



Board of Directors Meeting

August 28, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. CT

Escambia County Commission Chambers

221 Palafox Place, Pensacola, FL 32502

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Approval of Board Agenda

Recommend the Board approve the August 28, 2024, meeting agenda.

4. Approval of July 24, 2024, Board Minutes

Recommend the Board approve the July 24, 2024, meeting minutes.

5. Action Items

a. Approval of FY 2024-25 PPBEP Community Grant Program Project Proposals

Recommend the Board accept the Community Grant Review Committee's recommended project slate for the FY 2024-25 PPBEP Community Grant Program, in the amount of \$200,000, and authorize the Executive Director to execute grant agreements with each grantee.

b. Ratifying Approval of a Contract with Jacobs Engineering Group Inc., in the amount of \$1,227,492, for P2324-01 Pensacola Bay System Oyster Restoration Initiative Design and Permitting Services

Recommend the Board ratify approval of a contract with Jacobs Engineering Group Inc., in the amount of \$1,227,492 for P2324-01 Pensacola Bay System Oyster Restoration Initiative Design and Permitting Services.

6. Board Updates

7. Public Comment

8. Adjourn



Agenda Item 5.a.

Approval of FY 2024-25 PPBEP Community Grant Program Project Proposals

Background: Funded through PPBEP's annual Legislative Appropriation, the Community Grant Program is now in its fifth year of operation. To date, the Community Grant Program has awarded \$975,000 across 36 projects, ranging from research to education to restoration.

For FY24-25, \$200,000 has been allocated to the Community Grant Program from PPBEP's annual Legislative Appropriation. PPBEP issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) on June 24th with submittals due on August 2nd. The RFP was announced through a press release, newsletter, website, and PPBEP social media channels. The RFP outlines specific categories, selection criteria, eligibility, etc. As in years past, the award floor was set at \$10,000 and award ceiling at \$50,000.

Eleven applications were submitted. The Review Committee convened on August 23rd to rank and recommend applications to the Board for award. The Review Committee was comprised of the following individuals: Rick O'Connor (Florida SeaGrant), Naisy Dolar (Santa Rosa County), Paul Looney (Technical Committee Chair; WRA), Bethanne Edwards (Education and Outreach Committee; Innisfree Hotels), Christian Wagley (Healthy Gulf), Kyle Buck (EPA), and PPBEP staff in an advisory capacity.

By unanimous consent, the Review Committee recommended six applications for Board approval. Those projects and amounts are enclosed below. These six projects will advance actions in PPBEP's Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP), Comprehensive Monitoring Strategy, and Education and Outreach Strategy.

Recommendation: Recommend the Board accept the Community Grant Review Committee's recommended project slate for the FY 2024-25 PPBEP Community Grant Program, in the amount of \$200,000, and authorize the Executive Director to execute grant agreements with each grantee.

Financial Impact: This action will encumber \$200,000 in the Grant Account and is funded through Florida DEP Agreement No. L0099.

Legal Review: N/A



Agenda Item 5.b.

Ratifying Approval of a Contract with Jacobs Engineering Group Inc., in the amount of \$1,227,492, for P2324-01 Pensacola Bay System Oyster Restoration Initiative Design and Permitting Services

Background: At the May 15th Board Meeting, the Board authorized the Executive Director to negotiate and execute a contract with Jacobs Engineering Group Inc., subject to Board ratification, for P2324-01 Pensacola Bay System Oyster Restoration Initiative Design and Permitting Services. The Executive Director and staff have worked with Jacobs to come to agreement on a fair and best price for the proposed scope of work. The base services contract value is \$1,227,492. \$500,806 has been identified as optional additional services, if needed. Base services are funded through the NOAA Transformational Habitat Grant, in the amount of \$850,000, and Florida DEP Grant Agreement No. OWP02, in the amount of \$377,492. Should additional services be required, staff will bring a Change Order to the Board for approval.

The Pensacola Bay Oyster Restoration Initiative establishes a transformational vision to restore 600-hectares (1,482 acres, the size of approximately 1,482 football fields) of oyster habitat in the Pensacola Bay System over the next ten years to enhance ecosystem resilience, rebuild a sustainable fishery, and improve economic vitality. The Oyster Restoration Initiative and vision to restore 600-hectares of oyster habitat is a key objective in the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan.

PPBEP issued solicitation #P2324-01 Pensacola Bay System Oyster Restoration Initiative Design and Permitting Services Request for Qualifications (RFQ) on December 12, 2023. The solicitation closed on January 26, 2024. The solicitation was properly noticed on PPBEP's website, newsletter, social media, and several distribution lists. Seven firms responded.

The Selection/Review Committee shortlisted five firms on March 7, 2024. Interviews were held with the shortlisted firms between April 15 and April 16, 2024. The final ranking and selection meeting was held on April 16, 2024. The rank order adopted by the Committee ranked the firms in the following order: #1 Jacobs, #2 Freese and Nichols, #3 ESA, #4 JMT, and #5 Anchor.

The Committee is comprised of Matt Posner, Whitney Scheffel, Kent Smith (FWC), Zach Schang (DEP), and Katie Konchar (The Nature Conservancy, with Anne Birch as an alternate).

Recommendation: Recommend the Board ratify approval of a contract with Jacobs Engineering Group Inc., in the amount of \$1,227,492 for P2324-01 Pensacola Bay System Oyster Restoration Initiative Design and Permitting Services.

Financial Impact: This action will encumber \$1,227,492 in the Grant Account and is funded through NOAA Cooperative Agreement No. NA23NMF4630079 and Florida DEP Grant Agreement No. OWP02.

Legal Review: General Counsel has reviewed and approved of the contract.