



SANTA ROSA COUNTY GRANTS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS

SHEILA FITZGERALD
Grants & Special Projects
Director

6495 Caroline Street, Suite H | Milton, Florida 32570

MEMORANDUM

TO: Tony Gomillion

FROM: Sheila Fitzgerald, Grants & Special Projects Director

DATE: July 1, 2016

SUBJECT: NRDA Artificial Reef Project – Procurement Evaluation Committee Recommendation

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommend board approve individuals listed below to serve on the artificial reef procurement evaluation committee as recommended by the Marine Advisory Committee and staff. FWC concurs with this recommendation.

BACKGROUND

The grant agreement specifies use of a procurement evaluation committee in the ranking of artificial reef materials and deployment proposals. Specifically, the evaluation committee is described as follows:

“...a minimum five (5) person evaluation committee representing Santa Rosa County, representatives from the Commission (FWC), including the Commission’s contract manager, and other qualified individual(s) selected by the Grantee and Commission shall evaluate the proposals”.

All committee members must sign a “Conflict of Interest Statement” form. Members will be expected to conduct an independent review of every proposal and rank their results on a tabulation sheet. Biographies of the following recommended members is attached for review.

- 1) Alex Fogg, FWC Representative (Contract Requirement)
- 2) Michael Schmidt, Santa Rosa County (Project Manager on behalf of the County)
- 3) Chris Verlinde, Santa Rosa County/UF IFAS Sea Grant Agent (Prior FWC reef grant experience)
- 4) Heather Barrineau, Marine Advisory Committee (also represents Navarre Beach Science Station)
- 5) Mike Sandler, Navarre Beach Marine Sanctuary

We anticipate that this committee’s activities will be limited to the near shore fishing/dive reef construction which will be procured in approximately 4-6 months. The procurement process for the snorkel reef, currently being vetted by FWC, will most likely result in one bid; therefore, no evaluation and ranking will be needed.

FUTURE ACTION

Upon receipt of competitive proposals, procurement evaluation committee members will be required to conduct individual rankings of each proposal. The evaluation criteria and ranking point system will be determined through the RFP development process with input from FWC, Taylor Engineering, county staff and interested stakeholders. Taylor Engineering will serve in a technical capacity to assist evaluation committee members with evaluation and ranking.

Alex Fogg, Fisheries Biologist IV is the current Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Division of Marine Fisheries Management Artificial Reef Program contract manager for Florida's Natural Resource Damage Assessment Northwest Florida Artificial Reef construction grant agreements. Alex holds a Bachelor's of Science from the University of South Carolina in Marine Science and will be completing his Masters of Science from the University of Southern Mississippi in Coastal Sciences in the near future. Alex has a strong background in field work including scuba diving and experimental design. With this experience, Alex has dived a large number of artificial reef designs throughout the region and will provide a unique perspective to this project. Alex has also been involved in a number of artificial reef monitoring and construction projects in the state of Mississippi with Mississippi Gulf Fishing Banks inc., a non-profit that collaborates with Mississippi Department of Marine Resources to oversee artificial reef activity in the state. In addition to Alex's expertise in the field, he recently received his Certified Contract Manager training and will use this to ensure proper procurement practices are followed.

Michael Schmidt P.E., Assistant County Engineer, Santa Rosa County

Michael holds a Bachelor's of Science from the University of South Florida in Civil Engineering and has been a Registered Professional Engineer, in the State of Florida since 1994. Michael has worked with Santa Rosa County Engineering for 13 years with a strong background in engineering design, project management, county procurement, preparing technical specifications and evaluations of vendor proposals. During his county career Michael has worked on the Navarre Beach renourishment project, Navarre Beach snorkel and dive reefs and numerous NPDES, FEMA, FAA and NRDA projects.

Christina Verlinde, Florida Sea Grant Extension, University of Florida/IFAS

With the University of Florida and Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Chris has worked as an environmental professional for 20 years. Duties have included research and education responsibilities. As the Florida Sea Grant Agent in Santa Rosa County, Florida. Her program includes planning, development and implementation of marine resource management and education programs. This is done by conducting issue-based educational programs through workshops, classes, community events, conferences, publications and electronic media. Chris worked with county staff on the project and grant development process and deployment of the SRC artificial reef Marine Resort projects 1-IV. In addition, she has worked with FWC staff to coordinate state and regional artificial reef workshops.

Heather Barrineau, Biologist, Navarre Beach Marine Science Station.

Heather holds a Bachelor's of science degree from the University of West Florida. She is a REEF certified Eco-diver who has been trained in reef surveying. As a biologist focusing on conservation within Northwest Florida marine ecosystems, her knowledge will provide a unique perspective on this project. While working as an undergrad at the University of West Florida, she gained extensive field and lab experience studying water quality and monitoring local water systems by working alongside Dr. Jane Caffrey. Heather has also been appointed to serve on the Santa Rosa County Marine Advisory Committee by District IV commissioner Rob Williamson where she aids in decision making on local marine issues. As a passionate environmental enthusiast she regularly snorkels the Gulf side artificial reefs off of Navarre Beach and has observed their growth and change over the years.

Michael Sandler, Chief Master Sergeant (Retired) USAF

Michael is currently the President of the Navarre Chamber Foundation, and the Chairman Elect of the Navarre Chamber of Commerce. He has lived in Navarre since 1991 and has been involved with every facet of the Navarre Beach Marine Sanctuary and Artificial Reef project since its inception. His Military background consisted of 31 years active duty in special operations, rescue and recovery, and retired as

the Chief Diver of Air Force Special Operations Command. He has been diving since 1975, qualifications include USN Second Class Diver, Naval Special Warfare closed circuit diver and Diving Supervisor. He has conducted numerous dive recovery operations and participated locally in University of West Florida Underwater Archeology projects. He is an Eco-Diver through Reef Check, certified in Substrate, Invertebrate, and Fish Identification and has participated in reef monitoring scientific expeditions in the Caribbean. Recently he was selected through a nation-wide search to join the Bent Prop Project to search for WWII MIAs in the Pacific, the majority of that involved underwater operations. He is a PADI Dive Master with over 2500 SCUBA dives and approximately 2000 hours underwater. Through his extensive diving history and travels, he has vast first-hand knowledge of both natural and artificial reefs and the undersea environment.

ATTACHMENT F

FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

STATEMENT REGARDING CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

(287.057, F.S.)

FWC Agreement No. FWC-15154

GRANTEE RFP No. _____

I _____ hereby certify that while I have taken part in the development or selection of criteria for evaluation, in the evaluation, and/or in the award processes for the above referenced contract, I am independent of and have no conflict of interest in the entities evaluated and selected.

(Signature)

(Date)