

## **Minutes of June 23, 2014 FIO Advisory Council Meeting**

Location: Florida Fish and Wildlife Institute, St. Petersburg, Florida

Chair: Wade Jeffrey

Attending Council Members:

In person: Linea Boehme, Jackie Dixon, Courtney Hackney, Bill Hogarth, Don Kent, Gil McRae, George Maul, Richard Stevens, Eric Milbrandt, Mitch Roffer, Tim Short, Quinton White. Ralph Wilcox, Peter Stiling (Alt), Megan Davis (Alt), Karl Havens, Heather Judkins,

By Phone/Web: Jennifer Cherrier, Kevin Claridge, Dick Dodge, Sandra Gilchrist, Nick Shay

Absent FIO Council Members: Mitch Roffer, Peter Ortner, Shirley Pomponi, Michael Crosby, Graham Worthy, Valerie Paul, Eric Milbrant, Dan McCarthy, Ian MacDonald, Michael Heithaus, David Hastings, Eric Eisenberg

Others Attending: Robert Walker, Lieu Huynh, Nancy Thompson, Robbie Kroger, Andrew Shepard, Cam Ngo, Rebecca Prado (phone)

1. Welcome to FIO Meeting and Council Introductions by Chair Jeffrey & Host Institution Provost Wilcox
2. Call to order: At 1pm by Chair Wade Jeffrey.

Action Items: Chair Jeffrey asked for approval on the following items:

- a. Approval of June 23, 2014 Agenda &
- b. Approval of minutes from February 10, 2014 meeting:

Motion by Courtney Hackney and motion to approve by Jackie Dixon. No further discussions, all ayes, Agenda and minutes were approved by council 6/23/14

3. FIO Update: FIO Director, William Hogarth:
  - a. General Update
    - i. Personnel

Key positions will be advertised in the following months to come, positions include replacement for previous Associate Director and Assistant Engineer for the R/V Weatherbird II. Other positions include a land position to support the waterfront and a Program Director to coordinate the efforts under the RESTORE Act. Hogarth mentioned, he would like to look at hiring an educational outreach coordinator as well to

Approved by FIO Advisory Council Sept.29, 2014

ensure that FIO is out there branding FIO, its services to support Florida's academic teaching and research efforts.

ii. Budget

FY13/14, FIO was overall operating in the black. But this is with the continuing support of the legislature, we still need more days to continue this trend. FIO is managing approximately ~\$3.2M in grants.

iii. FIO Vessels

FIO hired a naval architect to review the R/V Weatherbird II engines and it will be getting new Cummins engines R/V Weatherbird II is heading to International Shipyard this week (July 1). We hope the replacement process will be smooth. To test out the new engines, the R/V Weatherbird II will be sailing on a Deep-C and C-Imagine for the entire month of August. During the shipyard in January, R/V Weatherbird crew upgraded the water filtration system aboard. The upgrade now provide potable water at a 1000/gallons/day which will enhance the duration at sea for them. R/V Bellows is just cruising along with its SUS missions.

Keys Marine Lab (KML) serviced 115 different groups (390 visitors passed through KML for a total of 2108 dormitory nights at KML. KML as well as Mote Marine Lab hosted the Southern Association of Marine Laboratory Meeting in May 21-23, 2014

iv. Subsidized Days

Total days sailed in FY13/14, the R/V Weatherbird II had 84.5 contracted days. We don't offer SUS days on the R/V Weatherbird II. But an attempt to fund a subsidized request for proposal of minimal days with the additional funding provided by the legislative for FY14/15.

Bellows sailed a total days of 72, with 46.5 days of it being SUS days. Reviews were underway by the Ships Committee and anticipation to award and schedule for those days will be in early July. Please be on the lookout for Rob's emails.

vii. RESTORE Act

a. Center of Excellence-Inspector General site visit

Had a site visit from the US Inspector General's office in April 17, 2014 to learn of FIO's role with regards to the RESTORE Act as a Center of Excellence. The meeting included a review of FIO's business procedures, conflict of interest, audit and compliance, grant management policies/procedures, by-laws, organizational chart, and

interview of FIO's personnel so they can gain an understanding of the process. Bill Hogarth made a presentation to the IG on its establishment, mission and how he see FIO supporting the Centers of Excellence. FIO's host institution personnel (Provost, General Counsel, Audit and Compliance office, Research) were represented at the meeting.

FIO will be evaluating current by-laws, conflict of interest policy, and other areas recommended to us. We are holding off discussions of focus areas until final regulations are published.

- viii. Legislative Update
  - a. Legislative Budget Request

FIO had two (2) requests for FY14/15. The first one was for \$2M (1M non-recurring/\$500k recurring) but we got \$1M recurring for operations FY14/15. Second LBR was for \$6M for a new vessel to replace the R/V Bellows. Unfortunately, we will were not funded in this request. We will however, resubmit our request for the next fiscal year. In the meantime, we will be working on how we can get the process going to initiate some possible design for the Bellows replacement. George Maul asks if council will be involved. Bill Hogarth-Ship committee and Council members will be involved in the process for input with the architect. Wade Jeffrey-the FSU vessel cannot do what the Bellows does (hydraulics, berthing space, etc...).

Plans for the Fy14/15 LBR funds include, creating a reserve for R/V Bellows, Weatherbird II and KML; Support FIO's Summer Abroad Course, Upgrade Oceanographic equipment, provide SUS Days on the R/V Weatherbird II; Maintenance and Safety Upgrade and FIO's website improvements.

- ix. Florida Ocean and Coastal Council Presentation (Kevin Claridge)

Kevin Claridge and Becky Prado. A copy of the presentation was distributed to the council prior to the meeting. The Florida Oceans and Coastal Council was created within the DEP, has 18 members that includes DEP Secretary, FWCC Executive Director, Commissioner of DACS and 15 other members appointed by each the Secretary of the DEP in the respected expert areas. Some of the FIO members (Karl Havens, Peter Ortner and Shirley Pomponi) were appointed to the council. They have been tasked to review and compile the existing, ongoing and planned ocean and coastal research and monitoring activities.

This council is separate from the RESTORE Council. Bill asks if the RESTORE Council going to use the Ocean and Coastal Council? Kevin Claridge, yes, the Florida Ocean and Coastal Council will work together. Bill Hogarth wanted to make sure that there is

some coordination occurring between FIO and this council. Bill Hogarth wanted an opportunity talk to this council when opportunity is available to offer FIO's services.

x. Summer Course Update (Courtney Hackney)

For the second summer, Dr. Courtney Hackney successfully led the FIO's 5-week field intensive "*Study Aboard in Florida*" course. This year, the course had an enrollment of 12 students, who were represented by a full range of academic backgrounds, from sophomores to seniors. The program expanded with the addition of UWF as a host institute joining Florida Atlantic University (FAU) hosted at the KML, Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU), University of North Florida (UNF), and University of South Florida- St. Petersburg (USFSP). Just as for new courses, Dr. Hackney and team continue to address the challenges to improve the course. Students appreciate the structure of the course, the enthusiasm of the professors and most importantly the field work especially the opportunity to go to sea on the *R/V Weatherbird II*, which the course provides. I want to thank the faculty from all the institutions for their leadership and devotion to making this course a success. It is wonderful to hear the student's enthusiasm to encourage their friends to enroll in a future course.

Courtney Hackney suggests that we look at a second class during a later summer that is designed for teachers. Courtney Hackney express his willingness to an info session at the various campus on the course and to let him know if anyone is interested in coming over.

- xi. New Business Chair Jeffrey made announcements for the following events for FIO:
- a. FIO Strategic Plan 5 year Update 2015-2020-a draft is currently being worked on. Hope to have something by the next meeting for the council to review.
  - b. June 24, 2014 "State of the Science" Input Session with Dr. Robbie Kroger, Science Coordinator for the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council.
  - c. Fall Council Mote Marine Lab, Sarasota  
There will be a joint FIO/FOA Reception at Mote Marine Lab Sept 29, 2014

Meeting Adjourned at 4:00pm.