

OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR JULIANA STRATTON  
Rivers of Illinois Coordinating Council  
QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES  
December 9, 2021

<b>A present majority of filled voting-member positions shall constitute a quorum: i.e. 10 members present</b>					
<b>Position</b>	<b>Council</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Ex-Officio (voting members)</b>					
Chair (LG's Office)	All	Lt. Governor Juliana Stratton		X	
Dept. of Agriculture	All	Brian Rennecker		X	
	All	Kristi Jones			X
Dept. of Commerce & Economic Opportunity	All	Wendy Bell			
Environmental Protection Agency	All	Christine Davis		X	
Dept. of Natural Resources	All	Steve Altman		X	
	All	Kevin Irons		X	
	All	Mindy Barnett		X	
Dept. of Transportation	All	Thomas Brooks			
	All	BJ Murray		X	
National Great River Research and Education Center	MRCC	Ted Kratschmer		X	
Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts	All	Pending			
<b>Community &amp; Nonprofit Rep. (voting members)</b>					
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	IRCC	Doug Blodgett		X	
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	IRCC	Danielle Anderson		X	
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	IRCC	Matthew Stafford		X	
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	IRCC	Darren Melvin			X
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	IRCC	Allen LaPointe		X	
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	IRCC	Nani Bhowmik		X	
Community & Nonprofit Mem.		Pending			
Community & Nonprofit Mem.		Pending			
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	WORCC	Jason McNeill			X
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	WORCC	Tyrone Coleman			X
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	WORCC	Gordon Tucker			X
Community & Nonprofit Mem.	MRCC	Lindsay Keeney			X
Community & Nonprofit Mem.		Pending			
Community & Nonprofit Mem.		Pending			

OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR JULIANA STRATTON  
 Rivers of Illinois Coordinating Council  
 QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES  
 December 9, 2021

Community & Nonprofit Mem.	MRCC	Wendell Shauman		X	
Community & Nonprofit Mem.		Pending			
Community & Nonprofit Mem.		Pending			
Community & Nonprofit Mem.		Pending			
Community & Nonprofit Mem.		Pending			
Community & Nonprofit Mem.		Pending			
<b>Ex-Officio (non-voting member)</b>					
Ex-Officio (non-member)		Pending			
<b>Recurring Guests</b>					
Guest		Konstantine "Dean" Alonistiotis			X
Guest		Nicole Saulsberry		X	
Guest		Anna-Lisa Castle		X	
Guest		Robert Sinkler			X
Guest		Bradford Kasberg		X	
Guest		Laura Keefer		X	
Guest		Lauren Lurkins		X	
Guest		Paul Rohde		X	

*\*Note: grey cells indicate that multiple representatives were designated by ex-officios to the Committee. Only one staffer out of each group of grey cells counted for quorum, motion, and voting purposes.*

**I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

- a. Lt. Governor Stratton called the meeting to order 10:06 AM
- b. Roll call was taken and a quorum was established

**II. Approval of Agenda for 12/9/21 and Minutes from 3/3/21**

- a. Motion to approve the agenda for 12/9/21
  - i. Moved by Doug Blodgett
  - ii. Seconded by Nani Bhowmik
  - iii. All in favor
  - iv. No opposition
  - v. No abstentions
- b. Motion to approve the minutes for 6/23/21
  - i. Moved by Doug Blodgett
  - ii. Seconded by Allen LaPointe
  - iii. All in favor
  - iv. No oppositions

OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR JULIANA STRATTON  
Rivers of Illinois Coordinating Council  
QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES  
December 9, 2021

v. No abstentions

**III. Chairperson's Remarks**

- a. Lt. Governor Stratton provided a brief overview of the day's meeting and encouraged members of the Council to recommend speakers for future meetings.

**IV. New Business**

a. Committee Updates

i. Mindy Barnett provides an update on behalf of the Asian Carp and other Invasive Species committee, notes that the committee is a part of the invasive species council. The committee is looking to get a speaker who can provide more information on Brandon Road Loch and Dam with help from Steve Altman. She states the need to rename the committee to Carp and other Invasive Species.

ii. Steve Altman and Christine Davis provide an update on behalf of the Economic Development and Infrastructure committee, elaborating that both of their agencies have calls every two months. With the new COVID-19 and infrastructure federal funding, DNR is looking for opportunities for pipeline improvements and distribution for Chicago and the Metro East area. Davis is asking for the opportunity to be removed as co-chair, citing concerns over her ability to lead the committee.

1. Lt. Governor encourages Davis to speak with Bobby Mannis offline and discuss how the committee has the support needed. She wants to make sure the Council is helpful in pushing forward policies that will be beneficial for the people of Illinois.

iii. Anna-Lisa Castle provides an update on behalf of the Conservation and Environmental Committee, she honors Davis's concerns over capacity and shares the approach her committee has taken which is to brainstorm and invite speakers to their meetings. Most recently, the committee invited Sheyda Esnaashari, Program Director at River Network to speak on their organization's water infrastructure toolkit. The next speaker the committee is looking to invite for a committee meeting and potential council meeting, Andrea Denshum, Legislative Director at the Shedd Aquarium to speak on the aquarium's water conservation efforts.

**V. Member Updates**

a. Mindy Barrett shares news of a 72-pound carp found in Humboldt Park.

i. Following up on previous conversations about a potential rebrand for Asian carp, Anna-Lisa Castle wanted to know if there were any updates on this effort.

ii. Kevin Irons states the effort will be reviewed for continuation in the near future.

**VI. Public Comments**

OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR JULIANA STRATTON  
Rivers of Illinois Coordinating Council  
QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES  
December 9, 2021

- a. Doug Blodgett notes before COVID-19, the council had been discussing the possibility of an in-person meeting at this location. In addition to hosting the meeting, Doug has extended the invitation to include a fieldtrip to the wetlands and tour of the museum for the August council meeting.
  - i. Lt. Governor notes that the Council seems excited about the potential opportunity to meet in person and will have her office follow up.

**VII. Adjournment**

- a. Moved by Nicole Saulsberry
- b. Seconded by Christine Davis
- c. No oppositions
- d. No abstentions
- e. Meeting adjourned at 11:33 AM.

DRAFT