

**Gulf County RESTORE Advisory Committee (RAC)**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Gulf County Emergency Operations Center (EOC), Port St. Joe, Florida**  
**May 3, 2016, 3:00 p.m.**

**Attendees:**

Warren Yeager – Gulf County RESTORE Coordinator  
Joanna Bryan – Gulf County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) – District 3  
Sherry Herring - Gulf County Clerk of the Court Office  
\*Guerry Magidson – Gulf County Chamber of Commerce  
\*Pat Hardman – Coastal Community Association (CCA)  
Lynn Lanier – Gulf County Deputy Administrator  
\*Dewey Blaylock - Gulf County Businessman/Environmental Issue Interest  
Gerald Thompson – North Florida Child Development  
Wes Locher – The Star (newspaper)  
Stella Wilson – Dewberry  
Rick Harter – Ecology & Environment, Inc.  
\* Denotes official RAC Member

**Minutes:**

- Meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Gulf County RESTORE Coordinator W. Yeager.
- S. Wilson gave a brief presentation about the status of the Draft Multi Year Implementation Plan (MYIP) process for Gulf County (the County), and highlighted the following points:
  - Draft MYIP is open for public comments until May 27<sup>th</sup>.
  - Anticipated funding available right now is as follows:
    - \$2.89M TransOcean; and
    - \$450K Anadarko.
  - The 1<sup>st</sup> BP payment of approximately \$1M will occur in April 2017.
  - Annual payments will continue for 15 years.
  - Gulf County is now on step 5 of 5 to complete the MYIP.
- S. Wilson then reviewed the required components of the MYIP.
- There have been two proposed changes to the draft MYIP since the RAC last met:
  1. SJP Feeder Beach project was renamed (for ease of understanding) and the amount was changed from \$660K to \$1M; and
  2. The Land Acquisition Project cost was reduced from \$720K to \$380K.
- W. Yeager and P. Hardman explained the rationale for these changes: the budget amounts were changed to take advantage of available cost-share funds from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for the beach nourishment project.
- The County is searching for available parcels for public beach access to increase the state cost-share percentage, but none of the available parcels have deeded beach access.

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- W. Yeager explained the challenging time constraints for the beach nourishment project, including sea turtle nesting season, as well as the 90-day processing period for the U.S. Treasury to approve the MYIP.
- D. Blaylock stated that the bike path project initially came up as a proposed project four years ago and indicated that the State Park is making this their top priority.
- S. Wilson explained the next steps in the process, including the following:
  - Public Comment period ends on May 27<sup>th</sup>.
  - Public comments will be incorporated in the MYIP, including changes discussed today.
  - BOCC to review/approve final MYIP on June 21<sup>st</sup> (moved up from June 28th, per L. Lanier).
  - Submit MYIP to the U.S. Treasury on June 22nd (if approved by the BOCC on June 21st).
  - Treasury to review/approve MYIP by around October 1st (up to three months).
  - Draft/submit individual grant applications (up to six months).
  - Projects begin in April 2017.
- W. Yeager suggested that the time during the final approval of the MYIP can be used to secure the stated match funds for the various projects.
- P. Hardman inquired about the relative status of Gulf County in the MYIP process compared to other counties.
- W. Yeager said that Gulf County is ahead of most other counties in Florida.
- W. Yeager asked everyone to submit public comments to him or S. Wilson.
- P. Hardman said that her group (CCA) would likely be submitting positive comments.
- S. Wilson said that Treasury is interested in public comments as a major part of their review.
- W. Yeager expressed his appreciation for everyone's participation in the process and serving on the RAC.
- S. Herring inquired about the timing of the grant agreements and wondered if they could be staggered so that they all didn't start at exactly the same time.
- S. Wilson said that there would probably be enough flexibility, since the grant applicants will define the project schedules. The only time constraint that she knew of was the maximum of 5 years.
- W. Yeager and L. Lanier said that the County has already been audited, so that should not slow things down.
- W. Yeager stated that the County will likely not want to do grant sub-recipients, due to the large workload associated with grant administration and oversight.
- P. Hardman said that the CCA will be having its annual meeting on June 25<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. and would like W. Yeager to provide an update at that event on the MYIP. She expects 100-150 attendees.
- The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.