



Mobile Bay NEP

Financial Committee Meeting Minutes

International Trade Center and virtually via Zoom Meetings

Monday, June 13th, 2023 at 1:30PM



In attendance

Chip Brown
Lynne Chronister
Jennifer Denson
Dana Foster-Allen
Donna Givens
Ralph Hellmich
Chris Lee
Jimmy Lyons
Patti McCurdy
Beth Thomas

Minutes

Jennifer Denson called the meeting to order at 1:32PM.

Chris Lee and Lynne Chronister both reported trouble hearing the audio on the virtual format. He MBNEP has been trying new technologies to conduct hybrid meetings, and there are certain learning curves and growing pains.

Jimmy Lyons moved to approve the minutes, the motion was approved.

Jennifer Denson announced that Helene Hassell has resigned as co-chair of the committee. New elections are upcoming in September, so an interim is not critical.

The first item on the agenda is the Memorandum of Understanding with Baldwin County. This has been in development with Ron Cink and Roberta, though Ron Cink has now left employment with the county. Jennifer recommended the MOU be tabled until the new Baldwin County admin is contacted.

Per Roberta, the advantage of an MOU is that the MBNEP wouldn't have to go back every single year asking for money, but to instead get 5-year commitments. That doesn't need to be implemented till after the new CCMP. We do have an MOU with the State of Alabama, and Roberta challenges Patti McCurdy to make that a 5-year commitment. The motion to table the MOU for later was approved.

New Business

Match Budget Projection was the first item of new business. State appropriation is \$100,000, MOU for ADCNR is \$90,000. Baldwin and Mobile counties both \$75,000. Roberta believes these numbers are very solid.

MBNEP budgets the work plan and is using the total \$507,000 in that budget. To get money from local governments we have to continue communicating our value, especially for those who haven't given us money before.

EPA Section 320 Reprogramming of Funds shows how money has been moved around for the next two years and categories have been condensed. Needed to fill gap in next two years before new CCMP. Each line item was presented. A motion was made to recommend this reprogramming to the Executive Committee and passed unanimously.

EPA Section 320 2024 Annual Budget represents the budget for next year and includes much of the same costs as in the reprogram, though it includes management, administration, and salaries, as well as specific projects. The projects were presented line by line. There was brief discussion on the frustrations of municipalities managing ADA beach mats, as they depend on public works management. A motion to approve the budget for recommendation to the executive committee was made and passed unanimously.

Other

We are completely rewriting the entire CCMP. Part of that is reviewing and rewriting the by-laws that guide the program. The by-laws committee is asking very basic questions, such as what is the management conference? What are management conference members? How do we replace co-chairs? This is being done thoughtfully and with a lot of research.

For finance committee, do we definite permanent seats for the Finance Committee, such as PEP executive, or maybe the finance directors of Mobile and Baldwin counties? The Executive Committee has co-chairs defined by station. The GNC chairs are selected by the county commissioners. Email Roberta with any thoughts on this election for FC.

Jimmy Lyons noted that it was important to find a co-chair that was active, that participated, that wanted to do the job. Jennifer Denson noted that her successor might not be as engaged. Roberta said that it would be our job to make the committee chairs active.

Roberta will send out an email with an overview of these thoughts on who should be co-chairs seeking input. The goal is to have the rules and committees solidly established by 2025 for the next CCMP, to better sustain and manage the organization.

The meeting adjourned at 2:23.