



## **AGENDA**

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2016

MEETING

BAY COUNTY RESTORE ACT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
3:00 PM – BAY COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER  
840 WEST 11<sup>TH</sup> STREET, COMMISSION CHAMBERS  
PANAMA CITY, FLORIDA

- A. Call to order and roll call
- B. Approval of minutes (July 19, 2016)
- C. Announcements
- D. Agenda – additions, deletions, changes and acceptance
- E. Public participation (Limited to items on agenda, remarks limited to three (3) minutes)
- F. Update on Gulf restoration topics: Jim Muller, Bay County RESTORE Act Coordinator
- G. Recommendation of projects to be funded with Bay County's allocation of RESTORE Act Spill Impact Component (Pot 3) funds.

Recommendation: The Committee select and recommend to the Bay County Board of County Commissioners projects to be funded with Bay County's allocation of RESTORE Act Spill Impact Component (Pot 3) funds.

Background: The Gulf Consortium, made up of a representative from each of Florida's 23 Gulf coastal counties plus six Governor appointees, is responsible for preparing Florida's State Expenditure Plan for the Spill Impact Component of the RESTORE Act ("Pot 3"). The Consortium voted to allocate the funds evenly for projects in each of the 23 Gulf coastal counties. This equals about \$12 million allocated for projects in each county. According to the BP Deepwater Horizon settlement, Pot 3 funds will be paid in approximately equal amounts over 15 years.

The Consortium has asked each County to identify projects to be funded through the County's allocation. At the September 13, 2016 Consortium meeting, the consultant preparing the State Expenditure Plan will present a summary of projects submitted by the 23 counties.

The Consortium suggests identifying projects with a total cost that exceeds the available Pot 3 funds, with the anticipation of securing matching funds. Projects

likely to attract matching funds include those providing significant, long-lasting impacts, especially to a larger area.

Activities eligible to be funded with Pot 3 funds are the same as for Pot 1 funds (see attachment), with a restriction that the plan may not use more than 25 percent of the funding for infrastructure projects benefitting the economy or ecological resources, or coastal flood protection and related infrastructure. The plan can exceed this 25 percent if the plan certifies that ecosystem restoration needs in the State will be addressed by the projects in the proposed plan and additional investment in infrastructure is required to mitigate the impacts of the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill to the ecosystem or economy.

At its July 19 meeting, the Committee approved a motion for County staff to compile a list of projects related to the water quality and habitat of the bay, meet about the potential projects with groups involved in the health of the bay, and bring a consolidated list of projects back to the Committee in two weeks.

Bay County staff drafted a list of potential Pot 3 projects, and met with environmental groups to receive input and recommendations regarding the potential projects and additional projects.

County staff then sorted the proposed projects into three tiers with descriptions and estimated cost of each project (see spreadsheet and maps in background information for Item G). Tier 1 contains the highest-priority projects. Projects are not ranked within tiers.

H. Meeting schedule

Recommendation: Committee discuss the need for additional meeting dates

I. Public participation (Open to any issues related to the Committee's responsibilities, remarks limited to three (3) minutes)

J. Adjournment

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