

Okaloosa RESTORE Advisory Committee (ORAC) Meeting Minutes Summary
January 7, 2015 – 2:30 P.M.
Emerald Coast Convention Center

Meeting called to order at 2:30 PM by the Chair of the Okaloosa County RESTORE Advisory Committee (ORAC); those present:

- Sam Seevers (Chair) Citizen at Large (Okaloosa League of Cities)
- Dr. Jack Azzaretto (Vice Chair) FWB Chamber
- Jim Breitenfeld Citizen at Large
- Dewey Destin Okaloosa County School Board
- Kay Rasmussen EDC Representative
- Gary Jarvis Fishing Industry Representative
- Thomas Gordon Crestview Councilman (Okaloosa League of Cities)
- Dr. Steve Shippee Environmental Representative
- Jonathan Tallman Citizen at Large
- Sal Nodjomian Matrix Design Group (Okaloosa County Consultant)
- Dr. Rod Lewis Matrix Design Group (Okaloosa County Consultant)
- Lee Lewis AVCON (Okaloosa County Consultant)
- Rick Owen Okaloosa County ORAC Coordinator

ORAC Members absent: Martin Owen, Brian Haugen

Others Present:

- Kelly Windes, Okaloosa County Commissioner, District 5
- Jim Trifilio – Okaloosa County
- Marcella Eubanks – Clerk of Court
- Fred Cook – City of Crestview
- Lindey Chabot – City of Destin
- Sam Wilson – City of Ft Walton Beach
- Bruce Price – City of Niceville
- Roy Petrey – Poly-Engineering
- Darryl Boudreaux – The Nature Conservancy
- David Hancock – Okaloosa Island Leaseholders
- Patrick Berry – Gulfarium
- Allen McDowell – Gulfarium
- Cal Zethmayr – WAAZ-WJSB
- Dave Parisot – Citizen

Chair Seevers asked the members of the audience to introduce themselves.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Mr. Destin motioned to approve the December 4, 2014 minutes. Mr. Tallman seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.

Consultant's Administrative Report – Mr. Nodjomian:

Mr. Nodjomian welcomed the group and stated that comment cards were available for any member of the public wishing to speak. He further stated that the remainder of the scheduled meetings will not change and next meeting will be held on February 5th at 6:00 PM at Northwest Florida State College.

Mr. Nodjomian updated the committee on several upcoming events, including a webinar with the Environmental Law Institute covering Phase 3 of the BP trial, and various community engagement presentations. He continued

with the update by stating the collection tool development is complete and this meeting would focus on remaining issues with the submission protocol.

Mr. Nodjomian also provided a brief update on the status of other oil spill-related funds including National Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA), National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), and Pot 2 dollars for projects identified by Governor Scott to the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (GCERC). He shared the distributions from NRDA spanned three phases in the amounts of \$5.7M, \$8.9M, and \$106M respective to each phase. On the subject of NFWF, Mr. Nodjomian stated that \$15.7M was distributed to Florida projects in 2013, and \$34.3M in 2014, while the remaining \$296M allocation for years 2015 through 2017 have yet to be determined.

Finally, Mr. Nodjomian briefed the group that Florida projects submitted to the GCERC for Pot 2 total more than \$78M. Mr. Breitenfeld asked if a date had been set for announcing the approved projects from the GCERC. Mr. Nodjomian responded that he has not heard of a timeline. He then referred to a handout which was provided to each committee member that outlined individual projects submitted to date. Chair Seevers reminded the committee that a considerable amount of funding to date has been focused on environmental projects.

Mr. Nodjomian then turned to an update on the web-based application, stating the consultants and staff would meet with the County website contractor next week to discuss incorporating the application. Ms. Seevers asked if staff could establish a deadline for the contractor to complete the website tasks. Mr. Nodjomian explained that additional tasks might need to occur before the application could go online, to include the committee's concern that the forms should receive Commission approval before going to the public. Ms. Rasmussen stated she believed all committee tasks short of receiving applications and evaluating have been completed. Mr. Breitenfeld disagreed, stating that he did not want the committee to move ahead too far before receiving some recommendation from the Commission.

Mr. Breitenfeld then motioned that the application forms go before the Board of County Commissioners for approval. Motion was seconded by Mr. Destin. A discussion on the topic followed including a briefing by Mr. Owen, the County RESTORE Coordinator on Resolution 13-47, the legislative document that established the duties and responsibilities of the ORAC. Mr. Destin withdrew his second to the motion.

Mr. Breitenfeld then motioned that the application go before the Board for review. This motion was seconded by Dr. Azzaretto. A discussion on the motion followed. Motion failed 4-5.

Mr. Nodjomian suggested to the committee that the consultant could provide an update to the Board at the next Commission meeting. The committee concurred with the suggestion.

Discussion of Frequently Asked Questions

Mr. Nodjomian introduced a discussion of a series of questions that were developed to assist the public in completing the application(s). These questions were captured on six presentation slides. Captain Jarvis asked if the committee would be receptive to amending each slide as necessary and then approving each by way of a motion. Ms. Seevers stated that her recommendation was that the questions receive review and amendment by the committee as necessary. At the conclusion of this process, each slide would be approved.

On the first "Frequently Asked Questions" (FAQ) slide, Ms. Rasmussen and Dr. Shippee suggested wording changes on the second and third bullets. The committee discussed various word options to clarify. ***Ms. Rasmussen motioned to approve slide as amended. Mr. Destin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.***

FAQ Slide 2: Several members offered suggestions to refine and clarify the answer to each question. ***Motion was made by Captain Jarvis to approve. Dr. Shippee seconded motion. Passed as amended unanimously.***

FAQ Slide 3: Committee discussed and amended wording. ***A motion to approve as amended was made by Dr. Shippee and seconded by Dr. Azzaretto. Motion passed unanimously.***

FAQ Slide 4: ***After discussion and amendment, motion was made by Captain Jarvis to approve modified slide. A second was offered by Mr. Destin. Motion passed unanimously.***

FAQ Slide 5: The committee discussed and made several changes to wording. ***Motioned to approve by Mr. Tallman. Ms. Rasmussen seconded and motion was approved unanimously.***

FAQ Slide 6: The committee made a change to the first question and completely struck the next two questions. ***Motion was made by Ms. Rasmussen to approve slide as amended. Mr. Destin seconded. Motion approved unanimously.***

Ms. Rasmussen motioned to add a question that asked "What is an economic factor?" Seconded by Captain Jarvis. Motion passed unanimously.

*Ms. Seevers put the committee on a short break at 3:37 P.M.

Mr. Lewis crafted a FAQ based on committee recommendations to address small projects. The question presented stated "I have a small project that will effectively benefit this community. What are the chances my proposal will compete with larger projects?" The answer was then presented as "The ORAC has devised a system where up to 15% of the Direct Component fund will be set aside for small projects. These small projects have been identified as those with an estimated cost of less than \$90,000 and will involve a less rigorous process than larger projects."

Captain Jarvis motioned to approve question and answer as read. This motion was seconded by Mr. Destin and unanimously approved.

Mr. Breitenfeld suggested the committee delegate authority to post future FAQs to consultant; the committee concurred.

Ms. Seevers opened the topic of frequently asked questions for public comment. Mr. Parisot suggested changing references to "Pot 1" to "Direct Component" and that clarifying language should state that RESTORE funds cannot be used for business losses. He added all projects must be competitively bid.

Dr. Azzaretto motioned to add this information to the second FAQ slide. Mr. Destin seconded motion. Passed unanimously.

Open Discussion

Ms. Rasmussen referred back to the previous month's meeting, specifically how to handle incomplete applications. She suggested that a statement should be added explaining that incomplete applications will not be considered. ***Ms. Rasmussen restated her concern in the form of a motion. Mr. Tallman seconded. A discussion followed with Mr. Breitenfeld suggesting this action would place a burden on the consultant to determine whether a question is incomplete or missing entirely. At the conclusion of the discussion, the motion passed unanimously.***

Public Comments

Mr. Boudreaux from The Nature Conservancy provided clarification to the committee on the nature of projects submitted to the GCERC for Pot 2 funding. Specifically, he shared that these projects were focused on updating estuarial plans for Florida as well as potential EPA-sanctioned estuary programs.

Mr. Dave Parisot spoke to the committee on the importance of having ORAC meetings in venues that offer both audio and video recording capabilities. He also stated that it was his belief that applications should go before the Commission before going public. Finally, he suggested that the committee create agenda packets that contain all information supplied to the committee to the public for meetings.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 4:20 P.M. Minutes transcribed by Rick Owen from notes and audio recording of the meeting and are not verbatim.

//signed – ss – Feb 5, 2015//

Sam Seevers, Okaloosa League of Cities, Destin Representative
Chairman