions that are going to be analyzed.

Mr. DeVergilio concluded the second segment of his update by stating all towns are welcome to submit priority projects they would like to have considered to him or Mr. Liptack.

Mr. DeVergilio's third segment of the project was an update of the overall restoration plan that was compiled back in 2007. He said the leadership in Washington, DC wants to know when the project will end. Mr. DeVergilio said the goal is to identify and develop a list of projects after they inventory the habitats, collect field data, and come up with assessments that serve as the basis for the next request for allocation. He explained habitat units are spawning areas for fish, restored tidal marsh, and shellfish growing areas that have benefited from stormwater remediation.

Mr. DeVergilio said the original plan of the Coastal Resources Committee was to serve as the local representation of what resources needed to be protected in the communities. He said the hope is the Coastal Resources Subcommittee will assist with that now. The process is going to evolve into reviewing and possibly revising the ranking criteria. Mr. DeVergilio advised against making too many changes in the project plan because it might result in having to make a whole new plan. One suggestion Mr. DeVergilio made was to use the original screening criteria for program eligibility and then use a more detailed criteria, which has basically been generated by meeting with restoration partners. He stated the committee would have been provided with this information today to provide input but because of Open Meeting Law guidelines the information will be provided later.

Mr. DeVergilio continued, stating the Cape Cod Conservation District has a contract with the Association to Preserve Cape Cod (APCC) to look at tidal marsh restoration projects and stormwater projects that were installed as part of phase one and to inventory, evaluate, and identify any adaptive management practices that may need to be included in projects moving forward. They will also look at the environmental impact statement to make sure the projects are not getting far away from it and avoid the need to develop a new project plan. He said both groups are also meeting with individual towns to identify priority projects. Mr. DeVergilio stated there is a base ranking criterion derived from meeting with the Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) for stormwater ranking criteria and there may be changes to the fish passage ranking criteria. He said the APCC, DER, Conservation District, and NRCS have met extensively on salt marsh restoration and there are draft recommendations for the BCCRS to review. This completed Mr. DeVirgilio's update.

Mr. Liptack joined the discussion, informing the subcommittee members that the Cape Cod Conservation District is the principal sponsor of the NRCS project and phase two of the project is being led by Mr. DeVergilio, Mr. Liptack, APCC, and Steve Spear and Dan Barnett at the NRCS office. Mr. Liptack stressed the importance of subcommittee member input on the revised ranking criteria. He said Ms. Hulst will be emailing a document at a later date that will include the original ranking criteria for all three resource areas from the original plan that is now almost 15 years old plus a draft revision of ranking criteria for all three resource areas. He said they used DMF Diadromous Division Staffer, DMF

Shellfish Division in New Bedford, and Division of Ecological Restoration to help with the criteria. Mr. Liptack said each town's opinion of ranking criteria will be used to identify priorities and used in the ranking process for the remaining sites that will be funded. He asked members to please comment as needed and that no response will indicate members concur with the criteria. Mr. Liptack asked members to return feedback in a few weeks so a list can be put together to submit to the national headquarters by early summer.

Ms. Hulst thanked Mr. Devirgilio and Mr. Liptack and said once the subcommittee website is created the items they mentioned will be posted and made available to everyone. She said she was not certain if the coronavirus will slow down the creation of that website. Ms. McElroy jumped in, stating the CCC should be able to get that website up in short order, possibly in a week or so.

**Ms. Hulst confirmed Ms. Lemos, Ms. Brogan, and Ms. Player joined the meeting. (Approx. 10:25 am).

Return to Agenda Item 8 – Dredge Update

Ms. Hulst introduced Christine Player from Foth Engineering who just joined the meeting. Although out of the agenda order, Ms. Hulst requested Ms. Player now give her update on the Barnstable County dredge program.

Ms. Player began by stating due to Covid-19, the county shut down all dredging operations through April 7th and all towns were notified by email. She said the situation will be re-evaluated after April 7th. The 2020 planning survey was sent out for everyone to identify dredging needs for this upcoming dredge season, as well as a five year look ahead. She said the primary goal is to start getting the schedule going for next season and to start looking ahead with the county to help them plan better by assisting them in evaluating and presenting the program, and get the communities to contribute to a more long term assessment of their needs. Ms. Player said they have received about half of the planning surveys back and are still waiting for about six more towns.

Ms. Player continued her discussion, focusing on accomplishments from the current season. They have completed a total of four projects in phase two: Cotuit Cut, dredging in Barnstable, Eel River in Falmouth, and Pamet Harbor in Truro, which included the approach and inlet channels along the mooring basin. They also completed Sesuit Harbor in Dennis.

Ms. Player stated they were successful in obtaining two 14 additional working day waivers, one for the Town of Dennis for Sesuit Harbor and one for the Town of Falmouth at Eel River, which will allow dredging to continue past the winter. She said delays have not been equipment related, except for the booster pump that is now out of commission. Instead the delays have primarily been related to weather, namely the unusual consistency of high winds over 20 mph, that have had the greatest impact on operations. Rough calculations since the beginning of the season in October indicate the county has lost about 35% of its working capacity because of the high winds. The county has been working weekends trying to make up days lost during the week, but they are restricted to only working daylight hours and they're not allowed to work 24/7.

Ms. Player continued, stating they have about four days remaining to complete the approach channel in Mashpee. Once it is completed, the *Sand Shifter* is slated to go to Aunt Lydia's Cove in Chatham. Falmouth Inner Harbor is partially completed. She said Barnstable County started that project in January with the original *Codfish*, which is now out of commission. Ms. Player said they are trying to figure out a

way to get a dredge into Falmouth Inner Harbor by the beginning of June because of the time-of-year restrictions. She continued with Mill Creek in Chatham and said they did the pre-dredge survey and the hope is that the county will mobilize the *Codfish 2* to Mill Creek to start dredging as soon as possible. The last two targeted projects are Allen Harbor Entry Channel and Wychmere Entrance Channel, both in Harwich and both are on the schedule for June.

This concluded Ms. Player's update and she asked if anyone had any questions or comments. Ms. Muramoto commented that the governor's list of essential businesses is posted on the website and there is a place where you can apply to be listed as an essential business. She asked Ms. Player if it would make sense to look into whether the county dredge operations can be listed as an essential business. Ms. Player replied that is something the county could look at but social distancing is a concern. She said people perceive being outside on a dredge as not having close proximity but the workers actually are in very close quarters, especially when doing repairs. Another challenge the county has expressed is stocking up on supplies. Ms. Player said the decision to shut down dredging operations was made on Monday by Steve Tebo who, as she understands, has the authority to make those decisions.

Ms. Hulst asked if there were any further comments or questions for Ms. Player and then moved on to the next agenda item.

Committee Member Updates

In the interest of time, Ms. Hulst asked members to keep updates to five minutes and started the updates in roll call order.

Ms. Coleman – Ms. Hulst confirmed she did not join the meeting.

Mr. Haines stated he did not have any updates at this time.

Mr. Miller stated Brewster didn't have too bad a winter this year, they were able to put sand back on a few beaches. Other than that, no big issues, and no new projects really on the books.

Mr. Duncanson – Ms. Hulst confirmed he had to leave the meeting early.

Ms. Johnson said Dennis didn't have any big events this year. Dr. Bottero Road still has plenty of sand and protected. They are in the permit process right now. There is an accumulation of sand in the Swan Pond River. She said they did get approval to dredge the river channel, but some neighbors are challenging the permit approval every step of the way. Ms. Johnson said it is concerning because the river channel is beginning to move and is going to cause some significant erosion impact around the jetty.

Ms. Brogan – Ms. Hulst confirmed she left the meeting early.

Ms. Lincoln stated Falmouth lost a tremendous amount of sand on Menhauant Beach last fall and winter. She said right now they are looking to stabilize the beach so they do not lose the parking lot. They have also filed an ENF for a larger stabilization project.

Heinz Proft – Ms. Hulst confirmed he did not join the meeting.

Ms. Fisher stated the dredge will be in Mashpee for the next few days. They are looking at a time of year restriction of April 1st and currently writing something up for an extension. She said Mashpee is working with Mr. Liptack to identify areas of stormwater infrastructure that can be improved.

Mr. Famulare stated he didn't have any big issues to report but Provincetown is currently working with three other outer Cape towns for a Coastal Zone Management (CZM) grant to develop a regional shoreline management plan. Mr. Famulare said Ms. Lemos from Wellfleet is the lead on it along with Ms. Brogan from Eastham, and Ms. Beebe from Truro. He said the Center for Coastal Studies is the contractor.

Mr. Deconto stated Sandwich has three items of note. First, they are still slogging through the US Army Corps Section 111 Study process and expecting an updated draft of the report next month. Second, they have gone to the next level of looking to dredge material out of the old harbor which will also help with restoration of Town Neck Beach and Spring Hill Beach. Third, they are finishing up an MVP action grant for educational outreach, which will do two things 1) create a story app that anybody can access about what Sandwich is doing about coastal resiliency and 2) create a curriculum for the seventh & eighth graders at Sandwich High School STEM Academy on climate change and coastal resiliency and bring them to the local level with a model of what Sandwich is doing.

Ms. Beebe – Ms. Hulst said she could see Ms. Beebe was logged into the meeting but she was not able to connect.

Ms. Lemos confirmed Wellfleet is working on the regional CZM Grant that Mr. Famulare described. She said they are hoping to come up with a shoreline management plan soon and will share that with the rest of the group. She said Wellfleet is going to be working on amending local conservation regulations for climate change. Ms. Lemos said she has spoken with the regional group on the outer cape and is hoping everyone will sign on and have the same regulations someday soon. She is hoping it will be completed by next summer. Ms. Lemos said they are still moving ahead with Herring River but doesn't think Mayo Creek is going to get off the ground as a restoration project.

Mr. Von Hone said Yarmouth is in the middle of Route 28 bridge, which is a coastal restoration project. He said they are starting to wrap up Mill Creek Herring Run and rebuilding of the ladder system at the Baxter Mill as well as the dam rebuild and fortification at the Baxter Mill. He said it is nearing completion and should wrap up within the next month or two. Mr. Von Hone said Yarmouth is looking at a couple of large restoration projects in the upper regions of Bass River and Mill Pond and taking a look at some cranberry bogs and overgrown bogs for nitrogen remediation. He said they are in middle of re-permitting for 10-year dredging and beach nourishment. The Barnstable County dredge was unable to do any of their projects this season and they weren't able to address their shore erosion.

Ms. Muramoto stated she wrote up her updates to distribute later but will discuss a few highlights. She began by explaining the mission of the Massachusetts Bay National Estuary Partnership, which is to protect and restore the coastal ecosystems at Mass Bays, Cape Cod Bay, and Ipswich Bay. She said there are regional coordinators, including herself, that work in each of the five regions from Cape Cod to the upper North Shore. The Association to Preserve Cape Cod (APCC) is the host for the Cape Cod region, and provides technical services, grant writing assistance, coordination and outreach. Ms. Muramoto informed the committee if there is a project they are interested in getting assistance with that is not in

her Mass Bays region, APCC has a restoration coordinator center headed up by April Wobst that provides similar assistance throughout the Cape.

She continued with her update, stating the Healthy Estuaries Grant Program at MassBays has some issues. The RFR for the preproposals were due March 10th for projects to fill data gaps and research, plan future restorations and test innovative solutions. The preproposals are now due by April 2nd. MassBays has hired a new Coastal Monitoring Coordinator, Jill Carr, who can help organizations and agencies develop monitoring programs, analyze data and upload data for state and federal clearing houses. Ms. Muramoto said the first free monitoring webinar is coming up on March 31st and she will distribute registration to the members.

Ms. Muramoto continued with APCC's State of the Waters Cape Cod water report card program that issued the first report cards for coastal waters, ponds, and drinking water last year. This year they are collecting any new water data that towns and organizations may have so they can update scores and grades. She said they are also working on an Atlas of Water Restoration Needs to identify opportunities for improving water quality and anticipate the atlas will include the tidal restoration projects and maybe other restoration projects. Ms. Muramoto provided Muddy Creek as an example of a restoration and water quality project.

She continued her update with the river herring projects, stating things were going really well organizing groups to count herring this year until COVID19 hit. Based on governor's directive on Monday, she sent an email to all the count coordinators to recommend volunteers stay home. She said some have canceled volunteer counts and others are persisting. Two reasons she has recommended not counting is 1) social distancing is working and 2) since count equipment is shared by volunteers it is an opportunity to transmit the virus.

Ms. Muramoto continued with cyanobacteria monitoring and said last year was APCC's third year monitoring cyanobacteria in ponds and over thirty ponds were monitored. She said this year they plan to continue monitoring, looking at possible links between cyanobacteria and herring food web.

Ms. Muramoto said she would like to end her update with a question about Cape Cod Stormwater Managers Group. She said it is an information group that convened in 2016 to help towns learn how to plan for meeting their MS4 stormwater permit requirements. Together with towns, the Cape Cod Commission and APCC, they met several times to get training for preparing for notices of intent for MS4 permits, monitoring stormwater bylaws, appropriate BMPs, etc. Since early 2019, there haven't been any meetings. Ms. Muramoto said she would like to find out if there is any interest from the towns in reconvening the informal working group to exchange information on stormwater permits and discuss the upcoming changes in permits and the stormwater handbook. She requested anyone interested send her an email.

Mr. McKenna's update focused on the coastal resiliency grant program. He said they are working on finishing up seven projects and assessing how recent delays will impact the projects since they are supposed to be completed by June 30th. Also, they are planning on the next round of coastal resiliency funding. At this point they are hoping to keep it on track as it has been in the past year, releasing the RFR in late April with a due date around the end of May and selections made sometime in July. He said they were planning on doing a quick outreach meeting on April 3rd but that has been canceled. Instead, they are going to produce something on the program with examples of different types of projects and

have that available through a link, which he will share with members. Mr. McKenna continued, stating they are coaching folks to reach out to coordinators like himself for assistance with the RFR. He said there are a few changes with the RFR that are still in draft form, including changing the project gap to \$1mil and having the flexibility to contract for two years for larger projects. Mr. McKenna said all of this is subject to change. He said the same holds true for the stormwater grant program and they are hoping to keep it on the same track it has been on. Also, he doesn't think there have been any changes to that RFR.

Ms. Hulst asked Mr. Liptak for his updates but he said he did not have anything to add at this time.

Ms. Hulst asked if anyone else had an update or comments.

Ms. McElroy added that the information Ms. Muramoto & Mr. McKenna would like shared with committee members should go through Ms. Hulst first and then she can distribute to the group and post on the website. Ms. Hulst reminded everyone of the importance of following the Open Meeting Law guidelines and any information shared with the entire committee must be shared with the public.

Ms. Wobst provided her update of the projects she is currently working on, starting in Barnstable with the Three Bays Stormwater Project. She said they are scheduled to start construction on a couple of new sites beginning in April. They are working with the Falmouth Rod & Gun club in Falmouth and Mashpee and anticipate going out to bid for the Childs River Restoration project. She said the project is similar to the Coonamesset project, but the construction is being managed by the Rod & Gun club. They are following up on monitoring Sesuit Creek in Dennis and doing a report based on a pilot planting to try and improve recovery of vegetation. Also, they are under contract with the DER to go back to previously restored salt marshes and do a comprehensive report on the effectiveness of restoration in terms of tidal restoration, improvements to salinity, flow, and vegetation.

New Business

There was no new business.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is currently scheduled for Wednesday, July 15, 2020 at 8:30 am. Ms. Hulst asked members if there are items they would like to see on the agenda.

Mr. Haines asked for an email with the mission statement of the subcommittee before the next meeting so the committee can think about what they want to accomplish. Ms. Hulst said she will email out the one-line ordinance for the subcommittee to review.

Ms. Fisher sent a chat message that she forgot to mention cyanobacteria in her Mashpee update and she would like to discuss a cyanobacteria monitoring program at the next meeting. She said it is an ongoing issue in Mashpee and other towns and Santuit Pond continues to be a problem year after year. The Army Corps of Engineers is currently conducting a dredging feasibility study there, partnering with the Town of Mashpee & the Mashpee Wampanoag. Ms. Fisher added APCC has been involved but she is not aware of the testing techniques and frequency.

Mr. McKenna asked to put on the agenda the possibility of creating a dredge committee and what the towns think about creating the committee.

Ms. Muramoto deferred to Mr. DeVergilio & Mr. Liptack but suggested a Cape Cod Water Resource Restoration Project update. Mr. Liptack agreed this should be a topic for the next meeting.

Ms. Hulst said they will work closely with the chair and co-chair to determine the agenda.

Adjourn

Upon a motion by Stephen McKenna, seconded by Sam Haines, and a unanimous vote, the meeting adjourned at 11:04 am.

Roll call vote to adjourn

Sam Haines	yes
Chris Miller	yes
Robert Duncanson	left meeting at 10:16 am
Karen Johnson	yes
Shana Brogan	left meeting at 10:45 am
Jennifer Lincoln	yes
Ashley Fisher	yes
Tim Famulare	yes
David Deconto	yes
Emily Beebe	left meeting early
Hilary Lemos	yes
Karl Von Hone	yes

Documents Used/Received

Need to be added here