

RESTORE ACT ADVISORY COMMITTEE, PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA

ANNOTATED MINUTES

APRIL 16, 2018

**PREPARED IN THE OFFICE OF
PAULA S. O'NEIL, CLERK & COMPTROLLER**

**THE MINUTES WERE PREPARED IN AGENDA ORDER
AS PUBLISHED AND NOT IN THE ORDER
IN WHICH THE ITEMS WERE HEARD**

6:00 P.M.

**WEST PASCO GOVERNMENT CENTER, BOARD ROOM, 1ST FLOOR
8731 CITIZENS DRIVE, NEW PORT RICHEY, FLORIDA 34654**

Committee Members:

Jack Mariano, Board of County Commissioners
Kathryn Starkey (Alternate), Board of County Commissioners
Cynthia Armstrong, School Board Representative
Dr. Lisa Richardson, College/University Representative - **ABSENT**
David Sumpter, Science or Fisheries Representative
Vacant, Job Creation Industry Representative
Tari Mitchell, Pasco Economic Development Council Representative
Kristin Tonkin, Tourism Representative
Bob Robertson, Citizen Representative
Bruce Mills, West Pasco Chamber of Commerce Representative - **ABSENT**

Staff: Mr. Curtis Franklin, RESTORE Act Program Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mariano called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

**INVOCATION
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Ms. Amanda Damming, Deputy Clerk, gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Ms. Damminger called the roll. All members were present, with the exception of Dr. Richardson and Mr. Mills.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Mark Butler of the Pasco County School Board spoke regarding additional available funds, the funding of existing projects, the ability to introduce new project ideas, and the desire to be mindful of the effects of current projects on the County.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Minutes from November 3, 2016 RESTORE Meeting for Approval

The Committee approved the minutes from the November 3, 2016 RESTORE meeting.

2. Update on RESTORE Projects and Funding Availability

Mr. Curtis Franklin, RESTORE Act Program Manager, spoke regarding the State expenditure plan, a future timeline for its implementation, the completion of the Orange Lake dredging project, the waterfront revitalization of Port Richey, dredging for the Channel 19 area, the preparation of the project's bid package, the anticipated start date, that the City of Port Richey met its match requirement, the approval of the SunWest grant, Parks and Recreation input concerning the SunWest project, a timeline for the School Board restoration project, plans for Pot 3 funds, Pot 3 project costs, future available funds, current funding allocations, and the remaining amount of funds after allocations.

Discussion followed regarding where the public could view the expenditure plan.

This item was for information only. No action was taken.

3. Discussion on How to Approach and Allocate Future RESTORE Funds

Mr. Curtis Franklin, RESTORE Act Program Manager, spoke regarding the ability to select new projects for fund allocation and small projects versus large projects.

Discussion followed regarding which funding pots could be used; the desire of the Board of County Commissioners to consider dredging more carefully; a dredging professional who studied the channels; a potential increase in boating fees; support from boaters; whether channels would be dredged in front of residents' homes; whether homeowners should share the cost of dredging; the reduction of costs since the initial estimate; the creation of a small island from dredging spoils; exponential growth; the need for boating access and marina space; a machine for the County to dredge itself; the optimal location for small islands; sea grass concerns of the Environmental Protection Agency; the desire for more internal involvement; a boat launch in Port Richey; the removal of Durney Key by the Army Corps of Engineers; the need for a long-term plan; that the funding's purpose and the removal of sea grass could be considered counter-intuitive; sea grass was not easy to recreate; projects to mitigate the grass removal; whether the County's purchase of a dredging machine would be financially advantageous; the need for permits; whether RESTORE funds could be bonded; the effect of dredging on property values; the viability of communities that had been dredged; whether dredging payments would be treated like a paving assessment; revenue projections; the potential for a special local bill to use boating fees for dredging; funding for a boat launch in Port Richey; the desire to primarily focus on dredging; the need for boat access; prop scars; the reuse of spoils; the necessary depth to make sea grass thrive; the desire to see more data before a decision was rendered; the purview of the Committee; the desire to review the Pot 1 project list; the desire to engage the public; a septic to sewer project; the next RESTORE Act Advisory Committee meeting; the potential to bond funds; funding for the septic to sewer project; the Crews Lake Park project; the conversion of waste water into drinkable water; water conservation; the re-hydration of Crews Lake Park; the allocation of Pot 3 funds; the CERN project; Pot 3 projects; the consideration of small versus large projects; and project price floors.

The Committee approved to consider projects that were already ranked, potentially open the list to new projects, consider Port Richey as an expansion of the dredging project, consider the inclusion of the septic to sewer project to the Holiday Hills project, and a price floor of \$250,000.

Discussion followed regarding a previous motion; change in project costs; the distribution of project listings and materials; the update of the County website; terms of the Sunshine Law; and the need for public engagement.

There was no further public comment.

Chairman Mariano thanked the Committee and Staff.

ADJOURN

The Committee adjourned at 7:20 p.m.



RESTORE ACT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 16, 2018

Office of Paula S. O'Neil, Clerk & Comptroller

Prepared By: *Amanda Damming*
Amanda Damming, Records Clerk I
Board Records Division

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Kathryn Starkey (Alternate), Board of County Commissioners
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Dr. Lisa Richardson, College/University Representative
David Sumpter, Science or Fisheries Representative
Tari Mitchell, Job Creation Industry Representative
Bill Cronin, Pasco Economic Development Council Representative
Kristin Tonkin, Tourism Representative
Bob Robertson, Citizen Representative
Bruce Mills, West Pasco Chamber of Commerce Representative

RESTORE ACT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

April 16, 2018

6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

West Pasco Government Center, Boardroom, 1st Floor
8731 Citizens Drive, New Port Richey, Florida 34654

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC COMMENT

Citizens are given the opportunity to comment on any proposition coming before the Committee during Public Comment. The Committee also takes Public Comment on Items places on a future RESTORE Act Advisory Committee agenda.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

Minutes from November 3, 2016 RESTORE Meeting for Approval

Update on RESTORE Projects and Funding Availability

Discussion on how to approach and allocate future RESTORE funds.

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURN

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Within two working days of your receipt of this notice, please contact the Zoning/Code Compliance Division, West Pasco Government Center, 8731 Citizens Drive, New Port Richey, FL 34654; (727)-847-8110 (v) in New Port Richey; (352)-521-4274, Ext. 8110 (v) in Dade City and via 1-800-955-8771 if you are hearing impaired.