

STATE/LEGISLATIVE WORKGROUP

NEW HAMPSHIRE COASTAL RISKS AND HAZARDS COMMISSION

January 23, 2015 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

NHDES Portsmouth Regional Office Pease International
Tradeport 222 International Drive, Suite 175
Portsmouth, NH 03801 (603) 559-1500

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Attending: Senator David Watters, Senator Nancy Stiles, Representative Fred Rice, Edna Feighner, Jennifer Gilbert, Cory Riley, Sabrina Stanwood, Robert Cormier, Ann Scholz, Jonathan Kipp, Steve Couture

Others Attending: Sherry Godlewski, Cliff Sinnott, Julie Labranche, Peter Kinner, Mary Kate Ryan, Richard Huber, Chris Muns, Kirsten Howard

1. Welcome/Introductions ---

The Workgroup Chair Senator began the meeting at 12:15 p.m. Workgroup members and others in attendance introduced themselves.

2. Acceptance of December 5, 2014 Meeting Minutes.

Motion and second to approve the meeting minutes as submitted. Unanimous approval.

3. Strategy Template

- General note: that the recommendations will eventually be more broad, but that details for different agencies could be appendices to the report.
- We will have to combine the recommendations, then make them all the same level of specificity, and then pull out recommendations for legislation and recommendations for agencies and communities.

Goal 2

- We acknowledge that there are several ways that vulnerability can be assessed in a strategic way.
- Acknowledge that some vulnerability tools make the leap to making choices, others do not, but that is the difficult part. We may want to recommend, generally, how those choices might be made
- Different resources need to be evaluated thinking about different timeframes and ripple effects. A static matrix may not work for all the different kinds of resources.
- Note that the vulnerability goal will have more information within a year due to projects that are ongoing now.
- Culverts- important to inventory culverts as state and local so you can coordinate at watershed level.
- Are we going to recommend that there are maps that model what is going to change as far as habitats, etc. ? Where does this belong? Maybe needs to be split so some are in Goal 1.

Goal 3

- Combining 43 and 44 to ensure that the actions are responsive to the vulnerability assessments that are conducted.
- Perhaps in the body of the report, we go through the step wise process. So go through the basics of how to go about assessing vulnerability and developing strategic actions to address climate risks. (note that approach will help us in case there are resources that are left out of this report, or come up later).

Goal 3

- Conversation about if legislation is needed to expressly take away liability of using predictions (you can use this to regulate). So even though Sen. Watters thought that was included in past legislation, communities are not comfortable doing it. Let's bracket this conversation and take that up later.

- Amount of mitigation we are requiring for the OEP critical infrastructure- let's write those in a way that references back to the STAC report- and varying the recommendation based on the expected life and cost of the structure.
- Recommend appropriate strategies for dealing with. Maybe 51 is an overarching strategy for 47,48,49 that would be nested.
 - Recommendation 50. There may be good reason to keep the Master Plan and the Hazard mitigation plan separate. Might need to rethink how this one is written. The plans reference each other – not sure it belongs in the report.
 - when we are looking at large groups of types (55) this is a preferred way to do it.
 - Rt 1A, the recommendation may need to be worded differently. Strategy is study and develop the state highway system. Could there be study money in there about this? Perhaps a management plan for state highways as there are other roads that will be impacted.

4. Next meetings:

February 6: 10AM-12PM, Steering Committee
February 20: 10AM-12PM, Full Commission

5. Other Business / Adjourn

2:05 p.m. meeting adjourns.