



**Gulf Consortium Executive Committee
Conference Call Agenda
Monday, June 2, 2014 3:00 pm ET / 2:00 pm CT
Dial-in Number: 1-888-670-3525
Participant Passcode: 9984495298#**

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment
3. Minutes Approval
4. Financial Report
5. Notice of Meeting as published in Florida Administrative Register
6. Review of June 20, 2014 Gulf Consortium Meeting Agenda
 - a. Roles Discussion including Funding Options and Implementation Options
7. New Business
8. Meeting Schedule for 2014
 - a) June – Friday, June 20th 10:00am-12:00noon EST– Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek – in conjunction with FAC Annual Conference
 - b) July – Open
 - c) August - Thursday, August 7th 9:30am-12:00noon CST– Pensacola – in conjunction with FAC Board Retreat
 - d) September - Wednesday, September 17th 9:30am-12:00noon CST – Walton County – in conjunction with FAC Policy Conference
 - e) October - Open
 - f) November - Open
 - g) December - Wednesday, December 3rd 9:30am-12:00noon EST - St. John’s County – in conjunction with FAC Legislative Conference
9. Public Comment
10. Adjourn

**Gulf Consortium Executive Committee Conference Call
June 2, 2014
Agenda Item # 4**

Statement of Issue or Executive Summary: At previous Gulf Consortium meetings, a request was made, and approved by Directors, that financial status reports are provided at each Gulf Consortium meeting.

Background: Gulf Consortium member counties have contributed to the operation of the Consortium during this transition phase of establishment.

Analysis: The sheets below provide a recap of revenue and expenses to date compared to budget.

Options:

- 1) Approve a motion to accept the financial reports as presented.
- 2) Provide other direction.

Fiscal Impact: None.

Recommendation: Approve a motion that approves financial reports.

Division and Staff Person's Name: Doug Darling, Florida Association of Counties.

Moved _____; Seconded_____.

Action: Approved____; Approved as amended____; Defeated_____.

Gulf Consortium
Adopted Budget to Actual
October 1, 2013 -April 30, 2014

	<u>FY14 Budget</u>	<u>FY14 Year To Date Actual</u>
Revenues		
Interim County Funding	140,053.00	104,970.00
Interest Income	-	14.81
Total Revenues	140,053.00	104,984.81
Disbursements		
Consulting-Administration	60,000.00	30,000.00
Consulting-Legal & Expenses	60,000.00	-
Meeting and Travel Expense	8,000.00	3,993.20
Miscellaneous	1,000.00	-
Audit Expense	3,000.00	3,000.00
Grant Writer Expense	7,500.00	-
Total Disbursements	139,500.00	36,993.20
Revenues Over (under) Disbursements	553.00	67,991.61

**Cash Basis of Accounting for Interim Reporting*

Gulf Consortium
Cash Flows Statement
October 1, 2013 -April 30, 2014

Beginning Cash Balance	<i>9/30/2013</i>		32,080.87
Deposits- FY13 FAC Contribution		2,634.50	
Deposits- FY14 County Funding		104,970.00	
Deposits- Interest		14.81	
Net Cash Provided			107,619.31
Expenses- FY 13 Expenses		(18,494.24)	
Expenses- FY 14 Expenses		(36,993.20)	
Net Cash Used			(55,487.44)
Ending Cash Balance	<i>4/30/2014</i>		84,212.74

**Gulf Consortium
Expense Register Detail
October 1, 2013 to April 30, 2014**

Check #	Payee	Date	Total Amount	FY2014 Expense					FY2013 Expense				Description		
				Consult-Admin	Consult-Legal	Meeting & Travel	Misc	Audit	Consult-Admin	Consult-Legal	Meeting & Travel	Misc			
1026	FL Dept of State	10/09/13	43.70								43.70				FY2013 EXP: Meeting Notice Sept 11, 2013
1027	FL Dept of State	10/30/13	50.16								50.16				FY2013 EXP: Meeting Notice Sept 25, 2013
1028	FL Dept of State	10/30/13	92.53			92.53									Meeting Notice Oct 17, 2013 \$48.07, Meeting Notice Oct 18, 2013 \$44.46
1029	FAC	10/30/13	16,400.36							15,000.00	3,400.36				FY2013 EXPENSE: 7/13-Apr13 \$15000 Consult, \$11 \$380.96 DD Travel, \$11 \$386.48 DD Travel, \$25 \$1816.64 Fac Ann Con Travel, \$7 \$816.31 DR DC Travel
1030	FL Dept of State	12/05/13	43.13			43.13									Meeting Notice Nov 6, 2013
1031	VOID														VOIDED CHECK
1032	FL Dept of State	01/15/14	48.45			48.45									Meeting Notice Dec 4, 2013
1033	FL Dept of State	02/06/14	45.22			45.22									Meeting Notice Jan 17, 2014
1034	FAC	02/06/14	5,852.96	5,000.00		852.96									Oct 13 Consulting and Expenses (\$5000 & 852.96)
1035	FAC	02/26/14	17,630.84	15,000.00		2,630.84									Nov, Dec & Jan Consulting \$15000, Meeting @ Annual - \$1284.21, Travel - Nov \$272.86, Dec - \$192.33, Jan - \$901.40
1036	City of Tallahassee	03/11/14	191.53			191.53									Room Rental 3/25/14
1037	FL Dept of State	03/11/14	48.64			48.64									Meeting Notice February 28 2014
1038	VOID														VOIDED CHECK
1039	FL Dept of State	03/25/14	39.60			39.60									Meeting Notice March 13, 2014
1040	FAC	03/24/14	5,000.00	5,000.00											February Consulting
1041	FAC		5,000.00	5,000.00											March Consulting
1042	Law Redd Cross Monroe	04/29/14	3,000.00				3,000.00								Consulting - Audit
TOTAL EXPENSES			35,487.44	30,000.00	-	3,983.30	-	3,000.00	15,000.00	-	3,494.24	-	-	-	

Gulf Consortium Executive Committee Conference Call
June 2, 2014
Agenda Item # 6 & 6.a

Statement of Issue or Executive Summary: The proposed agenda for the June 20, 2014 Gulf Consortium Meeting at Bonnet Creek is below, provided for discussion. Additionally, previous Gulf Consortium agenda items have been dedicated to the Consortium's Vision and Roles. As a continuing item of discussion, two white papers have been developed to facilitate refinement of options.

Background: Consortium Staff have incorporated past discussions and current knowledge into both of the included white papers. Summaries of each:

- Funding Options for State Expenditure Plan Development. The RESTORE Act requires a State Expenditure Plan (SEP) be developed to be eligible for funding under the Oil Spill Restoration Impact Allocation, commonly referred to as "*Pot 3*" or "*Bucket 3*". In Florida, the RESTORE Act further directs..."a consortia of local political subdivisions that includes at a minimum 1 representative of each affected county" will be responsible for the SEP. It is the intent of this paper to lay out options for the Gulf Consortium to fund the SEP development.
- Implementation Options for the State Expenditure Plan. The RESTORE Act is silent on whom or how the State Expenditure Plan will be implemented. It is the intent of this paper to lay out options for implementation of the SEP.

Analysis: The included white paper options are current as of this date and are provided for discussion. As additional information becomes available, the Consortium should refine the options or analyze new opportunities.

Options: n/a

Fiscal Impact: None.

Recommendation: Provided for discussion.

Division and Staff Person's Name: Doug Darling, Florida Association of Counties

Gulf Consortium Agenda
June 20, 2014 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon (EST)
Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek
14100 Bonnet Creek Resort Lane
Orlando, FL 32821

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge
3. Public Comment
4. Consent Agenda
 - a) Minutes Approval
 - b) List of Directors/Alternates/Governor's Appointees
 - c) Financial Report
 - d) Notice of Meeting as published in the Florida Administrative Register
5. Tourism Marketing Presentation (VISIT Florida)
6. Gulf Fisheries Presentation (Mr. Luiz Barbieri, Fish and Wildlife Research Institute)
7. Debbie Harker, US Treasury Inspector General
8. Chair Request for Resolution(s)
9. Staff Update
 - a. Legal (Special District)
 - b. Legislative (Sarah)
10. Status Invitation to Negotiate (ITN)
11. Roles Discussion including Funding Options and Implementation Options
12. Public Comment
13. Meeting Schedule for 2014

- a) July – Open
- b) August - Thursday, August 7th 9:30am-12:00noon CST– Pensacola – in conjunction with FAC Board Retreat
- c) September - Wednesday, September 17th 9:30am-12:00noon CST – Walton County – in conjunction with FAC Policy Conference
- d) October - Open
- e) November - Open
- f) December - Wednesday, December 3rd 9:30am-12:00noon EST - St. John’s County – in conjunction with FAC Legislative Conference

14. Adjourn

Funding Options
Gulf Consortium State Expenditure Plan
May 18, 2014

Background: The Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast State Act of 2012 (RESTORE Act) requires a State Expenditure Plan (SEP) be developed to be eligible for funding under the Oil Spill Restoration Impact Allocation, commonly referred to as “Pot 3” or “Bucket 3”. In Florida, the RESTORE Act further directs...“a consortia of local political subdivisions that includes at a minimum 1 representative of each affected county” will be responsible for the SEP. It is the intent of this paper to lay out options for the Gulf Consortium to fund the SEP development.

Overview: Several different and diverse funding options for SEP development have been discussed. They are:

1. Use Bucket 3 to fund plan development
2. Use Bucket 1 (State Allocation and Expenditures or in Florida, Local/County Allocations) with the understanding counties would be reimbursed when Bucket 3 funds are available
3. Request the State of Florida to provided funding
4. Request a grant from a non-governmental organization (NGO)
5. Apply for a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)
6. Borrow funds from various entities, with the understanding that it would be repaid once Gulf Consortium Bucket 3 funds were available
7. Hybrid – combination of any of the above

Each of these options is detailed below.

Option 1 - Use Bucket 3 to fund plan development

On the surface, this option seems to be the most straight forward. Planning assistance is a specifically authorized eligible use of funds under the Oil Spill Restoration Impact Allocation. However, upon further analysis, while this may be the most straight forward funding option, it also appears to be the longest funding delay option. This is primarily due to the delay in US Treasury Regulations and the subsequent resulting delay in Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Council) Rules and Regulations. We have been informed by both the Council Executive Director and Council Chief Financial Officer (CFO); no Bucket 3 funding will be available until both the US Treasury Regulations and Council Rules and Regulations are finalized. And further, it appears no reimbursement will be allowed of expenses prior to the completion of US Treasury Rules and subsequent funding request process. In summary, Bucket 3 Pros/Cons:

Pros:

- Most direct, straight forward funding

- Funding would come directly from the council, not requiring reimbursement of expenses.
- Specifically authorized by RESTORE Act
- Depending on Council Rules and Regulations, highest probability that administrative funding limitation (3%) can be met

Cons:

- Longest lead time for funding, estimated Spring of 2015
- Inability to pay for SEP Consultant (ITN currently released)

Option 2 – Use Bucket 1 (State Allocation and Expenditures or in Florida, Local/County Allocations) with the understanding Counties would be reimbursed when Bucket 3 funds are available

This option has been repeatedly discussed with US Treasury, Council Executive Director and among the Gulf Consortium. It has always been assumed that when Bucket 3 funding was available, Bucket 1 would be repaid for “loans”. The Gulf Consortium has even proposed this in its response to the Draft US Treasury Regulations. While Bucket 1 funding will likely be available much sooner than Bucket 3, based on conversations with the US Department of Treasury and Council Staff, it is unlikely that Bucket 1 dollars could be reimbursed. The Gulf Consortium has publically discussed this option, with the repayment stipulation always included. Smaller, fiscally constrained counties have been consulted and larger counties have stated they would be given deference. This option cannot be explored further until US Treasury Regulations are finalized, anticipated summer 2014. In summary, Bucket 1 Pros/Cons:

Pros:

- Faster funding than waiting on Bucket 3 funding
- Keeps funding in the Gulf Consortium
- No federal grant application process
- Gulf Consortium is autonomous

Cons:

- Real uncertainty whether Counties who loaned Bucket 1 funds for SEP could be repaid
- Borrowing and repaying mechanism must be developed between Counties and Gulf Consortium

Option 3 – Request the State of Florida to provided funding

This option was explored early after the RESTORE Act became law. Both Florida legislative leaders and executive branch leaders were consulted with no success. With the Governors Appointees to the Gulf Consortium occurring in March 2014, there is renewed

interest in this option. Actions are underway to reengage with state leadership to discuss the feasibility of at least partial funding for the SEP development. With no funding appropriated during the 2014 Legislative Session, the earliest that state funding could be available is summer 2015, unless current year funding was made available. State Funding Pros/Cons:

Pros:

- Would cement partnership with the state and Gulf Consortium
- Provides more funding for programs and projects
- Negates all reimbursement uncertainties

Cons:

- May require additional oversight of state
- Apparently, not much faster funding than Option 1 (Bucket 3) unless current year funding is available.
- Would require grant award from state to Gulf Consortium and subject to appropriations review

Option 4 –Request a grant from a non- governmental organization (NGO)

This option has also been discussed at Gulf Consortium Meetings and between staff. This option is attractive in that funding could be faster and governmental grant rules and regulations would not apply. A major drawback could be the perceived influence by the grantor. However, careful consideration would need to be given to ensure that the funding NGO(s) would have no added influence, perceived or otherwise, in the SEP process. Summary:

Pros:

- Provides more funding for programs and projects
- Potentially faster funding
- Little or no oversight by state/federal agencies
- Administrative fees would not be split

Cons:

- Perception of undue influence by granting NGO
- Each NGO has its own review and oversight procedures

Option 5 - pply for a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)

Until recently, this was not considered an option. However, Mississippi just received a \$3.6M National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant to develop “an integrated, coastal wide, restoration plan.” While it appeared this would serve as Mississippi’s SEP, it will only be used to prioritize projects that are eligible for funding under the NFWF Gulf Environmental Fund. The major difference between the two (SEP & NFWF Plan) is that no specific economic development projects, tourism, workforce development and seafood promotion projects are eligible under NFWF. When contacted, Mississippi stated their SEP development was underway using state resources and the NFWF Grant would be used exclusively for NFWF projects. Summary:

Pros:

- Provides more funding for programs and projects
- Potentially faster funding
- Little or no oversight by state/federal agencies
- Administrative fees would not be split

Cons:

- NFWF has its own review and oversight procedures, including Board of Directors approval
- Plan developed using NFWF Grant would not include all authorized uses under RESTORE Act
- NFWF Grant would, more than likely, go to State of Florida not Gulf Consortium
- If Gulf Consortium received NFWF Planning funds, Florida’s SEP would still need to be developed and incorporated with the NFWF Plan
- Would invalidate ITN just released

Option 6 – Borrow funds from various entities, with the understanding that it would be repaid once Gulf Consortium Bucket 3 funds were available

This option is a derivative of Option 2 except that RESTORE Act funds would not be borrowed. Several counties have opined that they could loan the Gulf Consortium funds for SEP development. In addition, there are several quasi-governmental entities that could loan the funds. This option has the same pitfalls as Option 2...*reimbursement from Bucket 3 is not likely for pre-award expenses*. Without a guarantee provided in US Treasury Rules or Council Rules and Regulations, this option may not be viable. Summary:

Pros:

- Faster funding than waiting on Bucket 3 funding
- No federal grant application process
- Gulf Consortium is autonomous
- Potentially faster funding
- Little or no oversight by state/federal agencies
- Administrative fees would not be split

Cons:

- Real uncertainty whether entity who loaned funds for SEP could be repaid
- Borrowing and repaying mechanism must be developed between entity loaning funds and Gulf Consortium

Option 7 – Hybrid

Various pieces of the above options could possibly be combined to create additional opportunities.

Implementation Options Gulf Consortium State Expenditure Plan

Background: The Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast State Act of 2012 (RESTORE Act) requires a State Expenditure Plan (SEP) be developed in order to be eligible for funding under the Oil Spill Restoration Impact Allocation, commonly referred to as “Pot 3” or “Bucket 3”. In Florida, the RESTORE Act further directs...“a consortia of local political subdivisions that includes at a minimum 1 representative of each affected county” will be responsible for the SEP. The RESTORE Act is silent on whom or how the State Expenditure Plan will be implemented. It is the intent of this paper to lay out options for implementation of the SEP.

Overview: Several different and diverse implementation options for the SEP are available. Inherent with implementation is a significant infrastructure to administer the grants over a period of perhaps 5-10 years or more. This along with the ability to be accountable and transparent is not an insignificant undertaking. While preliminary discussions have taken place with state officials, there are still many unknowns. This is the first draft of implementation options and will be updated as additional information becomes known. These are the options as of the date below:

8. Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Council) – Council would take the approved Gulf Consortium/State of Florida SEP and administer the projects and grants outlined in the SEP.
9. State of Florida – A state agency would administer the grant programs and projects of the SEP.
10. Gulf Consortium – The Consortium would handle its own grants and projects from the SEP.

Each of these options is detailed below.

Option 1 - Council

Until recently, this option appeared to be the most desirable. It was understood that the Council would build an infrastructure that included grant awards, management, accounting and reporting and close-out. This option recently became moot when Consortium staff were informed that the Council would not establish a robust enough grant staff to administer hundreds of programs and projects. It is the Council’s intent to issue single grants to RESTORE Act States/Entities to administer the Oil Spill Impact Allocation (Bucket 3). This has effectively eliminated the possibility of the Council implementing Florida’s State Expenditure Plan.

Option 2 – State of Florida

This option has been discussed with both Mimi Drew, Florida’s Appointee to the Council, Noah Valenstein, with the Governor’s Office of Policy and Budget, and Jennifer Fitzwater, with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Although these discussions have been preliminary, it now appears this is the option being advocated by Council Staff. With Option 1 no longer feasible, the State of Florida has the infrastructure needed to implement the SEP.

Summary of Pros/Cons:

Pros:

- State has infrastructure positioned for implementation
- Eliminates need for Gulf Consortium to build infrastructure thereby directing more funds to programs and projects
- Truly cements partnership with Gulf Consortium

Cons:

- Requires grant administration augmentation for whichever state agency was selected
- Subjects SEP implementation to legislative appropriations process
- Would traverse, potentially, several administrations

Option 3 – Gulf Consortium

This option requires a significant expenditure of funds to establish the robust infrastructure required to implement the SEP: everything from staff to accounting systems to reporting and monitoring to inspections to grant close-out. There are several options for building this infrastructure. They are:

- a) Gulf Consortium becomes an employer and hires full-time staff. A conservative estimate would be 20 full time staff for potentially 5-10 years in order for the Gulf Consortium to implement the SEP.
- b) Gulf Consortium contracts for staff. This option is desirable in that the employer/employee relationship does not exist and offers much more flexibility. A possibility is that Leon County could act as our sourcing for staff and the Leon County Clerk could act as our fiscal agent. These services would be provided through an Inter-Local Agreement or Contract.
- c) Gulf Consortium contracts out the implementation. There are several private/non-profit/NGO entities that provide these services. The Gulf Consortium could essentially contract out the implementation while maintaining policy oversight and ensuring accountability.

d) Pros/Cons:

Pros:

- Ensures SEP is implemented as approved by Gulf Consortium
- Provides easier coordination with member counties preventing overlap of Bucket 1 initiatives
- Establishes the Gulf Consortium as Congress intended

Cons:

- Significant long term expenditures for Gulf Consortium
- Less funding for programs and projects
- Will transcend multiple County Commissions

Summary – Next Steps

Consortium staff has met with representatives from the Governor's Office and is following up with DEP. Topics of discussion will be potential steps for getting a state appropriation to fund the SEP and the process for determining how the state's role during implementation would be developed.

Along a parallel path of determining the state's involvement, Consortium Staff will continue to refine requirements if the Consortium were to implement the SEP. During plan development with the selected consultant, discussions of implementation options will be reviewed and additional options may surface. Additionally, as US Treasury Rules and Council Rules and Regulations are promulgated, a clearer picture of all options should emerge.

Gulf Consortium
Adopted Budget to Actual
October 1, 2013 -April 30, 2014

	<u>FY14 Budget</u>	<u>FY14 Year To Date Actual</u>
Revenues		
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Consulting-Legal & Expenses	60,000.00	-
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Total Disbursements	<u>139,500.00</u>	<u>36,993.20</u>
Revenues Over (under) Disbursements	<u><u>553.00</u></u>	<u><u>67,991.61</u></u>

**Cash Basis of Accounting for Interim Reporting*

Gulf Consortium
Expense Register Detail
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1029	FAC	10/30/13	18,400.38						15,000.00		3,400.38			FY2103 EXPENSE: 7/13-9/13 \$15000 Consult, 8/1 \$380.95 DD Travel, 9/1 \$386.48
1030	FL Dept of State	12/05/13	43.13			43.13								DD travel, 6/25 \$1816.64 Fac Ann Con Travel, 6/7 \$816.31 DR DC Travel
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1034	FAC	02/06/14	5,852.96	5,000.00		852.96								Meeting Notice Jan 17, 2014
1035	FAC	02/28/14	17,630.84	15,000.00		2,630.84								Oct 13 Consulting and Expenses (\$5000 & 852.96)
1036	City of Tallahassee	03/11/14	191.53			191.53								Nov, Dec & Jan Consulting \$15000, Meeting @ Annual - \$1264.21, Travel - Nov
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1041	FAC		5,000.00	5,000.00										Meeting Notice March 13, 2014
1042	Law Redd Crona Monroe	04/29/14	3,000.00					3,000.00						February Consulting
TOTAL EXPENSES			55,487.44	30,000.00	-	3,993.20	-	3,000.00	15,000.00	-	3,494.24	-		March Consulting
														Consulting - Audit

Gulf Consortium
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October 1, 2013 -April 30, 2014

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Expenses- FY 14 Expenses	(36,993.20)	
Net Cash Used		<u>(55,487.44)</u>
Ending Cash Balance	4/30/2014	84,212.74

Notice of Meeting/Workshop Hearing

OTHER AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Gulf Consortium

The Gulf Consortium Executive Committee announces a telephone conference call to which all persons are invited.

DATE AND TIME: June 2, 2014, 3:00 p.m. (ET)

PLACE: Dial-in number: 1(888)670-3525, participant passcode: 998 449 5298#

GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: The Executive Committee of the Gulf Consortium will meet to review the meeting agenda for the June 20, 2014 Consortium meeting and to conduct other business. In accordance with Section 163.01, Florida Statutes, the location of the conference call is the Florida Association of Counties, 100 S. Monroe Street, Tallahassee, FL 32301.

A copy of the agenda may be obtained by contacting: Doug Darling at (850)922-4300 or ddarling@fl-counties.com or see www.FACRestore.com.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this workshop/meeting is asked to advise the agency at least 3 days before the workshop/meeting by contacting: Doug Darling at (850)922-4300 or ddarling@fl-counties.com. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1(800)955-8771 (TDD) or 1(800)955-8770 (Voice).

If any person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at this meeting or hearing, he/she will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence from which the appeal is to be issued.

For more information, you may contact Doug Darling at (850)922-4300 or ddarling@fl-counties.com or see www.FACRestore.com.

Gulf Consortium Executive Committee Meeting
March 10, 2014 3:00 p.m. (EDT)
Florida Association of Counties
Leon County (Tallahassee, FL)

Officers in Attendance: Commissioner Grover Robinson (Escambia)

Officers in Attendance Telephonically: Commissioner Sara Comander (Walton), Commissioner Susan Latvala (Pinellas), Commissioner George Neugent (Monroe), and Commissioner Warren Yeager (Gulf)

Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order

Commissioner Grover Robinson called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm (ET).

Agenda Item #3 – Public Comment

There was no public comment

Agenda Item #4 – Appointment of Executive Committee Members

Ms. Sarah Bleakley, Interim General Counsel, briefed the Committee on the designation process to appoint two additional members to serve on the Executive Committee. Each candidate for appointment was given a minute and a half to address the Committee. A motion to appoint Commissioner Sara Comander (Walton) and Commissioner George Neugent (Monroe) was presented by Commissioner Susan Latvala (Pinellas) and seconded by Commissioner Warren Yeager (Gulf).

ACTION: APPROVED

Agenda Item #5 – Procurement Policy

Ms. Sarah Bleakley, Interim General Counsel, provided an update on the Procurement Policy and advised the Committee a revised document incorporating the Boards comments would be distributed along with an updated Invitation to Negotiate.

Agenda Item #6 – Draft Invitation to Negotiate (ITN)

Ms. Sarah Bleakley, Interim General Counsel, briefed the Committee on the status of the ITN. She explained the process that would be followed including the invitation to negotiate, best and final offer, scope of services, evaluation criteria and term of contract. Discussion ensued. A motion to amend the ITN to include the Nature Conservancy and National Estuary Plan was presented by Commissioner Susan Latvala (Pinellas) and seconded by Commissioner Sara Comander (Walton). A motion to recommend to the Board approval of the amended ITN was presented by Commissioner George Neugent (Monroe) and seconded by Commissioner Warren Yeager (Gulf)

ACTION: APPROVED

Agenda Item #7 – Annual Audit

Ms. Dana Powell and Ms. Bonnie Gandy from Law, Redd, Crona & Monroe, P.A. presented the auditor's opinions on the financial status of the Consortium as of September 30, 2013. A motion to accept and recommend to the Board acceptance of the Annual Audit was presented by Commissioner George Neugent (Monroe) and seconded by Commissioner Sara Comander (Walton)

ACTION: APPROVED

Agenda Item #8 – Visioning and Roles

Mr. Doug Darling, Interim Manager, presented the Committee with a summary of the visioning and roles session held on January 23, 2014. Discussion ensued. A draft version of the Consortium's guiding principles or vision statement as deliberated by the Committee would be distributed as a discussion item for the March 26, 2014 meeting.

Agenda Item #9 – Planning Calendar

Mr. Doug Darling, Interim Manager, presented the proposed meeting calendar for 2014 with all meetings of the Consortium being held in conjunction with FAC events throughout the year. A motion to recommend to the Board approval of the proposed meeting calendar for 2014 was presented by Commissioner Warren Yeager (Gulf) and seconded by Commissioner George Neugent (Monroe).

ACTION: APPROVED

Agenda Item #10 – Other Business

1. Commissioner Grover Robinson updated the Committee on meetings held during the National Association of Counties Legislative Conference in Washington, DC including the Army Corp of Engineers, Department of Interior, Department of Commerce, Senator Nelson, Congressman Miller and staff from Senator Rubio's office.
 2. Chris Holley informed the Committee that he would be briefing the Consortium's Gubernatorial Appointees in the coming weeks and encouraging them to attend the March 26, 2014 meeting in Tallahassee.
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Agenda Item #11 – Public Comment

1. Jessica Koelsch, Florida Wildlife Federation
 2. Curtis Franklin, Pasco County
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Agenda Item #12 – Adjournment

There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 3:56 pm (ET).