

**FEAB Minutes**  
**September 9th, 2016**  
**3:00 pm**  
**Delchamps Room, Fairhope, AL**

**Attendees:** Mike Shelton, Gary Gover, Ron Allen, Jeanine Normand, Rick Frederick, Terry Hargroder,

**Honored Guests:** None

**City Representatives:** Kim Burmeister, City of Fairhope Planning and Zoning Department

**City Council Members:** None

Mike called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

August 2016 FEAB minutes were approved as amended. Amendment: Tammy Herrington discussed projects her group (Conservation Alabama) has worked on.

**BP Money / NEP Projects:**

Terry asked about status of the BP grant monies with NEP. Rick said that NEP is managing \$20 million of funding from BP but a big chunk of this fund has been directed to the Medicaide program, state debt and road building (to include the widening of State Highway 181 for example). There are more watershed management plans which will be conducted and implemented as part of this funding (including Fly Creek, possibly in 2017). Pending projects nearing completion include Three Mile Creek and Fowl River Watershed Management Plans. Rick said the Weeks Bay Watershed Plan study is currently underway in Baldwin County and Jennifer Fidler is the City representative for this effort.

For more information on the NEP Watershed Management Plans, visit: [www.mobilebaynep.com/index.php/the\\_watersheds/](http://www.mobilebaynep.com/index.php/the_watersheds/)

Rick said that the Alabama Restore Council is in charge of \$750 million (also BP monies) which will be allocated over the next 15 years along coastal Alabama. Alabama coastal mayors, including Fairhope's mayor, current and elect, have been and will be a chair on this committee and have input on how these monies are spent. There is a portal on the website where anyone can submit a project idea. For more information on this council and/or to submit a project proposal, go to: [www.restorealabama.org/](http://www.restorealabama.org/)

**Beach Management Plan**

Jeanine said the City is hosting a public meeting on the status of the beach management plan on September 21<sup>st</sup> at 4:30 p.m. at the Fairhope Public Library. Jennifer Fidler is the contact for this beach restoration project which is currently in draft form.

### **New Administration**

Mike mentioned that we have new administration taking a seat in Fairhope on November 7<sup>th</sup>. New Mayor, Karin Wilson (mayor), and new Council (Jay Robinson). There is one council seat in a run off (Brewer) which will be determined on October 4<sup>th</sup>. Mike is not sure if the FEAB will be represented by Rich Mueller's predecessor Robinson or not. Mayor will appoint council to represent this committee. Mike said we should invite the new mayor to an upcoming FEAB to bring her up to speed on the FEAB's history, goals, etc. He will invite her to the November meeting, but suggests the FEAB formulate an agenda for the meeting. Gary suggested we also invite Jonathan Smith (Planning and Zoning Director) and Jennifer Fidler (Public Works Director) since a lot of the FEAB's focus and concerns depend on their department's commitments. Ron suggested FEAB (or someone with FEAB) meet with Jonathan and Jennifer beforehand to discuss these goals and make sure we are all on the same page, before we present to the new mayor. Terry will prepare a summary (and agenda) of the FEAB's focus over the past 12 months. Ron expressed his disappointment in the past 12 months in that the FEAB has not been able to resolve some of the pertinent issues (duck pond issues, etc.). Mike reminded everyone that the FEAB is an advisory board only, does not have decision making power. All the FEAB can do is pass along the concerns and findings to the powers that be, and FEAB has done that. FEAB can also assist in participating in events, water quality testing, etc.

Gary suggested that the new mayor might want to amend the Comprehensive Plan and FEAB should formulate any thoughts on amendment ideas to share with new mayor.

Gary said new mayor is involved with transitioning and has been meeting with some of the supervisors (such as Jonathan Smith, Planning and Zoning Director).

Rick said that NEP also will be meeting with the new mayor to bring her up to speed on local efforts. New mayor will be involved in chairing on some committees, such as the Alabama Restore Council so it is important she know the aspects of these programs.

### **Create a Clean Water Future Program**

Rick mentioned the Create a Clean Water Future program, which the City of Fairhope is a partner in. He gave Kim a decal to be placed at a City office entrance, showing the City of Fairhope's support and partnership with this program. CWF is a NEP program to help promote storm water and anti-litter education through citizens, businesses, educators, grass roots organizations, etc. City of Fairhope adopted this program in 2015 as a MS4 component of our littering program. Rick invited anyone (individual, business or group) to join this effort and become a "partner"; there is no cost, only the commitment to promote education on this topic. Kim said this program has been instrumental for the City of Fairhope in several ways. City of Fairhope Planning and Zoning Department briefs our Planning Commission on our storm water program, aka MS4 program through the showing of the Create a Clean Water Future 5 minute "Understanding your storm water program" video. This short clip is shown to the City of Fairhope Planning Commission, since they are the review committee for the City's Storm Water Management Plan (a MS4 requirement). Also the Create a Clean Water Future stickers are on many city vehicles, and the logo is being used on City publications, City of Fairhope environmental

articles (such as the FEAB mosquito article that recently ran in *City Sketches*) and some Planning and Zoning Department business cards. For more information: [www.cleanwaterfuture.com](http://www.cleanwaterfuture.com)

### **Clean Marina Program**

Mike said he is in contact with Bob Riggs of the Fairhope Harbor Board, and Mr. Riggs is interested in the program. Mike will attend the next Harbor Board meeting (October 12<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. at the Fairhope Public Library), to present the Clean Marina Program aspects. Rick will invite Christian Miller (Clean Marina Program coordinator) to attend as well. Gary said the Fly Creek Marina private owner is interested in the Clean Marina program. Kim said she noticed on a recent trip that a marina near Pt. St. Joe, FL (St. Joseph Bay) is a “Clean Marina”. Rick said it is likely that FL requires participation in this program.

### **Priority Construction Area (Weeks Bay)**

Gary asked if development in the priority construction area (Weeks Bay Watershed) has special requirements in Fairhope. Kim said ADEM may place special state registration requirements on these projects, but most would likely have to register with ADEM anyway (if more than an acre). City has site monitoring requirements in the priority construction area (must perform and document construction area site checks at least monthly), as part of the MS4 program requirements. Mike said there is no land use planning in unincorporated areas, and much of the priority construction area is in unzoned areas. Rick said that the Alabama Restore funds could be used to repair weaknesses in storm water programs and could possibly be used for land acquisition.

### **Storm Water Taxes**

Gary asked Kim to look into the storm water tax proposals “projects” that were mentioned in 2010, to support the storm water tax (that failed). He thought some of these were in Fairhope. Kim will check on this.

Gary asked about City Impact Fees, do these cover storm water infrastructure? Kim said that Jonathan Smith, Planning and Zoning Director, can give more information on where these fees go, but it is her understanding the fees go to support waste management, police department, and all City infrastructure (including but not limited to storm water).

Mike asked if the City has a grant writer: city has one on retainer, Stacy McKean.

Meeting adjourned at 4 p.m.