

**RESTORE ACT
Public Meeting of July 19, 2016**

Attendees: Chris Cowart, School Board Representative, Chairman
John Meeks, Board of County Commissioners, Vice-Chairman
Rayanne Giddis, Higher Education
Leslie Sturmer, Aquaculture
Jack Schofield, Citizen Representative
Richard Streeter, Citizen Representative

Absent: David Pieklik, Economic Development Representative
Gail Gold, Tourism Industry Representative
Jolie Davis, Citizen Representative

Chairman Cowart opened the Committee meeting of the Levy County RESTORE Act Advisory Committee at 3:05 p.m. at the Levy County Court House. Chairman Cowart said the prayer followed by the Pledge to the Flag. The roll of members was called.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The public had no comments.

RESTORE ACT PROJECTS UPDATE

Ms. Whitehurst explained that there are only 10 projects remaining. Ms. Whitehurst said in calculating the funding requested all 10 projects can be funded over the next 15 years.

Dr. Richard Streeter clarified with Mr. Dan Hilliard, W.A.R., Inc. the funding being requested. Mr. Hilliard said the application had been revised requesting \$75,000 for the Lower Withlacoochee Environmental and Restoration project.

Ms. Whitehurst said that the Treasury is reviewing allowing a bond issue with RESTORE funds for counties and states. Ms. Whitehurst explained there is discussion on the rules and requirements and will report when additional information is received.

Ms. Leslie Sturmer inquired if TransOcean funds could be used to allow the projects to be completed in a shorter period of time.

Ms. Whitehurst said the TransOcean funds were not a part of the calculation as she did not know how those funds were going to be used.

Mr. Jack Schofield suggested moving the smaller projects to the top of the list for funding which could be completed and then proceed to the lengthier projects.

Ms. Whitehurst explained her goal was to fund the projects as ranked and allow the community to see progress was being made. Ms. Whitehurst said the TransOcean funds can not be used until the purchasing procurement policy has been adopted by the Board of County Commissioners.

Ms. Sturmer said the TransOcean funds could fund the first 5 years and this would

move all projects up to an earlier funding possibility.

Comm. John Meeks said with projects being withdrawn he agreed with Mr. Schofield on funding the smaller requests so those projects are completed. Comm. Meeks moved to fund as many projects in the first year as there was funding for and then proceed to the long term projects. Mr. Schofield seconded. Comm. Meeks directed Ms. Whitehurst to prepare a spread sheet with the most projects that could be funded in the first year to the next meeting. Ms. Sturmer requested that the report include how the TransOcean funds could be utilized and the motion carried.

Ms. Whitehurst said at the RESTORE coordinator's meeting it was suggested to write a multi-year plan that works for your county and do an addendum for each project. This would allow for the plan to continue to be implemented without having to amend the plan any time a new project was considered.

MEETING SCHEDULE

The next meetings of the RESTORE Act Advisory Committee will be Thursday, August 18, 2016 instead of Tuesday, August 16, 2016, commencing at 3:00 p.m. in the Board of County Commissioner's meeting room at the Levy County Court House.

GULF CONSORTIUM UPDATE

Comm. John Meeks said there was discussion on the work order to compile projects for the Pot 3 portion of funding. Comm. Meeks said some of the larger counties were having a problem with using some of the funding for procurement assistance. Comm. Meeks said there is \$92,000 allocated for a contract with SEA to review the project submittals and prepare a summation, technical memorandum for submission of the project to the Governor's office for approval.

Comm. Meeks said the separate committees consisting of the 8 counties and 15 counties were abolished and it has helped relations among the counties represented on the Gulf Consortium.

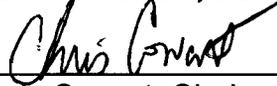
PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

MINUTES

Dr. Streeter moved to approve the minutes of May 17, 2016, seconded by Comm. John Meeks and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

**RESTORE ACT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA**



Chris Cowart, Chairman