# RESTORE ACT Public Meeting January 27, 2015

Attendees: Chris Cowart, Vice-Chairman, School Board Representative

Jolie Davis, Citizen Representative Richard Streeter, Citizen Representative

Marilyn Ladner, Higher Education Institution (college/university)

Leslie Sturmer, Aquaculture

David Pieklik, Economic Development Representative

Fred Moody, County Coordinator Anne Bast Brown, County Attorney

Absent: John Meeks, Board of County Commissioners

Jack Schofield, Citizen Representative

Bruce Wilson, Tourism Industry Representative

Vice-Chairman Cowart opened the Committee meeting of the Levy County RESTORE Act Advisory Committee at 3:10 p.m. at the Levy County Court House, Vice-Chairman Cowart gave the invocation followed by the Pledge to the Flag. Vice-Chairman Cowart called for public comments and there were none. The roll of members was called.

### **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Jolie Davis moved to appoint Chris Cowart as Chairman and Comm. John Meeks as Vice-Chairman, second by David Pieklik and the motion carried.

## **RESTORE UPDATE**

Ms. Brown said there has not been any information concerning the status of the 3<sup>rd</sup> phase of the trial in Louisiana. Ms. Brown said the Board of County Commissioners had received some applications for the grants coordinator but this has been extended for further applications.

Mr. Moody said the Board had amended the qualifications and the close date for application submissions was January 23, 2015. Mr. Moody said interviews would begin next week and they will need to get familiar with the RESTORE Act.

Mr. Moody said that Comm. John Meeks did attend the last Gulf Consortium meeting and there was a recommendation for the smaller counties to form a smaller group to address their issues and proposed projects. Mr. Moody said that Taylor and Dixie counties were not in attendance. Mr. Moody said there have been meetings with Dixie on the plight of the oyster harvesting but not on the RESTORE Act.

Mr. Moody explained that there had been a meeting in Eastpoint concerning the multi-year implementation plan and it appears that counties are waiting to see the end result

BOOK 1 Page 111 the restoration in conjunction with the University of Florida. Ms. Sturmer said these projects will be in competition with the Council and the other gulf states. Ms. Sturmer said this project is not part of the oyster reef project. Ms. Sturmer said congressional representatives need to be lobbied to obtain their support of the project.

## **MINUTES**

Ms. Jolie Davis moved to approve the minutes of October 21, 2014, second by Mr. David Pieklik and the motion carried.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments and the meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

RESTORE ACT COMMITTEE

Chris Cowart, Chairman