DELAWARE CENTER FOR THE

Research. Educate. Restore.

## **MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**DRAFT** Meeting Agenda DATE: *Friday, JUN 10 2022* 

TIME: 9:30 am

LOCATION: 39375 Inlet Road, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

https://us02web.zoom.us/i/81723522169 One tap mobile +19292056099,,81723522169#

MEETING CALLED BY: Susie Ball, Chair

Call to Order	S. Ball
Pledge of Allegiance & Introductions	S. Ball
Meeting Agenda Review	S. Ball
Consent Agenda Approval Endowment Holdings and Investment Policy Update Inland Bays Public Education and Engagement Plan (PEEP) Approval FY23 Annual Workplan Approval	S. Ball
Secretary's Report Review and approval of previous meeting's minutes	A. Isaac
Treasurer's Report FY22 Board Budget Summary Approval FY23 Budget and Grant Plan Approval Ratification of Reserves Withdraw for Executive Search Firm	D. Baird
Other Reports CAC, STAC, Development, County, EPA, House & Senate	
Old Business	
Executive Director Transition and Search	S. Ball
2023-2025 Strategic Plan Summary and Approval	A. Fagan
Staff Structure and Reorganization	A. Fagan
Buffer Ordinance Discussion	S. Ball
New Business	
2021 State of the Bays Report	M. Walch
Economic Valuation Report	C. Bason
Open Forum	

# Adjourn

Please note that this is a business meeting of the Center. The Board will not consider any questions or comments from the public until the Open Forum. Members of the public wishing to speak at such time must complete the request form made available prior to or during the meeting. Thank you for your understanding and adherence to this policy.

### "To Preserve, Protect, and Restore Delaware's Inland Bays and their Watershed"

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#### 1. Endowment Holdings and Investment Policy Update

Information gathering on transferring endowment holdings to Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) funds begun. Ray Ianni (contact of Jerry Esposito) provided some initial insight on this and the Center's current investment policy. If the Center decides to transfer to ESG, the investment policy would need to be completely changed. Ianni's specific insight on IPS included: clarifying language regarding fiduciary responsibility (investment manager vs. finance committee); inconsistencies with General Investment Guidelines (not appropriate for mutual funds); allocation range is too narrow; Vanguard is not out best option to move forward with this because the ESG funds they offer are too limited. Susie Ball also sought insight from a financial advisor. He suggested that building a diversified portfolio would take a little thought and research and offered help exploring options. Further progress on these efforts is currently stalled due to capacity. They will resume when staff are able.

### 2. Inland Bays Public Education and Engagement Plan Approval

Included in the board packet is the Public Education and Engagement Plan (PEEP). The PEEP is a living, 5-year action plan that was developed by the Center in collaboration with a network of entities working throughout the Inland Bays watershed and beyond. Through the development and implementation of the actions outlined in the plan, the goal is to collectively enhance public awareness of and engagement in the health of coastal ecosystems and the communities that depend on them. This plan will serve as a supporting document to the revised Inland Bays Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan while guiding partners to leverage diverse knowledge, resources, and skill sets to meet mutual education and outreach goals throughout the region. The PEEP is recommended for board approval by the Executive Committee.

#### 3. FY23 Annual Workplan Approval

Included in the board packet is the FY23 Annual Workplan of the Center for the Inland Bays. This document is written to meet EPA requirements for an annual work plan for award of funds pursuant to Section 320 of the Clean Water Act. This workplan serves as an agreement between the Center for the Inland Bays and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for work to be carried out during Fiscal Year 2023 (October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023). The focus of this workplan is the implementation of the Delaware Inland Bays Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan via research and restoration, education and outreach, and planning and policy development. This workplan also contains projects not funded by Section 320 funds. The FY23 Annual Workplan is recommended for board approval by the Executive Committee.