



**MINUTES**  
**Technical Committee**  
**Pensacola & Perdido Bays Estuary Program**

January 27, 2021  
10:00 am – 12:00 pm  
Zoom Virtual Meeting  
[Video Link](#)

**Attendees**

|                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Jessica Bibza, Chair | NWF                    |
| Donald Killorn       | PPBEP                  |
| Matt Posner          | PPBEP/Escambia County  |
| Whitney Scheffel     | PPBEP                  |
| Logan McDonald       | PPBEP                  |
| Samantha Bolduc      | Escambia County        |
| Barbara Albrecht     | BFA/UWF-AIMS           |
| Amy Newbold          | USEPA                  |
| Brandon Jarvis       | USEPA-GEMMD            |
| Melissa Duvall       | USEPA-GEMMD            |
| Jenny Paul           | USEPA-GEMMD            |
| Jeanette Kelson      | Wood                   |
| Darryl Boudreau      | NFWFMD                 |
| Matt Deitch          | UF Milton              |
| Eric Schneider       | ESA Pensacola          |
| Kent Smith           | FWC                    |
| Matt Miller          | ESA                    |
| Haley Gancel         | UF/IFAS                |
| Amanda Croteau       | UWF                    |
| Mollie Taylor        | GeoSyntec              |
| Brent Wipf           | Escambia County        |
| Dana Morton          | Escambia County        |
| Matthew Kelly        | Escambia County        |
| Justin Bousquin      | USEPA GEMMD            |
| Matthew Miller       | WRA Engineering        |
| Marcy Frick          | Tetra Tech             |
| Jackie Lane          | Friends of Perdido Bay |
| Kristin Bennett      | Tetra Tech             |
| Beth Fugate          | FDEP                   |
| Brian Underwood      | CBEP                   |
| Heather Griffin      | ADEM/CBEP              |
| Robert Holbrook      | USFWS                  |
| Christian Wagley     | Healthy Gulf           |
| Mark Jackson         | City of Pensacola      |
| Tanya Linzy          | Santa Rosa County      |
| Mary Gutierrez       | Earth Action, Inc.     |
| Dan Dealy            | Baldwin County         |
| Chips Kirschenfeld   | Escambia County        |
| Chris McArthur       | USEPA                  |
| Chris Verlinde       | UF/IFAS Sea Grant      |
| Rick Durbrow         | USEPA                  |
| Doug Heatwole        | Citizen                |
| Katie Fox            | GeoSyntec              |
| Lee Yokel            | GOMA/DISL              |
| Kristal Walsh        | FWC                    |
| Rick O'Connor        | UF/IFAS Sea Grant      |
| Shannon McGlynn      | ADEM                   |
| Trent Matthews       | USDA                   |

Randy Sears  
Mary Frick  
Casey Fulford

ECUA  
Tetra Tech  
AACD

1. **Call to Order**

2. **Introductions – Welcome our Executive Director, Donald Killorn!**

- Chair Jessica Bibza requested that any new attendees introduce themselves for a warm welcome.
- Amy Newbold (EPA) introduced Rick Durbrow (EPA Region 4) who has been working with FEMA as a Sustainability Advisor in St. Joe/St. Andrew/Apalachicola watersheds and is currently working on a project called the “Recovery and Resiliency Partnership”.
- Logan McDonald (PPBEP) introduced Jenny Paul (EPA), an ORISE fellow Region 4/GEMMD. She will be assisting the program with CCMP Development as well as working closely with Janet Nestlerode (EPA).
- Brandon Jarvis (EPA) introduced his new post-doctoral researcher, Melissa Duval (EPA). She will be assisting with water quality data analyses, future publications, and hydrodynamic modeling.

3. **Approval of October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Meeting Minutes (p. 4)**

- Chair Bibza called for a motion and acceptance of meeting minutes.
- Matt Deitch (UF) moved to approve the minutes and Samantha Buldoc (Escambia County) seconded.
- No objections were made, and the minutes were approved.

4. **Staff Updates**

a. New website launch! (<https://www.ppbep.org>)

b. Branding

- Logan McDonald (PPBEP) provided an update on the branding kick off with local firm ID Group.
- Staff has started the process of branding the program and will continue discussions with ID Group staff to develop plan for engagement, messaging, and logo design.

c. Legislative Appropriation

i. Mini Grant Update

Logan announced that all Mini Grant recipient contracts were in place and that projects are due to kick off this month and into February.

ii. Oyster Mapping – Escambia County

Whitney provided an update on the future oyster mapping effort that is due to get underway in the coming months.

- Continuation of Santa Rosa County mapping lead by TNC Oyster group, but focus on Escambia and Pensacola Bays
- Will provide PPBEP and partners with full picture of current spatial extent and condition of oysters in the Pensacola Bay system

iii. NCCA/NWCA

Whitney provided updates on the progress of intensifications for EPA watershed surveys.

- National Coastal Condition Assessment (NCCA) intensification kicking off week of June 7!

- PPBEP preparing for intensification for the National Wetlands Condition Assessment (NWCA) with a focus on estuarine wetlands.
- Dr. Matt Deitch (UF) is taking the lead for this effort and will bring on colleagues to assist.
- Training will be In-Person at the GEMMD Gulf Breeze Lab week of April 19th

d. Newsletter/Update Subscription

Logan encouraged TC Committee participants to re-subscribe to specific lists on PPBEP's website to update contact list. PPBEP plans to update lists in the coming weeks.

## 5. CCMP Developmental Workplan Implementation

Whitney provided current updates and future plans:

a. CCMP Progress Update

- Values/Uses Community survey lead by the Haas Center is closed and had a total of 764 completed responses. PPBEP due to receive draft report February 15th.

b. Submitted Grant Proposals

- NOAA Actionable Science (PI: Erin Cox, UNO)
  - Building resilience into seagrass bed restoration: the role of genetic variation.
- NOAA Effects of Sea Level Rise (ESLR) (PI: Judy Hayner, TNC)
  - Coastal Resilience: Planning for resilience in the Perdido Bay System through modeling shoreline trends and improving shoreline suitability tools.

c. Overview of Stressor Assessment Workshop

- PPBEP staff is using outputs from November workshop to create workshop series in conjunction with UF/UWF partners (Drs. Deitch, Caffrey, Gancel, and Croteau).
- Pulling data for key indicators to take a deeper dive into current/historical information to prioritize future actions and conduct preliminary gap analysis.

d. Workshop Series (partnership with UF/UWF)

- Workshop 1 (Water Quality): Mon., Feb 22
- Workshop 2 (Sediment Quality): Wed., March 10
- Workshop 3 (Habitat): Wed., March 24
- Workshop 4 (Fish & Wildlife): Wed., April 7

## 6. Committee Chair Elections

- Chair Bibza announced that Logan had requested nominations for the Chair and Co-Chair positions prior to the meeting via the Newsletter.
- There were no new nominations submitted.
- Chair Bibza confirmed that she was willing to continue to serve as Chair and Dr. Ken Heck was willing to serve as Co-Chair.
- Dan Dealy (Baldwin County) made a motion to nominate Jessica Bibza as Chair and Ken Heck as Co-Chair. Barbara Albrecht (BFA/UWF-AIMS) seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

## 7. Around the Room/Announcements/Public Comment

- Logan - B-Wet Oyster Proposal
- Whitney - TC Presentation Recommendations
- Chair Bibza (NWF) - Living Shoreline Course
  - <https://www.ppbep.org/livingshorelinecourse>
- Christian Wagley (Healthy Gulf)
  - Life on the Edge: The Gulf of Mexico whale; Date/Time: Feb. 16 @ 6:00 PM CT
  - Update on Gulf Power name change

- e. Jackie Lane (Friends of Perdido Bay) – Perdido Bay sampling event (benthic species diversity, WQ, sediment analysis)
  - i. Cardno conducting survey April 2021
- f. Barbara Albrecht (BFA/UWF-AIMS) shared the news of BFA founders recent passing (Ernie River and J.D. Brown).
  - i. Sparked conversation about Oral History resources in our area.
- g. Mary Gutierrez (Earth Action, Inc.) - Interview with Jackie Lane; Feb 8<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 PM Facebook Live/Zoom
- h. Matt Posner (Escambia County) Hollice T. Williams Project Update
  - i. Site Walk - March 6<sup>th</sup> (*tentative*)
  - ii. Bayou Chico Project Kick Off (March) with upcoming community engagement (TBD)
- i. Brent Wipf (Escambia County) NRDA Project in partnership with USDA/NRCS
  - i. Site Locations: Pine Barren Creek & Moore Creek
- j. Jackie Lane suggested a data sharing platform on PPBEP website (*future need*)
- k. Amy Newbold (EPA) announced Ashley Campbell as new Baldwin County's Natural Resource Planner!
- l. Brian Underwood (CBEP) – CBEP Board Meeting announcement
- m. St. Andrew/St. Joe – Hosting First PB Meeting February (TBD)
- n. Darryl Boudreau (NFWFMD)– Funding opportunities
- o. Brandon Jarvis (EPA) – Project Update on hydrodynamic modeling efforts in Pensacola Bay

## 8. 2021 Meeting Schedule

- a. Feb. 22nd, *Monday* – Workshop: Water Quality/Quantity
- b. Mar. 10<sup>th</sup>, *Wednesday* – Workshop: Sediment
- c. Mar. 24<sup>th</sup>, *Wednesday*–Workshop: Habitat
- d. Apr. 7<sup>th</sup>, *Wednesday* – Workshop: Fish & Wildlife
- e. May 26<sup>th</sup>, *Wednesday* – Regular Meeting (Updates & Information sharing)

## 9. Adjourn