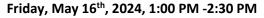


# Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Finance Committee Meeting Zoom





#### **Meeting Minutes**

#### **Attendees**

Lynne Chronister, University of South Alabama

Jimmy Lyons, Mobile Port (RET)

Chris Lee, J.L. Bedsole Foundation

Patti McCurdy, ADCNR State Lands

**MBNEP Staff Present** 

Roberta Swann Bethany Hudson

Cody Aloi

## Key Takeaways:

Approve EPA Section 320 and BIL Year 4 workplans

#### 1. Call to Order

Patti McCurdy initiated the meeting by welcoming everyone and suggesting a run-through of the agenda items.

#### 2. Approval of Minutes

Patti McCurdy moved to approve the minutes from the April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024 meeting. Lynne Chronister made a motion to approve the minutes, and Chris Lee seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

## 3. Directors Report

Roberta Swann asked Cody Aloi to provide an overview of the annual work plans.

- **Estuary Status and Trends** Discussed the pathogen detection K9 program, which will use trained dogs to detect harmful pathogens in waterways and reduce traditional testing costs.
- **Ecosystem Restoration and Protection** Funding will support projects like the creation of a passive park in Africatown and ADA access points in Locations to be determined.
- **Technical Assistance and Capacity Building-** Funds will be used in collaboration with the Innovation Portal to initiate a "community resilience challenge" and support volunteer water quality monitoring through Alabama Water Watch.
- **Education and Public Involvement-** Funding will support newsletters, watershed signage, videos, community events, and management conference support.
- Management and Program Administration- The Funds will cover operation costs and indirect charges to the Dauphin Island Sea Lab, as well as the development of the next CCMP.

#### Inquiries

Patti McCurdy and other attendees expressed interest in the pathogen detection K9 program.
 Cody and Roberta Swann provided additional details about the project's background and implementation.

### 4. Approval of Work Plans

The committee discussed and approved each section, with Lynne Chronister making a motion to approve and Chris seconding. The work plans were approved unanimously.

#### 5. Old Business

Roberta Swann mentioned the strategic planning and cost avoidance vs. return on investment analysis suggested by Chris Lee would be addressed in the next meeting.

## 6. New Business

No new business

## 7. Announcements

Patti McCurdy announced that a Doodle poll would be sent out to schedule the next Finance Committee meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:51 PM.