

**Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance**  
**Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**October 1, 2008**

***In Attendance:*** Al Wenstrand, Mitch Shank, Mike Flynt, Mark Shaeffer, Jerry Najarian, Ross Hamilton, Tom Patton, James Ward, Julie Terrell, Joni Barreda, Alison McDowell, Sarah Kalinoski, Lauren Nowling

***1. Opening Remarks:***

a) Chairman Holly Booyse was not able to attend therefore, Treasurer Ross Hamilton called the advisory committee meeting of the Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance to order at 4:06 p.m., Wednesday, October 1, 2008.

***2. Approval of June & August 2008 Meeting Minutes:***

a) June and August 2008 meeting minutes were distributed to the advisory committee members prior to the meeting.

b) The June meeting minutes were distributed for approval by email prior to the advisory committee meeting.

c) By email, Al Wenstrand motioned to approve the meeting minutes from June 2008. Holly Booyse seconded the motion. Mark Shaeffer, Ross Hamilton, and Mitch Shank all voted to approve the meeting minutes as well. Since a majority of the committee did not cast their votes by email, Treasurer Hamilton requested one more vote at the meeting to approve the June meeting minutes. Jerry Najarian voted to approve the June 2008 meeting minutes.

d) Tom Patton motioned to approve the meeting minutes from August 2008.

e) Al Wenstrand seconded the motion.

f) The August 2008 meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

***3. Budget Report Update:***

a) Ross Hamilton gave a brief update of the CBA budget.

b) The budget was accepted as presented.

c) Julie Terrell provided the advisory committee with an extra budget report showing CBA's unencumbered funds and the expected income for each account.

d) Mr. Hamilton stated that CBA needs to obtain more NPDES contracts with other municipalities to secure future funding.

***4. New Annual Contracts:***

a) Julie Terrell explained that CBA has received the new Walton County contract for October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009 for the current amount of \$225,000.

b) Ms. Terrell stated that the Destin NPDES contract is on the agenda for approval at the October 6<sup>th</sup> Destin City Council Meeting.

c) Julie told the advisory committee that the City of Fort Walton Beach is currently working on a reduction of services provided by CBA for half of the current contract amount of \$52,000. The current contract is good through February 2009 so CBA may still receive a full 4<sup>th</sup> quarter payment before the contract amount is reduced.

***5. Conservation and Recreation Lands, LLC:***

a) Mr. Hamilton explained that Bill McCartney has recently retired from Baskerville-Donovan, Inc. and he has established Conservation and Recreation Lands, LLC with Mr. Leon Bloodworth.

b) Mr. McCartney has contacted several members of the CBA Advisory Committee regarding his desire to represent CBA to acquire lands, or the funding to purchase lands under a number of State, Federal, or not-for-profit programs for conservation and/or recreation land acquisition. Mr. McCartney requested that CBA contact him if they were interested in this partnership.

c) Mr. Hamilton requested advisory committee endorsement of a conversation between CBA staff and committee members and Mr. McCartney. Jerry Najarian motioned for approval of a meeting but no other committee members seconded/approved this motion.

#### **6. Coastal Dune Lake Program:**

a) Julie Terrell updated the committee regarding the Coastal Dune Lake Management Plan meeting that took place on August 25, 2008. She stated that CBA and the University of Florida LAKEWATCH staff are currently working on a final draft of the management plan to present to the Coastal Dune Lake Advisory Board on October 23, 2008.

b) Ms. Terrell explained that one of the main objectives identified at the Coastal Dune Lake Management Plan Meeting was education and outreach of visitors, tourists, county staff and local citizens regarding the Walton County Coastal Dune Lakes.

c) Ms. Terrell stated that CBA and LAKEWATCH are going to collaborate to get legislature support for an educational institute regarding Northwest Florida that would be affiliated with NWF State College. Ms. Terrell hopes to coordinate a meeting between CBA, Senator Don Gaetz, the Coastal Dune Lakes Advisory Board, Dr. Canfield of UF LAKEWATCH, and the Walton County Commissioners to discuss this prospect.

d) Mitch Shank asked CBA staff what type of work they generally do in the local schools. Sarah Kalinoski explained that usually CBA's involvement in the classroom is dependent on the teachers needs or is project based. Alison McDowell added that recently, CBA staff has also been working with school teachers on their curriculum to help them meet their FCAT goals.

e) Al Wenstrand mentioned that Escambia County Schools have incorporated a 1 year science curriculum that fits into their FCAT needs helping the teachers but also gets the kids excited about science.

f) Mark Shaeffer stated that the Florida Engineering Society is trying to get a science curriculum developed in Okaloosa County Schools similar to that in Escambia County and this may be something that CBA can help with.

g) Mitch Shank suggested that CBA staff try to do things in the classroom that the kids will take home and tell their parents to get them involved as well. He said we need to focus on educating people about the local environment who will persuade their counties and cities to continue to partner with CBA.

#### **7. New CBA Logo:**

a) Ms. Terrell provided the committee with 6 examples of revised CBA logos incorporating the new NWF State College logo.

b) Al Wenstrand motioned to use the banner at the top of the CBA website for new CBA letterhead.

c) James Ward seconded the motion.

d) The motion to use the website banner as new CBA letterhead was passed unanimously.

e) Mark Shaeffer suggested adding some of the college color into the vertical CBA logos by making the 'panhandle coastline' symbol red.

f) Al Wenstrand recommended using the same font to write 'Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance' and 'Northwest Florida State College' on all of the examples of vertical CBA logos.

g) Ross Hamilton suggested revising the saying 'CBA AT Northwest Florida State College' to 'CBA OF Northwest Florida State College'.

h) Julie Terrell said that she would continue to work with the college graphic services department to make these suggested changes and email out new examples to the committee as soon as possible.

#### **8. Nominating Committee for December Elections:**

a) As CBA Advisory Committee Chairman, Holly Booyse is supposed to select a nominating committee for the 2008 December elections. Since Mrs. Booyse was not present at the meeting, Jerry Najarian motioned to allow Chairman Booyse to appoint this committee when she returns.

- b) Mitch Shank seconded that motion.
- c) Motion was passed unanimously.

**9. Annual Membership Meeting:**

- a) Julie Terrell explained to the advisory committee that the 2008 Annual Membership Meeting will be on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. She has currently reserved the Art Gallery at NWF State College for the reception and the Tyler Recital Hall for the presentation portion of the meeting.
- b) Julie stated that the NWF State College Food Services Department will work with us at this new venue but will charge more for food since the location is farther away from their kitchen.
- c) The committee agreed to this change in venue feeling that it would be a bit more upscale than previous years.
- d) Mitch Shank suggested that we recognize all volunteers present at the meeting and present them with some sort of small gift.

**10. New Business:**

- a) Julie told the committee members that she and Chairman Booyse have been working on a community letter to send to CBA's entire contact list for fundraising purposes. She stated that CBA will include one 2007 community report as well as a CBA brochure in the mail out.
- b) Julie explained that CBA staff is working to update the 2007 Community Report but we haven't decided if we want to print another book or just add pages to the existing one.
- b) The Advisory Committee asked member James Ward to suggest some members of the City of Fort Walton Beach that could serve on the committee. Mr. Ward said he would think about it and get back to them.

**11. Meeting Adjourned:**

- a) Treasurer Hamilton adjourned the advisory committee meeting at 5:05 p.m.