

National Sea Grant Advisory Board (NSGAB) Spring Meeting

March 5-6, 2012

Minutes

The Melrose Hotel

Clifton Room

2430 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20037

Monday, March 5

Introductions, review agenda, approval of minutes, etc. (Dr. Nancy Rabalais, Chair, NSGAB)

Board Attendees: Frank Beal, Patty Birkholz, Leon Cammen (*Ex-Officio*), Michael Orbach, Jonathan Pennock (*Ex-Officio*), Nancy Rabalais, Rollie Schmitten, Harry Simmons, Bill Stubblefield, Dick Vortmann, Dick West

Not in attendance: Jeremy Harris

Other attendees:

Kola Garber – Acting Deputy Director, NSGO

Elizabeth Ban – Designated Federal Officer, NSGO

Ann Andrus – Executive Assistant, NSGO

Chair's update (N. Rabalais, NSGAB)

John Woeste, past chair left in November (term limited), so Dr. Rabalais is the new chair. Since Woeste can't hold position of past-chair, Dick West will continue on in this capacity.

- Current Political issues: upcoming election, budget upheaval, and potential movement of NOAA in to Department of Interior.
- Board has the opportunity to have a voice:
 - 2012 Biennial Report to Congress (chaired by Dick West),
 - Reauthorization of the Sea Grant Act (chaired by Rollie Schmitten),
 - New Strategic Plan (chaired by Nikola Garber of the NSGO and LaDon Swann of Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant and the future chair of the SGA with Dick Vortmann representing the NSGAB)
 - National Ocean Policy (NOP) Implementation Plan comment period
 - NSGAB charter renewal,
 - NOAA Science Advisory Board (SAB) NOAA Research Portfolio.

Review of the Agenda

Motion: Approve the Agenda as presented (Orbach, 2nd Simmons)

Vote: Unanimous approval

Approval of the minutes from Sept. 28-29, 2011 Board Meeting

Motion: Approve the minutes as presented (Orbach, 2nd Simmons)

Vote: Unanimous approval

National Sea Grant Office (NSGO) report (Dr. Leon Cammen, National Sea Grant Office – NSGO)

- Dr. Steve Fine will be giving the presentation on the Science Advisory Board (SAB) he is responsible for NOAA Research Portfolio Analysis project and the Director of the Air Resources Lab. Steve knows a lot about Sea Grant (SG), detailed to the Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) for SAB report.
- Figure out how we fit under the economic problems, SG is helping coastal communities survive in a challenging economy.
- High visibility and marketing: SGA asking congress for \$60M., delivering the message in briefings and visits, leadership meetings, roundtables, brown bags, regular engagement/communications, one pagers, white papers, and Biennial reports.
 - In May of 2012, there will be a briefing with the Senate and House on Community Supported Fisheries (CSFs) featuring many fishermen and other stakeholders who have worked with SG.
 - June 2011 Working Waterfronts hosted by US Rep. Chellie Pingree (D-ME). We only got staff offices for this.
 - Sen. Birkholz asked for copies of this material so that she can use it in her talks and as a way to inform her audiences of SG's work
- Dr. Cammen will do Legislative visits in March/April 2012
 - There was a discussion on the lack of Legislative visits done by NSGO leadership last year. Dr. Cammen said that OAR didn't get them scheduled after NSGO was told to put them off for a while.
 - Board would like to know what they could do to help. Drs. Cammen and Garber said that it would be useful if the Board told NSGO leadership if there were people on the Hill who needed more information about SG.
- Dr. Cammen discussed the SG budget of three fiscal years - FY11, FY12 and FY13.
 - FY12 ended up with \$62.2M, FY13 President Request was at \$61.6M, slightly lower than FY12. The Invasive Species NSI is not in the FY13 budget.

- If you do the bottom line, everything we had planned in 13, we had 1M uncommitted. We put it in the merit bonus pool, under SG funding. One thing is under SG state programs, base funding for 12, we planned on Climate. They are giving every program 30K.
- Dr. Nikola Garber gave a presentation on the aquaculture competition and the new special projects grant portal.
 - Aquaculture competition, requested 48M, got 158 pre-proposals that are due April 17th.
 - Special projects portal-up to 50K available to support proposals.

Discussion:

The Board discussed Sea Grant's FY12 and FY13 budgets and would like SG to step in where NOAA education programs were cut for FY13. Sea Grant social science funding and projects have increased and shown NOAA that Sea Grant is a leader in social science research. The NSGO will continue to support social science.

SGA report (Jonathan Pennock, President, Sea Grant Association)

Jon Pennock gave an update from the Sea Grant Association (SGA):

- External relations committee asked Congress for \$69M for FY13, nervous about asking that much but showing them what we can do. Working with external partners, Coastal States Organization, National Estuarine Research Reserves Organization, Green Coalition.
- Reauthorization – have 5 folks from SGA who will work on that-P. Anderson, R. DeVoe, K. Havens, P. Dalton, L. Swann
- There is a program missions committee starting within the SGA. The state programs are still trying to adapt from theme teams to focus areas. They also are concerned with over-evaluation of their programs and that reporting is taking away from time spent doing program mission work.

Sea Grant Reauthorization Planning (Rollie Schmitten, NSGAB)

- The NSGAB Reauthorization Planning Committee is chaired by R. Schmitten, L. Cammen (NSGO) as Co-Chair, and will include N. Rabalais, P. Birkholz, H. Simmons (NSGAB) and Nikola Garber (NSGO) as well.
- The reauthorization expires 9/30/2014 so the plan needs to be done before then. Congress will take it up again in spring of 2013.
- The reauthorization is very important and the Board needs to work on it so the SGA and NSGO can remain partners. The Reauthorization Committee Chair will begin discovery process soon and wants to work with the SGA and NSGO.

Discussion:

The federal budgets are the worst they have been in over 80 years. To get the reauthorization passed, the Board agreed that minimal changes to the legislation would be best. The legislation authorizes the Sea Grant program for five years.

The Board also agreed that they would like to get rid of the language authorizing the 5% administrative cap on the National office. They would like the Reauthorization committee to work with the SGA on this. Dr. Pennock said that the SGA will be hesitant to get rid of the cap.

Another Board concern is the required match for the programs. Many states are also having budget issues and finding match is getting increasingly more difficult. Dr. Cammen said that the programs can receive 5% of their funds without match and that Knauss Fellowships don't require match. The National Sea Grant Library is part of the 5% administrative cap.

The Board would also like to revisit the statement in the legislation regarding international waters.

The Board needs to review the wording of the legislation to ensure that it reflects their new role as an advisory board, rather than a review panel.

Mr. Schmitt is currently working off of the charge statement to previous committee and would like a new charge statement. The charge has the basic building blocks for the committee.

Dr. Pennock agreed that the SGA wants to partner on the reauthorization and is committed to that.

Sea Grant Charter Renewal (N. Rabalais, NSGAB)

The DFO needs to get the NSGAB Charter revised and submitted by July, to ensure it is renewed before it expires in September, 2012.

Motion to approve the Charter and begin process to renew.**Motion - Simmons, 2nd - West****Discussion:**

Dr. Orbach asked if there are bylaws in addition to the Charter. Elizabeth Ban said that the Charter serves as the Board Bylaws. The Board asked to move to table the motion until they have further time to review. ([Charter](#))

M. Orbach withdrew the motion to approve the Charter and begin process to renew. Simmons - 2nd.

Vote - Unanimous approval

Discussion of morning topics and review of Board Assignments

Board Member Nominations:

The Board asked Dr. Cammen what the status was of new Board member nominations. The Board is currently at 2/3s of its legislated size and there is much work to be completed by the Board. Dr. Cammen said that he met with the NOAA Administrator and received approval to move forward with applicants and alternates. He will be in touch with candidates to begin clearance process.

Allocation Committee:

Mr. Vortmann asked to re-visit the issue of the Allocation Committee process. Cammen said that the NSGO is waiting to see what happens to the budget. Adm. West said that there is an urgent need for the Allocation Committee to move forward.

Board Committee Assignments:

Executive Committee

Chair – Nancy Rabalais

Vice Chair – Rollie Schmitten

Past Chair – Dick West

Member-at-large – Bill Stubblefield

Biennial Report to Congress 2012

Committee - Dick West (Chair), Frank Beal, Mike Orbach, Gordon Grau, Nancy Rabalais (as needed)

NSGO Staff: Nikola Garber, Amy Painter, Elizabeth Ban

Focus Teams

Healthy Coastal Ecosystems – Nancy Rabalais

Hazard Resilient Coastal Communities – Harry Simmons

Safe and Sustainable Seafood Supply – Rollie Schmitten

Sustainable Coastal Development – Mike Orbach

Futures II Committee

Mike Orbach (Chair), Jeremy Harris

Knauss Selection Committee

Rollie Schmitten

Networks

Education Network – Nancy Rabalais

Communications Network – Harry Simmons

Extension Network – Rollie Schmitten

NOAA Science Advisory Board

Dick West/Bill Stubblefield

Performance Review Panel

Healthy Coastal Ecosystems - Nancy Rabalais

Hazard Resilience in Coastal Communities - Harry Simmons, Bill Stubblefield

Safe and Sustainable Seafood Supply - Rollie Schmitt

Sustainable Coastal Development - Frank Beal, Mike Orbach

Marine and Ocean Literacy - Dick West

Sea Grant Reauthorization Committee 2012

Committee – Rollie Schmitt (Chair), Patty Birkholz, Harry Simmons

Sea Grant Week 2012

Harry Simmons

Senior Research Council

Dick West

Strategic Planning Committee 2012

Dick Vortmann

National Sea Grant Advisory Board Current Terms and Expiration Dates

NAME	Start Date of 1st Term	Expiration of Current Term	Term
Frank Beal	9/1/2011	9/1/2015	1 st
Patty Birkholz	9/1/2011	9/1/2015	1 st
Jeremy Harris	8/26/2009	8/26/2013	1 st
Mike Orbach	8/26/2009	8/26/2013	1 st
Nancy Rabalais	3/5/2008	3/5/2016	2 nd
Rollie Schmitt	3/5/2008	3/5/2016	2 nd
Harry Simmons	8/26/2009	8/26/2013	1 st
Bill Stubblefield	3/6/2006	3/6/2014	2 nd
Dick Vortmann	8/26/2009	8/26/2013	1 st
Dick West	1/23/2007	1/23/2015	2 nd

Biennial Report Discussion (Dick West, NSGAB)

Biennial Report Committee: D. West, Chair; Committee Members: NSGAB - Frank Beal, Mike Orbach, Nancy Rabalais; SGA - Gordon Grau; NSGO - Kola Garber

[2010 Biennial Report to Congress](#)

The report needs to be completed by July to ensure that the report is complete for approval at the Fall 2012 NSGAB meeting. We will have a conference call to review and approve the draft.

Adm. West said that the Report must discuss constraints-including the perception that Sea Grant is not a “National” program. Congress should know that this is not just a glossy report promoting the programs, but a real look at the program by the Board.

Adm. West put forth the following issues to discuss for inclusion in the 2012 Report:

- evaluation system
- funding issues
- New Ocean Policy
- Board membership
- Allocation recommendation
- Regional partnerships
- Federal partnerships
- NOAA integration
- Others?

Discussion:

Dr. Orbach asked where Social Science would fit in. Dr. Cammen said that it is cross-cutting so that there isn't one place where it belongs. Dr. Stubblefield said that Sea Grant has done a lot of self-evaluations of how to improve ourselves, and that the Board itself has been involved. The Board also thought that an overall theme to the Report could emphasize the benefits of Sea Grant. Possibly - Sea Grant is Innovative, Adaptive and Responsive.

Other topics recommended by the Board:

- Deepwater Horizon spill and Sea Grant involvement
- Restoring the health of the Great Lakes and Sea Grant involvement
- Cuts to education, particularly within NOAA
- The future of Sea Grant and budgets

Adm. West suggested the following topics:

1. Need to focus more
2. We are tracking better
3. Talking about better evaluations, network wide reviews
4. We have examined our priorities and will report again next year
5. Return on federal dollars with non-federal dollars

NOAA Science Advisory Board Meeting notes (D. West, NSGAB)

Adm. West provided an overview of the topics discussed at the NOAA Science Advisory Board. [Agenda](#); [Meeting minutes](#)

Items of interest from the meeting:

[CI-FLOW](#) and other NOAA work have helped to improve hurricane track forecasting. The hurricane track for Irene reduced the uncertainty by 20% from previous hurricanes. Now, five days forecast are as good as three day forecast were 10 years ago.

The SAB also discussed the new [NOAA Scientific Integrity Policy](#) and the [Research Portfolio Review](#)

Focus Team liaison reports

- Hazard Resilience in Coastal Communities (Harry Simmons, NSGAB; Joshua Brown, NSGO)
- Healthy Coastal Ecosystems (N. Rabalais, NSGAB; Dorn Carlson, NSGO)
- Safe and Sustainable Seafood Supply (R. Schmitten, NSGAB; Gene Kim, NSGO)
- Sustainable Coastal Development (M. Orbach, NSGAB; Mike Liffmann, NSGO)

Discussion:

The Board was happy to hear about the activities of the Focus Teams but is interested in hearing more about how the teams are working. They want to know if they have been valuable, what successes or lessons have been learned. The Board agreed that this would be a topic for the Fall 2012 NSGAB meeting.

Sea Grant Week update (Harry Simmons, NSGAB)

Sea Grant Week 2012 will be held at the Hotel Alyeska in Girdwood, Alaska. The dates are September 17-21st and the Advisory Board meeting will be September 16-17th The theme of the week is Spawning New Ideas. More information is available on the [Sea Grant Week 2012 website](#).

Discussion of afternoon topics

Dr. Rabalais asked that the Board review the Charter, the Strategic Plan and the Biennial Report before tomorrow's meeting.

The Board agreed that Sea Grant needs to be more involved with Hill visits. The Board is available to accompany Dr. Cammen and others for Hill visits in the future.

Public Comment Period

The Board received on public comment via email. The comment suggested that the program should be shut down and is not necessary.

Date: February 25, 2012

From: usacitizen1 usacitizen1 usacitizen1@live.com

To: elizabeth.ban@noaa.gov,
americanvoices@mail.house.gov,
comments@whitehouse.gov,
speakerboehner@mail.house.gov,
sf.nancy@mail.house.gov,
letters@newsweek.com,
today@nbc.com,
deficitreduction@senate.gov,
info@taxpayer.net
cc: media@cagw.org,
info@theteaparty.org

Subject: public comment on federal register FW: taxpayers request that this program be shut down - 1 out of 2 americans in poverty status - no reason for huge bureaucracy on their backs

i am in favor of this program being shut down. if there is a budget problem then the funds that would be used for this program should be shunted to the sites that save whale and dolphin lives. that is a worthwhile purpose for american tax dollars. this is just more political waste. america does not need this sea grant program when 1 out of 2 americans are living in poverty due to the extreme financial problems of this country. this does not need to be run by government tax dollars. if the universities want to do it, they have enough money to do it without govt grants.

shut down this program. close the budget down to zero. this program has been in existence too long to bludgeon taxpayers and give pols pals a free ride on corruption and misspent tax dollars. this program is not necessary to america. shut it down.
jean public

There were no other public comments.

The Chair called for a recess until the meeting begins at 8:30 a.m., March 6.

Tuesday, March 6

8:30 Call to Order, review agenda and previous day's discussions (N. Rabalais, NSGAB)

Dr. Rabalais called the meeting to order. There were no changes to the agenda. The Board did want to discuss the Charter renewal.

Dr. Rabalais asked if there was a motion to move forward with the Charter in its current form, with a few corrections to typographical errors.

Motion: Approve the Charter as is (with corrections to typographical errors) and begin renewal process.

Motion - Harry Simmons, 2nd - Rollie Schmitten

Discussion:

Dr. Orbach noticed that the Charter states that the Board serves at the “discretion of the Under Secretary” and wondered what the purpose of that phrase is. If a Board member is asked to serve a four year term, then does this mean that the Under Secretary has the authority to dismiss them, with or without cause, at anytime during their term? Ms. Ban said that it was possible to change that section if it was the agreement of the Board to do so. Ms. Grimes provided some background on the term limits of the Board and that they provide the latitude to ask someone not to continue on as a Board member if they are not participating. There has not been an instance of a Board member being asked by the Under Secretary to step down during their term.

Vote:

Aye - Beal, Birkholz, Rabalais, Schmitten, Simmons, Stubblefield, Vortmann, West

Nay - Orbach,

Motion passes 8-1

NOAA, Department of Commerce and Department of the Interior (N. Rabalais, NSGAB and L. Cammen, NSGO)

The Board held a discussion regarding where within the Federal government the National Sea Grant College Program should reside as well as where in NOAA it should be. The National Ocean Service just merged the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management with the Coastal Services Center. Some felt that Sea Grant would fit well with that office, whereas others felt that remaining in NOAA’s Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) has and will continue to be the correct place for Sea Grant.

The Board agreed that if they were asked about this, they should have an answer. Dr. Orbach, Chair of the Futures Committee, said that he would develop a matrix with options and present it to the Board at the next meeting.

NOAA Research Portfolio (Dr. Steven Fine, NOAA Coordinator for R&D Portfolio Review)

NOAA’s Science Advisory Board (SAB) was charged to examine the current state of NOAA’s research and development portfolio based on NOAA’s mission and strategic plan and develop recommendations to achieve the goals of the strategic plan. They created a task force with 13 members - some from the SAB, some are outside experts. The task force will examine NOAA’s internal and external research portfolios and will develop recommendation by early FY13 with a final report by Spring 2013.

Discussion:

The Board asked for the breadth of the charge. Dr. Fine provided the charge:

- The SAB R&D Portfolio Review Task Force will examine the current state of NOAA's research and development (R&D) portfolio from the perspective of the agency's mission and strategic plan, and recommend changes needed to achieve the goals of that plan.
- The committee will examine *both*: (1) the composition of NOAA's R&D portfolio, and (2) how that portfolio is organized and managed. Recommended changes for both the composition and management of the R&D portfolio should be prioritized.

The Board asked that they be kept posted on the task force findings.

Strategic Plan update (D. Vortmann, NSGAB)

The schedule for the Strategic Plan is:

March - May 2012: Draft National Plan using input received from Steering Committee and national/state stakeholders

May 2012: Send Draft National Plan to network for comments

July 2012: Finalize Draft National Plan (except four-year performance measure targets)

August-October 2012: State Sea Grant Program plans are finalized and submitted to the NSGO

November 2012: Review of State Sea Grant Program Plans (Advisory Board)

December 2012: National Plan finalized (including performance measure targets)

Discussion:

The Board agreed that they would rely on Mr. Vortmann to provide input to the Strategic Plan on behalf of the Board until the draft is complete. At that point, the Board may choose to provide input. Some suggestions from the Board included:

Do we want to articulate various strategic "operational" goals?

-Direction of regionalization of specified activities?

-Direction for level of integration of Sea Grant program with other NOAA activities?

-Direction for how Sea Grant's strategic efforts will support the accomplishment of OAR and/or NOAA's strategic plans?

Should strategic plan address the pending new budget Allocation process and impact thereof?

The Board also agreed that it is too soon to do a major revamp of the strategic plan as the programs are still working off of the first strategic plan. The only compelling reason to make a major change is to integrate with NOAA's strategic plan.

Dr. Cammen discussed the rationale for the plan in its current form. It was to have one strategic plan for all programs rather than 32 plans. It's very broad plan and shares how we accomplish what we do. The Board agreed that a national strategic plan is a good road map for the programs.

Performance Review Panel (PRP) (Sami Grimes, NSGO)

Ms. Grimes reviewed the history and purpose of the PRP. There will be one panel for each of the four focus areas plus an additional panel for marine and ocean literacy.

Discussion:

The Board inquired as to their roles in the PRP. Ms. Grimes said that each panel needs a Board member and they the panels will be looking at the progress each program has made toward their strategic plan. The Board will be sent a reminder email asking on which panel they would like to serve.

Craig McLean, Deputy Assistant Administrator for NOAA Research and Dr. Robert Detrick, Assistant Administrator for NOAA Research (Joint Session with SGA)

Capt. McLean shared some projects that showing Sea Grant's impacts - Community-Supported Fisheries, Working waterfronts and waterways, Community climate change adaptation initiative (CCCAI), CI-FLOW and Hurricane Irene. All of which also supported the NOAA strategic plan and mission goals. He also provided examples of enterprise objectives that Sea Grant has supported - Rhode Island Special Area Management Plan and wave energy initiatives.

Capt. McLean introduced the new OAR Assistant Administrator, Dr. Robert (Bob) Detrick.

Dr. Detrick mentioned that he is also the Chair of NOAA Research Council.

Dr. Detrick discussed his vision for OAR and research at NOAA and that he will visit all of NOAA's labs over next 3 months and talk with stakeholders. He is looking for ideas and feedback from Sea Grant for OAR to be effective.

He feels that OAR needs to conduct long-term basic research to achieve NOAA's mission. He also wants to see OAR:

- Provide an integrated earth systems approach
- Innovate and incubate new technologies, new tools and new approaches
- Enhance collaborations
- Put research results to use
- Do better in coastal research across NOAA Line Offices

Dr. Detrick Discussed the FY2013 President's Budget Request and the difficult choices NOAA was forced to make:

Cuts impacts:

Aquatic Invasive Species

National Undersea Research Program

Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory

Potential role for SG:

Dr. Detrick ended by saying that Sea Grant has been great at strengthening NOAA's partnership in the private sector and engaging communities that NOAA is serving.

Stuart Levenbach, Office of Management and Budget, NOAA Program Examiner (Joint Session with SGA)

Dr. Levenbach gave a presentation on Office of Management and Budget (OMB), budgeting process, and how Sea Grant can help demonstrate performance in an era of declining budgets.

Stages in budget process

May – Agencies submit to department

July – Departments passes back to agencies; appeals

Aug – Departments prepare submission materials

Sept – Departments submit to OMB

Nov – OMB passes back to department

Dec – Appeals

Jan – Prepared budget materials

Feb – Budget is released – usually 1st week

How does OMB prioritize?

- Agency priorities – hit a number, reach into kitty and put more money down on these programs. One or two issues might be you pull from another program to help NOAA.
- Presidential initiative (esp. campaign promises)-fund a few that are important.
- Statutory and legal mandates-endangered species act, protection of life and property.
- Agency missions-is NOAA the best agency to fund these programs? Are there other types of programs in the government that are making more impacts than NOAA?
- Performance-Dr. Levenbach communicates with his leadership, and must be able to explain NOAA's performance, therefore he needs data. How many research projects are you going to do? He also must be able to explain data on each program, so detailed reporting is a necessity.
- Appropriations and Congressional interest.

Demonstrating performance in an era of declining budgets

1. Explain Sea Grant niche: How do all of the programs complement each other? OMB welcomes comments to explain Sea Grant.
2. Emphasize partnerships – not just within NOAA, but across the government.
3. Annually report performance in meaningful, effective way- weather service is easy to report, fisheries also –cutting stock will affect us in this way, etc. Coastal and Climate performance reporting is harder. More work needs to be done in this area.

Challenges for NOAA coastal science

1. Grant-making is fragmented. Tough to attract good people.
2. Improve alignment with the National Ocean Policy-Sea Grant supports this policy which helps the budget.

Ideas

1. Pool resources with other NOAA programs – have one line for grants nationwide. Climate office has one line.
2. Competition among SG chapters to implement the NOS

Virginia Tippie, Coastal America (Joint Session with SGA)

Ms. Tippie discussed the Coastal America Learning Center network. Its purpose is to increase public awareness of critical coastal issues and encourage involvement in activities that benefit coastal ecosystems. It provides a venue of public dialogue.

There are currently 24 Centers in informal education venues across the county. The Learning Center Network is involved in ocean interpretive stations initiatives, the Ocean Today Kiosks. There are now 15 kiosks installed at learning centers. She discussed several other network accomplishments. Ms. Tippie discussed three current efforts that provide Learning Centers and Sea Grant Colleges the opportunity for collaboration.

1. Oceans Today kiosks/common centers and regional exhibits
2. Youth educational programs
3. Coastal conversations on policy issues and community concerns

Sea Grant and the Draft Implementation Action Plan of the National Ocean Policy follow-up (N. Rabalais, NSGAB)

The Board discussed the possibility of providing comments on the draft Implementation Action Plan of the National Ocean Policy. The Board agreed that they were over-extended as a Board with more projects coming shortly and therefore would not have time to comment as a Board.

Discussion of meeting topics and next steps

Mr. Vortmann asked what happened to all of the best practices that were identified during the program site visits. Dr. Joshua Brown said that they have been compiled into a list and the NSGO will be sharing them with the network. Mr. Schmitt said that New Hampshire Sea Grant has a great citizen scientist program that would be an excellent model for other programs. As part of our site visits, it was up to us to identify best practices. I'm curious to all of the best practices what happened to those?

Mr. Schmitt followed up on some previous issues discussed for the Reauthorization committee. He wrote up revisions to the Charge for the Board to review. Adm. West said that he would review the charge and provide input. Mr. Schmitt said that Dr. Cammen would work with OAR and Legislative Affairs to move forward on the Reauthorization. Adm. West also said that the Reauthorization language needs to match what is written in the Biennial Report to Congress. Dr. Cammen suggested that the Board reach out to the SGA to discuss the administrative cap and other reauthorization issues.

No further topics were discussed.

Meeting adjourned