

OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS LT. GOVERNOR, JULIANA STRATTON
 Rivers of Illinois Coordinating Council (RICC)
 Quarterly Meeting Minutes
 August 5th, 2020

A present majority of currently represented voting member positions shall constitute a quorum: i.e. 11				
Position	Name	Present	Phone	Absent
Chair				
Chair (LG's Office)	Lt. Governor Juliana Stratton		x	
Departmental Rep.				
Dept. of Agriculture	Brian Rennecker			x
	Kristi Jones			x
Dept. of Commerce & Economic Opportunity	Wendy Bell			x
Environmental Protection Agency	Christine Davis		x	
Dept. of Natural Resources	Steve Altman		x	
Dept. of Transportation	Thomas Brooks		x	
Misc. Rep.				
National Great River Research and Education Center	Ted Kratschmer		x	
Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts	Stephen Fulling			x
Community & Nonprofit Rep.				
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	Doug Blodgett		x	
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	Danielle Anderson			x
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	Matthew Stafford		x	
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	Darren Melvin			x
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	Allen LaPointe		x	
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	Nani Bhowmik		x	
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	Konstantine "Dean" Alon-is-tio-tis			x
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	Jason McNeill			x
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	Tyrone Coleman			x
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	Gordon Tucker			x
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	Lindsay Keeney			x
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	Brett Stawar			x
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	Wendell Shauman		x	
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	Pending			
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	Pending			
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	Pending			
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	Pending			
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Community & Nonprofit Mem.	Pending			
Ex-Officio (non-voting member)				
Ex-Officio (non-member)	Pending			
Guest (non-member)				
Guest	Nicole Saulsberry		x	
Guest	Paul Rhode		x	
Guest	Emily Jenkins			x
Guest	Anna-Lisa Castle		x	
Guest	Robert Sinkler		x	
Guest	Patrick McGinnis			x
Guest	Fawn Pochel			x
Guest	Bradford Kasberg		x	
Guest	Laura Keefer		x	
Guest	Lauren Lurkins		x	
Guest	BJ Murray		x	
Guest	Kevin Irons		x	
Guest	Mindy Barnett		x	
Lt. Governor's Staff (non-member)				
N/A	Charles Watkins			
N/A	Dartesia Pitts			
N/A	Robert Mannis		x	
N/A	Akanksha Balekai		x	
N/A	Levi Bain			
N/A	Kirsten Davis Franklin		x	

I. Call to Order

- a. Lt. Governor Stratton called the meeting to order at 10:07 AM

II. Roll Call, Approval of Agenda, and Approval of Minutes from 5.06.20

- a. Roll call
 - i. Quorum established.
- b. Approval of Agenda
 - i. Moved by Ted Kratschmer
 - ii. Seconded by Allen LaPointe
 - iii. All in favor
 - iv. No opposition
 - v. No abstentions
- c. Approval of minutes form 05.06.20
 - i. Moved by Christine Davis
 - ii. Seconded by Thomas Brooks
 - iii. All in favor
 - iv. No opposition

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v. No abstentions

III. Chairperson's Remarks

a. Lt. Governor Stratton

- i. Re-iterates the purpose of the Council and the overarching goals of preserving waterways, improving water infrastructure, and proposing river conservation
- ii. Emphasizes the importance of elevating and including Indigenous voices in conversations about rivers
- iii. Thanks the Council for all its continued hard work and updates them on the report being finalized in tandem with the Governor's office
- iv. Thanks all attendees for their role in preventing the spread of COVID-19 and urges them to continue their efforts by urging their friends and families to continue adhering to health guidelines

IV. New Business

a. Asian Carp Presentation by Kevin Irons and Mindy Barnett of IDNR

- i. Overview of the many species of fish that are native to Illinois
- ii. Overview of the invasive species that can enter our state's waterways and the ramifications
 1. Unintentional vs. intentional introduction
 2. Be a Hero, Transport Zero / Be a Hero, Release Zero campaign
- iii. Review of the overall work IDNR has been doing
 1. Prevention
 2. Eradication
 3. Containment
 4. Resource protection and long-term management
- iv. Asian Carp Monitoring and Control in Illinois Waterways
 1. Monitoring and response plan
 - a. Detection
 - b. Management and control
 - c. Response
 2. COVID-19
 - a. Field work was paused from March through May of 2020
 - b. Staff has resumed work for monitoring efforts with COVID-19 preventative measures in place
 - c. Monitoring efforts are back on schedule
- v. Questions and Comments:
 1. Anna-Lisa Castle: Is there a fast way on social media or some public platform to see Asian Carp updates?
 - a. Kevin Irons – this is an idea that can be discussed on regional level with partners
 2. Nicole Saulsberry: How widespread is the issue of invasive species?
 - a. Kevin Irons: The Great Lakes are particular because we have about 67-180 native species in the Great Lakes River Basin, but this is an issue across the world, internationally. It is a national concern and certainly one of the larger conservation challenges we have in the coming years.

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3. Allen LaPointe: Anecdote about proliferation of invasive species in Japan
- vi. Lt. Governor Stratton closes out
 1. Thanks Kevin and Mindy for the presentation, emphasizes that the right synergy can be found for the Council to support the efforts outlined
 2. Next steps and takeaways
 - a. Ability for the Council to work on a regional level
 - b. Looking for ways to support and uplift the “Be a Hero, Transport Zero” campaign
- b. RICC Strategic Report Publishing
 - i. Robert Mannis: The report is being finalized, and we are looking for ways to promote it through what will likely be an entirely virtual event.
- c. Committee Status Updates
 - i. Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee Update – Steve Altman
 1. Committee is working on an updated plan regarding the development of Illinois’ watersheds
 2. IDNR is working to update the flood resource guide with special attention to restoration following floods
 - ii. Environmental and Conservation Committee – Anna-Lisa Castle and Nicole Saulsberry
 1. No updates at this time
 - iii. Asian Carp and Invasive Species Committee – Mindy Barnett
 1. All updates were covered during their earlier presentation with Kevin Irons
 - iv. Lt. Governor Stratton: Questions or comments for committee co-chairs?
 1. No questions
 2. Comments on the importance of bringing an equity lens to the work of the flood resource guide and helping to ensure communities are aware of the guide

V. Member Updates

- a. No member updates

VI. Public Comments

- a. Bradford Kasberg – question about whether conversations with specifically the indigenous Peoria Tribe of Oklahoma and Miami Tribe of Oklahoma have already occurred
 - i. Lt. Governor Stratton: We have not spoken to them specifically, but our team will follow up with you as we are very interested in continuing to have those conversations

VII. Adjournment

- a. Moved by Lieutenant Governor Stratton at 11:02 AM
- b. Seconded by Christine Davis
- c. All in favor
- d. No opposition
- e. No abstentions