



6100 Southport Road  
Portage, Indiana 46368  
(219) 763-6060  
[www.nirpc.org](http://www.nirpc.org)

## Environmental Management Policy Committee

Thursday, August 6, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Join Google Meet:

<https://meet.google.com/hwx-yuba-tbs>

Join by phone: (401) 753-9686 PIN: 584 691 793#

### Agenda

1.0 Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

2.0 Introductions

3.0 Minutes of January 9, 2020

*Action Required: Approval*

4.0 Public Comments

*This is an opportunity for comments from members of the audience. The amount of time available to speak will be limited to 3 minutes.*

5.0 NOFA presentation and process

Charles Bradsky, NIRPC

6.0 EMPC Discussion Going Forward

Kathy Luther, NIRPC

7.0 Announcements

8.0 Next EMPC Meeting

9.0 Adjournment

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**Environmental Management Policy Committee**  
NIRPC – Lake Michigan Room  
January 9, 2020  
Minutes

**Members/ Guests:** Bill Emerson, Jan Bapst, George Topoll, Geof Benson, Susan Mihalo, Kathryn Vallis, Jenny Orsburn, Drew Hart, Dan Haag, Carol Rupsi, Hala Kuss, Rick Massoels, Dave Greinke, Nicholas Ream, Sarah Nimetz, Myra Cseke, Tim Kingsland, Sherryl Doerr, Jeff Loewe, Lauri Keagle, Michael Spinar, Natalie Johnson, Reggie Korthals, and Jen Birchfield

**NIRPC Staff:** Joe Exl, Kathy Luther, Candice Eklund, Mitch Barloga, Charles Bradsky, Peter Kimball, and Kevin Polett, and Flor Baum

**Call to Order**

Bill Emerson called the meeting to order at 9:04 am with the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was streamed live on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/nOG3Qs07rrk>

Kathy Luther introduced Flor Baum, NIRPC's new administrative assistant. Kathy Luther also announced Candice Eklund as the new Executive Assistant.

On motion by Geof Benson and second by Tim Kingsford, the September 5, 2019 meeting minutes were approved as presented.

**Presentations**

**NWI Sub Area Plan Presentation - Dan Haag, EPA**

Dan Haag, the On-Scene Coordinator with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), presented on the Sub Area Contingency Plan (SACP) for Region 5, with a focus on inland and coastal areas, as a way of responding to spills, or potential spills of hazardous substances within Northwest Indiana. The EPA is also attempting to link their databases to other government facilities to provide the most current reporting. For local government to access these databases, visit EPA's website to request access.

EPA received a question regarding the plan beginning a year and a half ago and still only being a draft plan. The EPA responded the SACP templates have been created and approved as of November 2019 and they have been coordinating with multiple government entities and the testing plans for the three counties. There has also been exercises with a HAZMAT element.

The next SACP meeting will be held on February 4, 2020 in Michigan City.

For the full presentation, please follow this provided link: [https://www.nirpc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/NWI-Sub-Area-Contingency-Plan-Update\\_January-2020.pdf](https://www.nirpc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/NWI-Sub-Area-Contingency-Plan-Update_January-2020.pdf)

**Living Streets Presentation – Mitch Barloga, NIRPC**

Mitch Barloga presented on the Living Streets Resolution draft policy that is merging both Complete and Green Streets elements into one policy. The policy will require that construction projects funded through NIRPC allocated transportation dollars include consideration of all travel modes (including pedestrians, bicycles, etc....) and green infrastructure in the scoping and design of the project up to a maximum of 15% of project cost. The draft policy will be presented and reviewed by each topical committee, including TPC, before being recommended to the Commission meeting for final approval in February or March 2020. All comments need to be submitted to Mitch Barloga at

[mbarloga@nirpc.org](mailto:mbarloga@nirpc.org) or 219-254-2518 by the end of January. Lauri Keagle recognized the efforts of Mitch and the working group for the completion of this draft policy.

A concern was brought up about the Draft version 12-11-19, pp. 5 – 6, regarding the recommended plants and trees. A NIRPC staff member shared with the committee that factors and funding will be considered for species selection, as well as future consideration of design and specifications.

### **Other Business**

#### **2020 EMPC Schedule – Kathy Luther, NIRPC**

Kathy Luther presented the proposed EMPC schedule for 2020. Coordinate with Kathy about additional ideas to be shared for meeting, or non-meeting topics.

#### **Vehicle Emission Workshop Update – Lauri Keagle**

Lauri Keagle provided an update on the focus of the contract South Shore Clean Cities (SSCC) has with NIRPC regarding the vehicle emission educational workshop for the state of Indiana. Legacy Environmental Services, stated there will be an educational workshop on February 7, 2020, in place of February 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. The workshop will reintroduce legislation, and be fact and data driven. Resource information will also be presented for failed emissions.

### **Announcements**

Announcements were made by several committee members. Future environmental events will continue to be announced at the EMPC meeting, however; the Calumet Heritage Area Program and Events Calendar will replace both the announcements form used at the EMPC meetings, and a separate notification sent to the committee. The link to their events calendar is <https://www.calumetheritagearea.org/calendar.html>.

### **Adjournment**

Hearing no other business, Bill Emerson adjourned the meeting at 10:49 am.