



**Board of Directors  
Meeting Minutes**

August 27, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. CT  
City of Pensacola Council Chambers  
222 W Main St, Pensacola, FL 32502

[Meeting Recording](#)

**Members Present**

Colten Wright, Chair	Santa Rosa County
Jared Moore, Vice Chair	City of Pensacola
Ben Boutwell	Town of Century
Tim Burr	City of Gulf Breeze
Vernon Compton	City of Milton
Ashlee Hofberger	Escambia County
Mike Norberg	Okaloosa County
Woody Speed	City of Orange Beach

**Members Absent**

Mike Kohler	Escambia County
Kerry Smith	Santa Rosa County

**Interested Parties Present**

Matt Posner	PPBEP
Whitney Scheffel	PPBEP
Bailey Walkinshaw	PPBEP
Mary Jane Bass	Beggs & Lane
Thomas Derbes	FL Sea Grant
Dillon Draughn	Moffatt & Nichol
Dennis Geary	Innerarity Island Preservation Foundation
Kelly Gontarski	Innerarity Island Preservation Foundation
Tyler Jacobs	Moffatt & Nichol
Paul Looney	WRA
Brian Sullivan	Innerarity Island Preservation Foundation
Lee Willingham	City of Milton

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Roll Call** (*Matt Posner, Executive Director*)  
Staff called the roll. A quorum was present.

**3. Public Comment**  
None



#### 4. Approval of Board Agenda

With no objection, the Board accepted the agenda as presented.

#### 5. Action Items

##### a. Approval of FY 2025-26 PPBEP Community Grant Program Project Proposals

Councilperson Tim Burr (City of Gulf Breeze) made a motion to accept the Community Grant Review Committee's recommended project slate for the FY 2025-26 PPBEP Community Grant Program, in the amount of \$250,000, and authorize the Executive Director to execute grant agreements with each grantee. Vernon Compton (City of Milton) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 6. Board/Agency Updates

- a. Woody Speed (City of Orange Beach) recognized PPBEP staff for the 2025 State of the Bays report. Discussion was held on board members sharing State of the Bays with their councils.
- b. Woody Speed (City of Orange Beach) inquired about having a presentation from Moffatt & Nichol on an update of the lower Perdido Islands restoration project at a future board meeting.
- c. Woody Speed (City of Orange Beach) shared an update on the Sea, Sand, and Stars Center in Orange Beach, AL, and suggested a quick tour of the renovated facility before the November board meeting.
- d. Vernon Compton (City of Milton) shared the date for the Fire and Nature Festival, which will be held at the University of West Florida on March 7<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 3pm. The festival will include The Longleaf Alliance, University of West Florida, and the U.S. Forest Service, and there will be three burn demonstrations. The rain date for the event is March 21<sup>st</sup>.

#### 7. Public Comment

None

#### 8. Adjourned