Legislative Task Force

Membership Profile

2013 – 2014

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Rhode Island Department of Administration
Division of Planning
One Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908

RHODE ISLAND DIVISION OF PLANNING

Revision - 11.01.13:

Changed municipal representation:

Ashley Hann-Morris – Charlestown - departed

Vincent Murray – South Kingstown - added

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Abstract

The Legislative Task Force was established by the General Assembly in 2013 by the respective bills, House 5425A and Senate 672A**.** The purpose of the Task Force is to solicit feedback from stakeholders with subject matter expertise related to Rhode Island's wetlands, water resources, onsite wastewater systems, and the business community. The Task Force will review technical topics presented to it and foster recommendations related to wetlands, water resources, and onsite wastewater systems for a final report to be submitted to the Legislature in December of 2014. Full copies of the bills creating the Task Force can be found at:

http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/PublicLaws/law13/law13162.htm

and

http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/PublicLaws/law13/law13136.htm

The Division of Planning (DOP) has assembled a Task Force of volunteers to work closely with the DOP, the Department of Environmental Management, and the Coastal Resources Management Council to gather the best available data and research findings for the final report. The names and a brief description of the backgrounds and experiences of each Task Force member are provided within this Profile for general information. More information on the Task Force as it is developed will be posted to the DOP website at:

www.planning.ri.gov

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Task Force Members

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James Boyd

Coastal Policy Analyst

Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC)

James' primary responsibility is the development and implementation of the Council's Coastal Resources Management Plan, including Special Area Management Plans. He emphasizes a science-based ecosystem approach to coastal planning and policy. His duties include developing policy and regulation to address coastal adaptation to climate change and seal level rise. In collaboration with a number of state partners, Mr. Boyd successfully obtained competitive federal funding and is the project manager for a statewide evaluation of saltmarsh migration in response to sea level rise. He is also a Senior Project Advisor on the CRMC Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan (Beach SAMP) that is designed to identify vulnerable coastal areas at risk for coastal erosion, sea level rise, and flood inundation. It is expected that the Beach SAMP will result in adaptation strategies with state and local stakeholder engagement.

James is a CRMC designee on the RI Climate Commission Key Infrastructure and Built Environment and the Natural Resource and Habitat Working Groups. He is also the CRMC designee of the Narragansett Bay Estuary Program Management Committee. James obtained a graduate degree in Natural Resources Science from the University of Rhode Island with a focus on soil science, water pollution microbiology and watershed management. He has previously worked for the State of Vermont Environmental Board, the New England Onsite Wastewater Training Program at the University of Rhode Island, and as a Water Quality Specialist for the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management. He has been employed with the CRMC for over 13 years, is a senior fellow at the University of Rhode Island Coastal Institute, and was a commercial fisherman on Narragansett Bay for over a decade.

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Joseph A. Casali, P.E.
Principal
Joe Casali Engineering, Inc.

Joe holds Civil Professional Engineering Licenses in 3 states; Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Tennessee. He is a *Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management*- Class II ISDS Designer. He has memberships in the RI Society of Professional Engineers, The National Society of Professional Engineers, RI Public Works Association, Providence Engineering Society and the American Society of Civil Engineers. Joe also has a Master of Business Administration and Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Rhode Island.

For the last ten years Joe has had overall responsibilities for both management and design of various residential and commercial civil/site engineering projects for a small civil/site firm of eighteen employees, Joe Casali Engineering (JCE), Inc. This includes all aspects of operating including marketing, design, accounting, finance and management.

Joe Casali Engineering (JCE), Inc. was incorporated in Rhode Island in 2003, and provides civil and site engineering services for a wide variety of clients in both the public and private sector. As a multi-disciplined civil engineering company, JCE is organized to comprehensively develop and consult for clients at all stages of planning, design, construction and operations. Project experience ranges from complex drainage, utilities and roadway design, to land development improvements including commercial, industrial and residential projects. JCE is also experienced with site revitalization and community comprehensive permits as well as offering landscape architecture services.

JCE's staff is comprised of two Professional Engineers, two Engineers in Training, a Civil Designer, an Office Manager, a Marketing Specialist, and an intern. JCE is centrally located in the City of Warwick, Rhode Island.

Other positions Joe has held were Project Manager for Plexus Corporation in Cranston, RI, Project Engineer for Beta Group in Lincoln, RI, Assistant Town Engineer for the Town of Smithfield, RI and a Civil Engineer for LS transit Systems in Boston, MA.

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Russell Chateauneuf, P.E

Chief of Groundwater & Wetlands Protection, DEM (Retired)

Civil Professional Engineer

Russ has recently retired after more than thirty years of public service in Rhode Island. A RI Professional engineer since 1983, his last position was with the Department of Environmental Management (DEM) as the Chief of Groundwater & Wetlands Protection. As Chief he was responsible for managing the state's groundwater and wetlands protection regulatory programs and staff including: permitting of onsite wastewater treatment systems (OWTS), wetlands alterations, non-sanitary groundwater discharges, and private drinking water well variances; licensing of OWTS installers, OWTS designers, soil evaluators, and well drillers; managing the surface water quality certification program. He was also responsible for policy development, rule-making, implementation of applicable statutory mandates, updating of the Rhode Island Stormwater Design and Installation Standards Manual, non-point source pollution abatement planning, and groundwater quality and wellhead protection programs.

Prior positions with DEM were Chief of Permitting of the Office of Water Resources and Chief of the Division of Groundwater & ISDS. He was responsible for planning and administering statewide programs for: issuing licenses and permits related to wastewater treatment and disposal, water quality protection, wetlands conservation, facilities construction, private drinking water well installation; and for assessing overall permit compliance with various regulated activities affecting water resources of the state.

Russ holds a Bachelor of Science, Civil Engineering, from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers. Other positions Russ has held in his long career were; Director of the Warwick Water and Public Works Department, in Warwick , RI, an Engineer for the RI Department of Transportation, and an Engineer for Camp, Dresser & McKee, Inc. in Boston, MA.

Janet Coit

Director

Department of Environmental Management

Janet L. Coit has worked for over 20 years on environmental matters. Before coming to the Department of Environmental Management, she worked for 10 years at The Nature Conservancy, one of the world's leading environmental nonprofits. She most recently served as that organization's Rhode Island state director, where she oversaw some of Rhode Island's largest land conservation projects. Prior to joining The Nature Conservancy, she was counsel and environmental coordinator in the Providence office of the late Senator John Chafee and, subsequently, then-Senator Lincoln Chafee. She moved to Rhode Island in 1997, making a transition from her position as counsel to the US Senate Committee on the Environment and Public Works, where she worked on national environmental policy.

Director Coit has been a champion for the environment throughout her decades of environmental and legal service, including stints at the Department of the Interior, Department of Justice, and working for three U.S. Senators from New England. Clean water, clean air and our natural areas provide for an environment that supports Rhode Island's economic future, and Director Coit is dedicated to preserving the quality of our environment and protecting the natural systems critical to the health, safety and well-being of Rhode Islanders as she leads the Department.

A magna cum laude graduate of Dartmouth College, Director Coit holds a J.D. from Stanford Law School, where she was president of the Environmental Law Society and a member of the Environmental Law Journal. She enjoys spending time outdoors, learning about nature and from people, and exploring Rhode Island's waterways, historic sites, and wild places. She is married with two children and lives in the East Bay area.

Thomas D'Angelo

Principal, Consultant, Broker

Progressive Realty Group /The Terry Lane Co.

Thomas E. D'Angelo is the Principal of Terry Lane Company and Broker for Progressive Realty Group, its real estate division. The company has been in business since 1981 and Tom has been a licensed real estate broker since 1974. Tom has been actively involved in land use, septic designs and real estate for over 40 years and has served on many committees and boards regarding septic systems and land use. He holds the flowing licenses; Class I Designer #9 (Septic System Repairs), Class III Designer #3047 Angilly (Septic System – All types), Class IV Designer #3 (Soil Evaluator), Registered Septic Inspector #109908, Licensed ISDS Installer #649, Real Estate Broker #8527. Professional affiliations For Tom are; Rhode Island Builders Association, National Assoc. of Home Builders, Rhode Island Assoc. of Realtors, National Assoc. of Realtors, RI Commercial and Appraiser Board of Realtors. Tom has also worked for the Department of Environmental Management as an engineering technician who was responsible for the review of Individual Septic Disposal System designs, installation inspections, witnessing water table test holes and monitoring of wet season water table readings.

Garry Ezovski, P.E

Owner

Lincoln Environmental Properties, LLC

After graduation from URI with a BS in Civil Engineering, Gary Ezovski started his professional career in construction management of commercial buildings on locations from Maine to Florida and several states in the Mid-West. After 15 years of work in that field, he embraced the opportunity to lead and become an owner of Lincoln Environmental, Inc., a Rhode Island based engineering and environmental services firm, where he ultimately became the sole owner. During his construction and environmental experiences, he was an important part of initiatives to grow two small businesses in short periods of time. After 20 years of environmental engineering practice, he sold the assets of Lincoln Environmental, Inc. to a national environmental consulting firm. He remains active by managing real estate investments in Lincoln Environmental Properties, LLC, and Grand Banks Commerce Park, LLC. He continues to hold professional status as a RI Registered Professional Engineer. He has previously held registrations in MA as a Licensed Site Professional and Construction Supervisor, in CT as a Licensed Environmental Professional, and a RI OWTS Class III Designer.

He has served his home town of North Smithfield in multiple areas by serving on the Smithfield School Committee, as chair of the Town's Sewer Commission, as vice chairman on each of the town's Water Authority, Planning Board, and Fire Study Commission. He also has been an active member of school building needs assessment and building committees.

In 2001 he was chairman of the Board of the Northern RI Chamber of Commerce and continues his work with the chamber today as a delegate to the RI Chamber Coalition and as a member of the Chamber's Political Action Committee. Gary was previously a member of the RIPEC Board of Trustees and was co-chair of the RIDEM's Business Round Table with two former Directors of that department. Gary is a member of the Board of Directors at Freedom National Bank in Smithfield and a Trustee of Berkshire Financial Services of Lee, MA. He also currently serves as the chairman of the Regulations Subcommittee of the Annual RI SBA Economic Summit and is the RI member of the Small Business Administration Region 1 Regulatory Fairness Board. Gary is married to Doreen (Gauthier) Ezovski and they have one son Matthew.

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Kevin Flynn

Associate Director

RI Division of Planning

Kevin Flynn has been the Associate Director of the State of Rhode Island Division of Planning since September of 2005. Prior to that he was the Director of Planning for the City of Cranston. He was an adjunct faculty member of the University Of Rhode Island Department Of Community Planning from 1989-2003. He currently serves on the Board of Rhode Island Housing and as a member of the Housing Resources Commission, the KeepSpace Advisory Committee and the Rhode Island Water Resources Board. He is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts (BA) and the University of Rhode Island (MCP).

Lorraine Joubert

RI NEMO Program Director

University of RI, Cooperative Extension

Lorraine Joubert is the Director of Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials (NEMO), a University of Rhode Island Cooperative Extension program that provides training and technical assistance to communities on strategies they can use to protect water resources while accommodating growth. She has an MS in Water Resource Management from URI and more than 25 years of professional experience in environmental planning and impact assessment at both the state and local level. Since starting RI NEMO in 1993, she has developed educational materials and conducted numerous workshops on water resource management topics for local officials and environmental professionals. In partnership with RI HEALTH, she has been responsible for assessing pollution risks to drinking water supplies using GIS mapping and nutrient loading models to evaluate land use impacts. She has helped local boards use assessment results to support land use decisions, to update water resource protection ordinances focusing on wetland buffers and watershed overlay districts, and to establish onsite wastewater management programs that are recognized by the US EPA as models for the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Since 2005, she has overseen development of RI Stormwater Solutions, an award-winning statewide stormwater education project which is helping RI DOT and municipalities to achieve compliance with RIDEM Phase II Storm Water permit requirements for public education and outreach.

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Thomas Kravitz

Director of Planning & Economic Development

Town of Burrillville

Tom has worked as the Director of Planning & Economic Development for the Town of Burrillville since 2001. Working under a Town Council / Appointed Manager form of government, he advises the Town on smart growth principles including affordable housing and mixed use development, redevelopment and village renewal. He is knowledgeable on Subdivision & Land Development Regulations, affordable housing and Comprehensive Community Plan requirements. He works to facilitate monthly meetings and provides technical assistance to the Town's Planning Board, Town Council and Redevelopment Agency on various policies, developments and redevelopment activities. He has authored numerous grants and obtaining approximately $12 million in funds from various Federal, State entities and private agents and successfully implemented a HUD $910,000 BEDI Grant / $1.8 million 108 Loan for Stillwater Mill Complex revitalization /redevelopment.

Prior to Burrillville, Tom worked as a Research Analyst for the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation, Substitute Science Teacher for Scituate High School in Scituate, and the Newport Concrete Form Company in Cumberland. He is A member of the American Planning Association, a member of the Housing Resource Commission, and Housing Works Rhode Island.

Tom Kutcher

Bay Keeper

Save the Bay

Tom Kutcher leads the Narragansett Baykeeper program, which is Save The Bay's on-the-water advocacy and watchdog presence. Save The Bay is Rhode Island's largest independent non-profit environmental organization, dedicated to the protection, restoration, and improvement of the ecological health of Narragansett Bay, its watershed, and adjacent coastal waters. The Narragansett Baykeeper is a licensed program of the Waterkeeper Alliance, a network of more than 200 similar programs worldwide.

Tom is a third-generation Rhode Islander living in Wickford with his wife and two children. He studied environmental science and management and advanced ecology at the University of Rhode Island, where his graduate research focused on developing biological indicators of freshwater wetland condition. Before being appointed as Narragansett Baykeeper, Kutcher worked as a wetlands scientist for the Rhode Island Natural History Survey, where he developed landscape, rapid, and biological wetland assessment methods for the State of Rhode Island. Prior to that, he served as a natural resources specialist and coastal ecologist for the Narragansett Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (NOAA / RI DEM), where he planned and conducted research, management, and restoration in coastal and freshwater wetlands, and developed a nationally-implemented land cover classification scheme for the broader National Estuarine Research Reserve System.

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Scott Moorehead, P.E., P.L.S.

Owner

SFM Engineering Associates

SFM Engineering was founded in 1986 as a small consulting civil engineering firm specializing in site planning, site design, utility design and permitting for residential and commercial development projects. In the past 26 years, they have completed the design and permitting for more than 800 development projects ranging in size from single family house lots to commercial and residential sites of several hundred acres. Scott is the primary client contact and responsible for project management, overall planning and design, project meetings and testimony at public hearings.

Scott has been actively involved in land use and septic designs and has served on many committees and boards regarding septic systems and land use. He was a member of the 2001 Wetland and 2002 ISDS Permit Streamlining Task Forces as well as the 1994 Governor's Blue Ribbon Commission on Wetlands and Septic Systems. He also serves as Chairman of the DEM OWTS Designer Licensing Review Panel. He has a B.S. in Civil Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and holds the flowing licenses; Professional Engineer - Rhode Island, Professional Land Surveyor - Rhode Island , Professional Engineer – Connecticut, R.I.D.E.M. ISDS Cl. 3 and 4 Designer Licenses. Professional affiliations For Scott are; the Institute of Transportation Engineers, National Society of Land Surveyors, American Congress on Surveying & Mapping, Rhode Island Builders Association, and R.I. Society of Professional Land Surveyors. Scott has also served as Town engineer for the Town of Scituate, was a project Manager for Beta Engineering, Inc. of Pawtucket , RI and a Senior Project Engineer for Gordon R. Archibald, Inc., also in Pawtucket, RI.

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Vincent Murray
Planning Director
Town of South Kingstown

Vincent Murray is the Director of Planning for the Town of South Kingstown. He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science and a Master's Degree in Community Planning and Area Development (CPAD) from the University of Rhode Island. He has more than 25 years of experience in all facets of land use planning, public policy analysis and economic and community development. Mr. Murray is a member of the Rhode Island State Planning Council and a past member of the State Planning Council's Technical Committee. He previously worked for the Town of North Kingstown, City of Warwick and Town of East Greenwich in various planning and community development capacities.

Eric Prive, P.E.

Project Manager

DiPrete Engineering

Eric Prive is a registered professional engineer with a specialty in civil and environmental engineering. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Rhode Island in 2001 and is currently a Project Manager at DiPrete Engineering in Cranston, RI. Mr. Prive is a RIDEM Class III OWTS Designer and has designed over 200 OWTS throughout the State including innovate and alterative (I/A) technologies. He also serves as the Chairman of the Attleboro (MA) Conservation Commission and has extensive stormwater and septic system regulatory experience. He specializes in groundwater, hydrology, and stormwater management control and has a broad knowledge of the Zoning Ordinances and Subdivision/Land Development Regulations of a majority of the cities and towns in Rhode Island.

Scott Rabideau

President

Natural Resources, Inc.

Scott Rabideau is the President of Natural Resource Services, Inc. (NRS), a company he started in 1988. He has a BS in Natural Resource Science from the University of Rhode Island (1982) and an MS in Management from Lesley University (1986). He is certified as a Professional Wetland Scientist (PWS) by the Society of Wetland Scientists. He is also a 25 year professional member of The Wildlife Society, where he sits on the society's Investment Review Committee. Scott has been a practicing wetland scientist in RI, MA and CT since 1986.

Scott served in the RI General Assembly as a state representative from the Town of Burrillville (then District 60) from 1995-2002. He served on the House Committee for the Judiciary for the entire 8 years, as well as the Joint Committee for Energy and Environment. He also served on the legislature's Redistricting Commission for 2000. He is the past Chairman of the Burrillville Sewer Commission, a board he served on for 4 years. Scott sits on the Legislative and Environment Committees at the Rhode Island Builders Association.

Leslie Taito

Director of Regulatory Reform

Rhode Island Office of Management and Budget

In November 2011, Leslie assumed the position as Director of Regulatory Reform where she is responsible for the enhancement and continual improvement to create a clear, predictable and reliable state-wide regulatory system.

Prior accepting the position as the first Director of Regulatory Reform she served as CEO of the Rhode Island Manufacturing Extension Services, Inc. (RIMES), Executive Director of the Rhode Island Manufacturers Association and the Director of Operations for the Greater Rhode Island Regional Employment and Training Board.

Leslie has extensive experience in project management, continuous improvement and Lean methodologies and implementation. She is a certified Lean trainer through the national Manufacturing Extension Partnership.

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For more information on the Legislative Task Force

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