

Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance
Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
August 1, 2007

In Attendance: Al Wenstrand, Mike Flynt, Holly Booyse, Dennis Peters, Mark Shaeffer, Mitch Shank, Tom Patton, Ross Hamilton, Jerry Najarian, Kristal Walsh, Commissioner John Jannazo, Julie Terrell, Alison McDowell, Sarah Kalinoski, Brooke Saari, and Lauren Nowling.

1. Opening Remarks:

a) Chairman Wenstrand called the advisory board meeting of the Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance to order at 4:17 p.m., Wednesday, August 1, 2007.

2. Presentation by Kristal Walsh, BDI – GIS Technology for Sustainable Natural Resources and Watershed Management:

- a) Kristal Walsh was introduced to give a presentation regarding GIS technology for sustainable natural resources and watershed management.
- b) Kristal explained that BDI has collaborated with many local agencies on GIS projects in this area, Destin Water Users and South Walton Utility Company are a few of those agencies.
- c) Kristal reported that GIS or Geographic Information Systems can be used for many different applications. For example, GIS can be used to display features and trends, assess quantities or create predictive surfaces, evaluate density or concentration, perform proximity or sensitivity analysis, and evaluate models for comparative analysis.
- d) BDI used GIS in Boggy Bayou/Turkey Creek to determine accumulation of sediment on the Turkey Creek Basin over the last ten years.

3. Review of June Meeting Minutes:

- a) Minutes were distributed to the advisory board members prior to the meeting.
- b) Jerry Najarian motioned to approve the meeting minutes from June.
- c) Mark Shaeffer seconded the motion.
- d) The June meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

4. Budget Report Update:

- a) Ross Hamilton was introduced to give an update of the CBA budget.
- b) The budget was accepted as presented.
- c) Julie Terrell reported that CBA is currently involved in the Walton County NPDES budget hearings and that we are in the budget for the City of Fort Walton Beach right now on a February to February schedule.

5. Bylaw Amendments:

- a) Al Wenstrand explained that the CBA Advisory Board Bylaws state that the board should consist of 10 regular committee members and that ex-officio members may be appointed by the Advisory Board. Al further stated that Article II, Section II of the bylaws needs to be amended to state that ex-officio members shall have all duties and responsibilities of regular Advisory Board Members except voting privileges.
- b) Mitch Shank motioned to approve the bylaw amendment.
- c) Dennis Peters seconded the motion.
- d) The CBA Advisory Board bylaw amendment was approved unanimously.

6. New Business:

- a) Julie Terrell introduced CBA's new project specialist Brooke Saari to the advisory board.
- b) Julie Terrell explained that CBA will be receiving a donation from Titan Marketing from a portion of the sales of the Estates at Indian Pointe. Julie stated that she suggested that Titan put its donation towards an endowment for the sustainability of CBA for the future.
- c) Julie explained that OWC recently performed an evaluation of its staff positions and benefits and it has made some adjustments to job descriptions, etc. OWC also had some

suggestions for grant funded positions. The evaluation resulted in Julie's restructuring the CBA staff to coincide with the restructuring of OWC employees. The two main changes were reclassification of the Volunteer Coordinator as a Project Specialist and the Staff Assistant as a Staff/Research Assistant.

d) Julie Terrell gave a brief update on the status of the Cessna Park Stormwater Remediation Project. She explained that the construction on the park is substantially complete with only punch list items left to complete. The entire project should be completed within 35 days and she hopes to schedule the grand opening celebration for September.

e) Julie stated that all of the funding for the Liza Jackson Project has been awarded. The funding partners for this project will be the Northwest Florida Water Management District, US Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Five-Star Program, and the City of Fort Walton Beach.

f) Julie told the advisory board that the plans for the Clement Taylor Park Project were just received from Tetra Tech Inc. She stated that CBA and Destin are currently in the permitting phase of this project and modifying the scope of work and they hope to go out on bid for this project soon.

g) Julie explained that CBA was awarded a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Five-Star Program for phase I of the Joe's Bayou Project in Destin. This phase of the project will consist of removing the invasive/exotic plants from the park and planting some native vegetation. Phases 2 and 3 will consist of some shoreline restoration across the street from the park.

h) Julie stated that she has been meeting with three graduate students, two from UWF and one from UF, regarding some research projects in Choctawhatchee Bay. The UWF graduate students will be conducting research on harmful algal blooms and water quality in Cinco, Garniers, and Poquito Bayous. The graduate student from UF will be creating a year long nutrient budget of the bay. CBA will be a partner on both of these projects helping to collect monthly data.

i) Julie told the advisory board that she attached a CBA wish list to the board meeting packet. Holly Booyse stated that this list is a first step in working towards a special solicitation but further work needs to be done before the plan is put before the board for approval.

j) Julie explained to the advisory board that she is a new board member of the Florida Lake Management Society (FLMS). FLMS is a state chapter of a national society called North American Lake Management Society (NALMS). The 2008 meeting for FLMS is scheduled to take place in Sandestin and Julie will be a key figure in hosting and organizing this meeting. It is also a possibility that the 2008 NALMS Southeast Chapter meeting will join with the FLMS meeting in Sandestin. The first meeting of the board will be in August and Julie will report more details on this issue after that meeting.

7. Meeting Adjourned:

a) Chairman Wenstrand adjourned the advisory board meeting at 5:40 p.m.