

Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance
Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
October 3, 2007

In Attendance: Tiffany McCaskill, Allison Beauregard-Schwartz, Ross Hamilton, Mike Flynt, Al Wenstrand, Jerry Najarian, Mitch Shank, Holly Booyse, James Ward, Julie Terrell, Lauren Nowling, and Sarah Kalinoski

1. Opening Remarks:

a) Chairman Wenstrand called the advisory board meeting of the Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance to order at 4:04 p.m., Wednesday, October 3, 2007.

2. Review of August 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) Ross Hamilton seconded the motion.
- d) The August meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Budget Report Update:

- a) Ross Hamilton was introduced to give an update of the CBA budget.
- b) The budget was accepted as presented.
- c) Mr. Hamilton reviewed each CBA account indicating which funds are encumbered and which are available to be spent. He also reviewed anticipated payments and when those funds are expected to be received.

4. Introduction of Dr. Allison Beauregard-Schwartz, Mattie M. Kelly Cultural and Environmental Institute's Distinguished Chair in Environmental Sciences:

- a) Julie Terrell introduced Dr. Beauregard-Schwartz to the advisory board, reporting that CBA is already working with her on the 2008 annual symposium and other collaborative projects.
- b) Mitch Shank asked Dr. Beauregard-Schwartz if she had to follow preplanned projects or if she could undertake some research projects of her own. Dr. Beauregard-Schwartz explained that the Mattie Kelly Will specified certain projects, such as the annual symposium and workshops for local high school teachers, but she may also devote some time to projects of her own.

5. Guest Speaker: Tiffany McCaskill, New Product Development Manager for Walton Tourist Development Council (TDC). Discuss TDC's programs to both protect our natural lands and support Walton County's community and cultural resources, the Kellogg Property, and TDC's current and future programs:

- a) Al Wenstrand introduced Tiffany McCaskill to give a brief presentation on the Walton County TDC.
- b) Ms. McCaskill outlined the current and future programs of the TDC such as the annual Environmental Forum, Agri-tourism, the Kellogg Property Nature Education Center, artist of the year, autumn tides, and the international coastal cleanup to name a few.

6. New Business:

- a) Julie Terrell updated the advisory board on the status of the Cessna Park Stormwater Remediation Project. She gave a brief slide show of photos of Cessna Park before the CBA project and after the project. Julie stated that phase I of the project is nearing completion with only a few minor things left to be finished.

- b) Ms. Terrell stated that CBA is currently working with the County and applying for grants to fund an oyster reef at Cessna Park. If this reef is funded CBA will be able to remove the sediment barriers we currently have in place and build the oyster reef in their place.
- c) Julie explained to the advisory board that the Cessna Celebration/Grand Opening Ceremony is scheduled on Friday, October 19, 2007 at 11:00 am. The celebration will take place at the park and the Walton County TDC will be providing refreshments.
- d) The advisory board discussed the CBA annual membership meeting that is currently scheduled for December 5, 2007. The board determined that a full board meeting was not needed prior to the upcoming annual meeting and that the meeting should begin at 5:30 pm. Julie Terrell stated that CBA is currently calling for open nominations from its membership but has not received any to date.
- e) Mr. Hamilton suggested that the advisory board gather for a one-day workshop to determine a strategic plan of gathering funds for the sustainability of CBA. [Mr. Wenstrand asked the CBA staff to poll the board members regarding an available date for this workshop.](#)

7. Meeting Adjourned:

- a) Chairman Wenstrand adjourned the advisory board meeting at 5:28 p.m.