

Local Restore Council
April 13, 2015
Milton, Florida

Present: Chairman Lane Lynchard and members Don Salter, Buzz Eddy, Dave Robau, Cal Bodenstein, Tony Alexander, Brian Watkins, Carole Tebay, Also present were the County Administrator (Hunter Walker), County Attorney (Roy Andrews), and County Engineer (Roger Blaylock).

Lynchard moved approval without objection of the March 9, 2015 meeting minutes.

Jeff Helms (Atkins North America Inc.) gave a power point presentation to the Council (Attachment in file). He said April 20, 2015 will be the 5th anniversary of the BP oil spill. Helms said June 8, 2015 is the deadline to file claims with the Deepwater Horizon (BP) Settlement Program. He said on March 25, 2015, he and Rob Williamson attended the Gulf Coast Consortium meeting. Helms further discussed a list of meetings that have taken place since the last Local Restore Council meeting.

Lynchard said he attended a meeting on March 30, 2015 in which Doug Robinson, the head of the consulting organization for the Gulf Consortium, was present. He said Robinson has been meeting with representatives, from all of the counties that are involved in the consortium. Lynchard said in August, there will be a major goal setting meeting for the Gulf Consortium in Tampa.

Helms said the county received 56 project proposals. He discussed his general observations and gave an overview of the proposals received. Helms said there is additional information needed on some of the proposals and Sheila Fitzgerald (Grants Coordinator) has sent correspondence to these applicants. He said April 17th is the deadline for applicants to submit the requested additional information on the proposals. Helms said April 20th packets of information will be distributed to the scoring members so they can begin to review and score the individual projects.

Helms said the Council may want to cancel its regular meeting in May, due to the two project scoring meetings on May 11th and May 18th. He said the goal is to have the team scoring finished and distributed to the Council, by the first of June. Helms said the June 8th meeting will be very critical. He said the chairs for each of the technical review teams will need to be present to address questions regarding the scoring. Helms said he feels the council should plan on at least two meetings to review the scored projects. Eddy asked if the council can meet earlier in the day. Lynchard said the council could meet at 1:00 p.m. in order to give plenty of time to work through two categories.

Walker said staff has asked Cliff Krut to serve on the economic development technical review team. He said staff was not able to work out anything with UWF Haas Center.

Robau asked what constitutes a quorum in regards to the technical review team. Helms said there are alternates. Walker said the goal is to coordinate a time when everyone on the team can be present. Fitzgerald said she has confirmed with each of the individual technical review team members, with the exception of Cliff Krut, that they are available on the dates and times that Walker mentioned earlier. She said at the beginning of the category discussion staff will display the summary scoring by each individual. Fitzgerald said public input will also be welcomed at the end of these meetings.

Tebay said she is unsure how the council will eliminate projects. Lynchard said the council will be provided the technical review teams scoring and will be able to provide input. He said the council is not bound by the technical review teams scoring.

Salter asked when the next round of funding will be available. Helms said Judge Barbeau has got to rule on the trial, first. He said he is hopeful it will be late summer or early fall. Helms said a lot of it is going to depend on BP and the actual fine itself.

Public Forum

Ralph Agnew asked Blaylock if he is going to sit in for questions regarding the review of county projects. He said he is concerned about the public perception. Walker said the grading that is presented will be accountable to the Council and to the public. Lynchard said all of the works that the teams do will come back to the Council, will have public input and will go before the Board of County Commission for approval.

Sonya Negley said she agrees with Agnew. She said it is highly unusual for someone who writes a grant, to score their own grant. Negley said she would caution this Council and Board of Commissioners, moving forward. She said this is not just objective scoring; it is subjective scoring and she feels the Council should be cautious with this. Negley said she does not see anyone on the technical review teams representing Navarre, Gulf Breeze, Midway or Holley. Lynchard said the Council has Tony Alexander from Navarre and Commissioner Rob Williamson also serves on the Board.

Eddy moved approval to schedule the June 8, 2015 meeting to begin at 1:00 p.m. and to cancel the May 11, 2015 Local Restore Council meeting. Watkins seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Lynchard said the schedule will be to cancel the May 11th Local Restore Council meeting. He said the technical review teams will meet May 11th, 18th and any additional days as needed. Lynchard said the Local Restore Council's next meeting will be on June 8, 2015 at 1:00 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, the meeting adjourned.

By: Lane Lynchard, Chairman