

**RESTORE ACT  
Public Meeting  
September 23, 2014**

**Attendees:** Chris Cowart, Vice-Chairman, School Board Representative  
Leslie Sturmer, Aquaculture  
David Pieklik, Economic Development Representative  
Jolie Davis, Citizen Representative  
Jack Schofield, Citizen Representative  
Bruce Wilson, Tourism Industry Representative  
Richard Streeter, Citizen Representative

Fred Moody, County Coordinator  
Anne Bast Brown, County Attorney  
Bill Williams, Consultant

**Absent:** Ryan Bell, Chairman, Board of County Commissioners  
Marilyn Ladner, Higher Education Institution (college/university)

Vice-Chairman Cowart opened the Committee meeting of the Levy County RESTORE Act Advisory Committee at 3:00p.m. at the Levy County Court House, Vice-Chairman Cowart led the Pledge to the Flag followed by an invocation. Vice-Chairman Cowart called for public comments and there were none. The roll of members was called.

**REPORTING**

Ms. Anne Bast Brown, County Attorney reported that Dr. Richard Streeter had filed a Disclosure of Business Transaction, Relationship or Interest<sup>1</sup> which had been accepted by the Board of County Commissioners. Ms. Brown clarified that Dr. Streeter had to declare his participation on the Withlacoochee Chamber of Commerce and that the Board waived any conflict that may result. Ms. Brown added that Dr. Streeter was allowed to vote on any issue that may come before the Committee on the current projects that have been submitted.

**RESTORE UPDATE**

Ms. Brown said that as of today that the funds available to the County from the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund, otherwise known as the Direct Component or Pot 1, was \$428,837 and with the receipt of the final payment from Transocean the amount will increase to \$546,083. Ms. Brown explained that the interim treasury rules had been released and the comment period has closed and that application for the Pot 1 funds could commence in mid-October, 2014. Ms. Brown said the distribution of funds have been set up as a grant process. Ms. Brown said preliminary grants can be applied for administrative and planning costs and a one time administration cost to process grants. Ms. Brown said it is a detailed process for the auditing and reporting. Ms. Brown said the County must

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<sup>1</sup> Form 4A - Disclosure of Business Transaction, Relationship or Interest

develop a multi-year plan which will require 45 days for public input and then once the multi-year plan is accepted the County can apply for the actual grants. Ms. Brown said the multi-year plan can be amended as needed. Ms. Brown clarified this money is designated to Levy County and cannot be directed to any other entity. Ms. Brown explained the treasury rules do not apply to funds in Pot 2 or Pot 3 which is controlled by the Federal Council. Ms. Brown added the Federal Council has proposed rules which do not appear to allow for costs incurred prior to August 22, 2014. Ms. Brown said these rules affect the funds for the Gulf Consortium and any costs they may have incurred for planning prior to August 22, 2014 and hopefully, the Federal Council will listen to public input and make those costs recoupable.

Ms. Brown said the judge in the federal case has ruled and issued an order in Phase 1 determining liability which includes several different aspects of maritime law, the Clean Water Act and the Oil Protection Act ("OPA"). Ms. Brown said the Clean Water Act is where our funding is from. Ms. Brown said BP's liability will be enhanced by civil penalties for gross and willful negligence adding more money in penalties. Ms. Brown said the fine phase will begin in January, 2015 through the federal court in Louisiana and it will be a very long time before it is known how much money will end up in Pot 1.

### **PROJECT PRESENTATIONS**

Dr. Jackson Sasser, President, Santa Fe College explained the long standing relationship with the University of Florida and Santa Fe College and the marine laboratory on Seahorse Key near Cedar Key. Dr. Sasser said the proposed project fits the mission of the college and is intended to provide an opportunity to educate students and the general public in protecting this environment while making it available to possibly garner a further interest in marine sciences.

Dr. Mark Martindale, Director, Seahorse Key Marine Lab, University of Florida, gave an overview of what is available at Seahorse Key. Dr. Martindale explained he is also the director for the marine lab on the east coast and this is a unique opportunity with marine labs on the east and west coasts of Florida. Dr. Martindale said not only does the lab offer educational advancement for obtaining Ph.D's, it is providing an outstanding educational opportunity for the K-12 students by providing a controlled access to the natural habitat of Seahorse Key. Dr. Martindale introduced his staff which was present and explained what the staff brings to the project.

Dr. Heidi Bannon presented the power point overview of the facilities and how the proposed project would enhance and facilitate the learning opportunities on Seahorse Key. Dr. Bannon said the open houses proposed would allow for greater numbers of the visitors to Cedar Key and residents within Levy County to experience a unique opportunity in exploring the marine laboratory.

Dr. Bannon explained the objective for the project was to provide Open House access days at Seahorse Key to encourage local residents, students and visitors the opportunity to experience Levy County's marine resources. Dr. Bannon added that the proposal is the first phase in a plan to expand access, conservation/science (STEM) education and research at Seahorse and Cedar Keys.

Dr. Bannon said they see anticipated benefits including increased tourism, economic

development, an appreciation of marine life and respect for bird protection during nesting and it is a plan to expand access, conservation/science (STEM) education and research.

Dr. Bannon explained the project plans 8 open houses, with local vendors supplying refreshments, using local boat charters for transportation with an Access Pass Transportation Voucher which could be distributed throughout the local schools and having a pavilion, touch tanks, educational and lab equipment updated and expanded.

Ms. Leslie Sturmer inquired why the project was only limited to a 1 year proposal. Dr. Sasser explained that once the project was instituted it would be easier to obtain additional funding and the laboratory desperately needs refurbishing. Dr. Martindale said the long range plan is to have a facility for students and the public with an established beach head in Cedar Key while providing a research facility close to the college.

Mr. Jack Schofield inquired with the project proposed for 1 year would the University of Florida and Santa Fe College consider a 50-50 match for the project. Dr. Martindale explained the project needs to be established and then the funding would be easier to obtain from the university. Dr. Sasser explained that there is already more than \$119,000 in matching funds and that would double and triple with the usage there.

Dr. Richard Streeter inquired why there were only 8 open houses scheduled and was a limitation on attendance going to be established. Dr. Bannon said the proposal calls to subsidize 100 people per open house. Dr. Martindale said the logistics of holding 8 open houses is limited by the logistics of staffing, setting up displays and that the facility is not open to the public during the nesting season which runs March, April, May and June.

Ms. Joan Sukowski said after the first year of operation there can be funding requests for additional open houses and the easiest aspect is by increasing tourism.

Mr. Bill Williams referenced what was being done by the Pasco County School System and the different pots that funding can be obtained from. Mr. Williams suggested that consideration be given to expand on a larger scale and work on securing matching funds.

Ms. Joan Sukowski explained that she had conversations with Ms. Jennifer Fitzwater of the Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP") and has communicated projects that Santa Fe College is interested in protecting the watershed.

Ms. Jolie Davis said Seahorse Key is a wonderful resource and provides an opportunity to show how science and math can be a career, while noting that the "ghost stories" of Seahorse Key were an aspect students enjoyed.

Mr. David Pieklik said the strategy to interest the younger audience may need utilization of social media.

Ms. Sturmer clarified that the Suwannee River Water Management District has submitted a project for the Big Bend area for the Pot 2 funding for the next deadline with the Levy and Dixie Soil Conservation and the University of Florida has made a recommendation for that project. Ms. Sturmer said a letter of support from the Board of County Commission

for that project would add additional support of the project.

Ms. Brown said she would work with Ms. Sturmer and prepare a resolution of support to be submitted to the Board of County Commissioners.

### **PROJECT SUMMARY REVIEW**

Mr. Bill Williams presented the summation sheet of projects and recommended the Committee review and request direction from the Board of County Commissioners on proceeding with recommending project.

The Committee was informed that another project application had been submitted.

### **MEETING SCHEDULE**

The next meeting of the RESTORE Act Committee was scheduled for Tuesday, October 21, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. and will be at the Levy County Court House, County Commission meeting room.

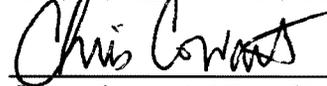
### **MINUTES**

Ms. Jolie Davis moved to approve the minutes of July 29, 2014, second by Mr. Jack Schofield and the motion carried.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments and the meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

**RESTORE ACT COMMITTEE**

  
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Chris Cowart, Vice-Chairman

# FORM 4A DISCLOSURE OF BUSINESS TRANSACTION, RELATIONSHIP OR INTEREST

LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE INITIAL <b>Streeter, Richard B.</b>			OFFICE / POSITION HELD Member of RESTORE Act Advisory Committee - Citizen Representative
MAILING ADDRESS <b>P.O. Box 979</b>			AGENCY OR ADVISORY BOARD <b>Levy County RESTORE Act Advisory Committee</b>
CITY <b>Inglis, FL</b>	ZIP <b>34449</b>	COUNTY <b>Levy</b>	ADDRESS OF AGENCY <b>355 South Court Street, Bronson, FL 32621</b>

### HOW TO COMPLETE AND FILE THIS FORM:

Parts A and B of this form serve two different purposes. Part A is for advisory board members who wish to use an exemption in the ethics laws that is applicable only to advisory board members. Part B is for public officers and employees who wish to use a separate exemption that is applicable when the business entity involved is the sole source of supply within the political subdivision. In order to complete and file this form:

- **Fill out Part A or Part B, as applicable.**
- **Sign and date the form on the reverse side.**
- **File Part A** with the appointing body or person that will be waiving the restrictions of 112.313(3) or (7), Fla. Stat., prior to the waiver.
- **File Part B** with the governing body of the political subdivision in which the reporting person is serving, prior to the transaction.

### PART A - DISCLOSURE OF TRANSACTION OR RELATIONSHIP CONCERNING ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER

#### WHO MUST COMPLETE THIS PART:

Sections 112.313(3) and 112.313(7), Florida Statutes, prohibit certain business relationships on the part of public officers and employees, including persons serving on advisory boards. See Part III, Chapter 112, Florida Statutes, and/or the brochure entitled "A Guide to the Sunshine Amendment and Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees" for more details on these prohibitions. However, Section 112.313(12), Florida Statutes, permits the appointing official or body to waive these requirements in a *particular instance* provided: (a) waiver by the appointing body must be upon a two-thirds affirmative vote of that body; or (b) waiver by the appointing person must be effected after a public hearing; and (c) in either case the advisory board member must fully disclose the transaction or relationship which would otherwise be prohibited by Subsections (3) or (7) of Section 112.313, Florida Statutes. This Part of Form 4A has been prescribed by the Commission on Ethics for such disclosure, *if and when applicable* to an advisory board member.

#### PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

1. The partnership, directorship, proprietorship, ownership of a material interest, position of officer, employment, or contractual relationship which would otherwise violate Subsection (3) or (7) of Section 112.313, Florida Statutes, is held by [please check applicable space(s)]:
  - The reporting person;
  - The spouse of the reporting person, whose name is \_\_\_\_\_; or
  - A child of the reporting person, whose name is \_\_\_\_\_
  
2. The particular transaction or relationship for which this waiver is sought involves [check applicable space]:
  - Supplying the following realty, goods, and/or services: potential contractual relationship where agency may award grant to business entity
  - Regulation of the business entity by the governmental agency served by the advisory board member.
  
3. The following business entity is doing business with or regulated by the governmental agency:  
Withlacoochee Area Chamber of Commerce
  
4. The relationship of the undersigned advisory board member, or spouse or child of the advisory board member, to the business entity transacting this business is [check applicable spaces]:
  - Officer;  Partner;  Associate;  Sole proprietor;  Stockholder;  Director;  Owner of in excess of 5% of the assets or capital stock in such business entity;  Employee;  Contractual relationship with the business entity;
  - Other, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_

**PART B - DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST IN SOLE SOURCE OF SUPPLY**

**WHO MUST COMPLETE THIS PART:**

Sections 112.313(3) and 112.313(7), Florida Statutes, prohibit certain employment and business relationships on the part of public officers and employees. See Part III, Chapter 112, Florida Statutes, and/or the brochure entitled "A Guide to the Sunshine Amendment and Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees" for more details on these prohibitions. However, Section 112.313(12)(e), Florida Statutes, provides an exemption from the above-mentioned restrictions in the event that the business entity involved is the only source of supply within the political subdivision of the officer or employee. In such cases the officer's or employee's interest in the business entity must be fully disclosed to the governing body of the political subdivision. This Part of Form 4A has been prescribed by the Commission on Ethics for such disclosure, *if and when applicable*.

**PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:**

1. The partnership, directorship, proprietorship, ownership of a material interest, position of officer, employment, or contractual relationship which would otherwise violate Subsection (3) or (7) of Section 112.313, Florida Statutes, is held by [please check applicable space(s)]:

- The reporting person;  
 The spouse of the reporting person, whose name is \_\_\_\_\_; or  
 A child of the reporting person, whose name is \_\_\_\_\_

2. The following are the goods, realty, or services being supplied by a business entity with which the public officer or employee, or spouse or child of such officer or employee, is involved is:
- \_\_\_\_\_

3. The business entity which is the only source of supply of the goods, realty, or services within the political subdivision is:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (NAME OF ENTITY)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (ADDRESS OF ENTITY)

4. The relationship of the undersigned public officer or employee, or spouse or child of such officer or employee, to the business entity named in Item 3 above is [check applicable spaces]:

- Officer;  Partner;  Associate;  Sole proprietor;  Stockholder;  Director;  Owner of in excess of 5% of the assets or capital stock in such business entity;  Employee;  Contractual relationship with the business entity;  
 Other, please describe:

**SIGNATURE**

SIGNATURE	DATE SIGNED	DATE FILED
	7/24/14	7/24/14

NOTICE: UNDER PROVISIONS OF FLORIDA STATUTES s. 112.317, A FAILURE TO MAKE ANY REQUIRED DISCLOSURE CONSTITUTES GROUNDS FOR AND MAY BE PUNISHED BY ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING: IMPEACHMENT, REMOVAL OR SUSPENSION FROM OFFICE OR EMPLOYMENT, DEMOTION, REDUCTION IN SALARY REPRIMAND, OR A CIVIL PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000.