

Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance
Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
June 3, 2009

Florida's Great Northwest Conference Room

In Attendance: Holly Booyse, Mitch Shank, Ross Hamilton, Mike Flynt, Dr. Darryl Ritter, Tom Patton, James Ward, Mark Schaeffer, Alison McDowell, Sarah Kalinoski, Bill Schultz, Al Wenstrand, Julie Terrell

1. Opening Remarks
 - a. Holly Booyse, Chair, called the meeting to order.
 - b. Ms. Booyse welcomed Dr. Darryl Ritter, Northwest Florida State College Science Department Chair.
2. Review and approval of April meeting minutes
 - a. Ms. Booyse called for approval of meeting minutes for April 2009.
 - b. Mr. Wenstrand moved to accept the minutes.
 - c. Mr. Hamilton seconded the motion.
 - d. April 2009 minutes were unanimously approved.
3. Budget Report
 - a. Funding from the City of Fort Walton Beach will end as of October 1, 2009.
 - b. CBA will still be a partner on the Liza Jackson project.
 - c. The City of Destin will partner with CBA at a level of \$25,000.
 - d. Mr. Hamilton reported that CBA is looking ok until the end of the calendar year.
 - i. Ms. Booyse clarified that unless other expected monies come through, CBA is really only secure through September 30, 2009.
 - e. Florida LAKEWATCH samples will cost \$60/sample moving forward.
 - f. The Board discussed the possibility of partnering with the Mattie Kelly Environmental Institute of Northwest Florida State College. The use of MKEI's spectrophotometer and the Science Department's autoclave could allow CBA to process nutrient samples in-house, but would require a lab manager.
 - g. Review of Pending Funding Sources document prepared for the Board.
 - h. Mr. Hamilton recommended making cuts sooner rather than later, including cuts in personnel.
 - i. Mr. Wenstrand set forth a motion:
The CBA Advisory Committee authorizes the CBA Program Director to work with Northwest Florida State College administration to develop appropriate staffing and budget parameters based on current and projected economic conditions, CBA's contracts and funding resources, and NWFSC's budgetary constraints in order to preserve CBA's existence and mission.
 - ii. Mr. Shank seconded the motion
 - iii. Motion passed unanimously.
 - i. Further discussion:
 - i. Mr. Shank: Focus on positive things we've been doing. Emphasize the importance of the bay. Need to generate political support.
 - ii. Ms. Terrell announced Niceville meeting one week away, where CBA will be represented by Alison McDowell.
 - iii. Mr. Patton suggested turning to private foundations for support, especially local resources.

1. Ms. Booyse suggested the Publix Foundation as a possibility.
- iv. Prioritization:
 1. Monitoring agreed upon as the most important service CBA provides.
 - a. What about cutting sampling stations? Center transect informally agreed upon as the most important data collection sites.
 - v. Dr. Richburg and Dr. Ritter both recognized as true advocates of CBA.
 1. Dr. Ritter: Sees CBA as an integral part of the Science Dept.
 - vi. Mr. Patton suggested an "Adopt-A-Lake" program on the coastal dune lakes.
 - vii. CBA expects to move to the South Walton campus at the end of September or the beginning of October.
4. New Business
 - a. None; already discussed.
5. Presentation by Julie Terrell re: Choctawhatchee Bay water quality analysis
6. Meeting adjourned
 - a. Ms. Booyse adjourned the meeting at 5:46pm.