

**City of Jacksonville, Florida**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BOARD**  
**Monday, July 8, 2013**  
**5:00 p.m.**

**Meeting Summary**

**Members Present**

Steven T. Jenkins, Chair  
Michelle Tappouni, Vice Chair  
Lucinda Sonnenberg, Ph.D.  
Gary Bowers, M.D.  
Bobby L. Baker, P.E.  
Tony C. Bellamy, P.E.

**Members Not Present**

Nick Howland

**Staff/ Resources Present**

James Richardson, EPB Administrator  
Ruby Tucker, Executive Secretary  
Jody Brooks, OGC  
Steve Pace, Environmental Engineering Manager Senior  
Tree Kilbourn, Environmental Enforcement Officer

**Visitors**

Jason Harrah, USACE  
Paul Stodola, USACE  
Mike Hollingworth, USACE  
Steve Patterson, FTU  
Joe Miller, Jaxport  
Dr. Quinton White, JU/Marine Science Research Inst.-Executive Director  
Jay Worley, JEA  
Daniel Hlaing, JEA

**Call to Order**

Chair Steven Jenkins called the regular meeting of the Environmental Protection Board (EPB) to order at 5:02 p.m.

**Chairman's Remarks**

None.

**Approval of June Board Minutes**

Chair Jenkins entertained a motion to approve the meeting summary of the June 10, 2013 Board Meeting, and the June 10<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting, which was properly seconded and approved by the body.

### **Program Administrator Report**

EPB Administrator James Richardson shared the following:

- Save the Date: EPB Retreat is Monday, August 19, 2013 from 5pm to 9pm at Breaking Ground Contracting located at 4218 Highway Ave. The cost to cover the meal is \$10 per person, due by August 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Chair Jenkins will be sending a questionnaire to the board regarding the Environmental Protection Fund and ask that it be returned to staff.
- The deadline for EPB Awards is July 29<sup>th</sup> and information may be found on the EPB website at [www.coj.net/ebp](http://www.coj.net/ebp).
- Legislation appointing Dr. Mobean Rathore to the EPB was introduced to City Council on June 25, 2013. The EPB membership vacancy for the Professional Engineer category still remains open. If any board members know anyone interested, please refer them to staff.
- There is no update at this time regarding last month's report on the algal blooms forming in the St. Johns River.
- The Jacksonville Harbor Deepening public meeting on the USACE report was held Thursday, June 27<sup>th</sup>. He and Board Member Dr. Bowers attended the public meeting. Dr. Bowers shared his written response sent by email to Paul Stodola, USACE concerning the USACE report. He indicated that the deadline for public comment is July 31<sup>st</sup> and reminded them of their role as environmental stewards for the community. He further indicated that meeting and the Water Committee meeting would be the only opportunities for the Board to opt to submit comments or concerns should the Board choose to do so.
- He will be on leave from Thursday, July 11 – Friday, July 19, 2013.

### **Department Report**

- None.

### **Approval of June Committee Minutes**

Chair Jenkins entertained separate motions to approve the meeting summaries for the Water Committee and for the Air and Odor Committee for the month of June. The motions were properly seconded and approved by the body.

### **Consent Agenda**

(Air/Odor)

- **JEA (AP-13-06)** – exceedance of H<sub>2</sub>S emission limit – settlement \$21, 600.

(Water)

- **JEA – (WP-12-17)** – failure to comply with erosion and sediment control standards; unlawful discharge of other materials to surface waters - settlement \$4,800.

Chair Jenkins entertained a motion to approve the above consent orders which was properly seconded and approved by the body.

Add on Item

- **JEA - Grace & Truth CDC (WP-11-31)** – Construction of a low pressure wastewater collection/transmission system so as to function as intended; unlawful discharge of sewage or other untreated waste or wastewater – no settlement fee due to the

conversion of the sewer system and pollution prevention work considered as a SEP of outstanding quality and 100% mitigation credit for the assessed penalty.

Chair Jenkins entertained a motion to approve the above consent order which was properly seconded and approved by the body.

### **Presentation(s)**

**GRR II/SEIS – Jacksonville Harbor Deepening – St. Johns Riverkeeper Organization** – Dr. Quinton White, JU, 2800 University Blvd. N., made a presentation on the results of St. Johns Riverkeeper Organization's group review of the Harbor Deepening Study conducted by the USACE. The review of the report was divided into a three part review led by Dr. White (environmental section), Dr. Kevin Bodge, Sr. Engineer & VP of Olsen Associates (hydrology and sedimentation section), and Dr. David Jaffee, UNF (economics section). The draft impact statement released by the USACE addresses environmental impact such as an increase in salinity, shoreline erosion, algae bloom, the loss of wetlands and habitat. The estimated cost of the dredging is \$733 million including \$80 million for mitigation of anticipated environmental impacts. The SJRK organization and task force has serious concerns about the harm that may occur to the river from the dredging and blasting that will be necessary to remove rock along the river bottom. The conclusion of the review is:

- that the report is lacking in terms of depth and analysis of impact
- that it lacks the analysis and data which is essential to the decision making process
- the study is considered to be incomplete because there is significant modeling information not included
- the mitigation plans are inadequate
- the public commenting deadline is July 31<sup>st</sup> but all the information is not available

Jason Harrah, USACE Project Manager, stated that there is an extensive 30 day state agency (FDEP, EPA, USFWS etc.) period to review the modeling information and question it after the public review deadline ends. Since the kickoff of the public review commenting period (May 31<sup>st</sup>); approximately 100 comments have been received and the concerns expressed include how will deepening affect salinity levels, mitigation planning, bank erosion, blasting, lack of economic value, cost of project, accelerated schedule and overall harm to the river without much gain. He stated that the report was developed by a professional team of biologists, engineers, economists and various organizations, including private sector firms, and that the public has been made aware of all study developments through bi-monthly conference calls and public meetings. The report provides funding for various mitigation options and river monitoring options for 15 years to validate and take corrective actions. All information, data, and findings will be reviewed by appropriate federal and state agencies before completion of the report and will be made available to the public in the final report.

A discussion occurred regarding the models created, model predictions, costs, monitoring, mitigation options, future projects, modeling process, comments received, etc. Mr. Harrah shared that the USACE will provide a response to all comments submitted and similar comments will be consolidated and placed in the final environmental impact statement as part of the official record.

### **Public Hearing**

Chair Jenkins suspended the Board Meeting at 5:55 p.m. in order to conduct a Public Hearing on a funding request for EPB Education & Outreach for 2013 - 2015.

Mr. Jenkins reconvened the Board Meeting at approximately 6:50 p.m.

### **Old Business**

- COJ FY13/14 Budget update- more information will be available after the budget is presented.
- Title V Program Funding - Steve Pace reported that the City of Jacksonville has worked with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) since 1993 to implement the Title V Program, a federally adopted program which established a comprehensive permitting system for all the major air pollution sources emitting greater than 100 tons per year. FDEP has withheld the Title V contract for the state's Fiscal Year 2014 which begins July 1<sup>st</sup>. This loss of funding has impacted five positions resulting in the loss of significant expertise in various positions. A brief discussion occurred at this time regarding the FDEP audit and actions taken by the division to rectify any identified issues. There was further discussion of the Board's letter sent to the Governor, FDEP, Duval Delegation, and others concerning the critical issue. No response has been received acknowledging receipt of the letter and no explanation from FDEP as to the contract not being renewed or rationale for the action.
- Dr. Bowers inquired if a response had been received from the letter sent to the Mayor's Office with questions from the Board concerning the proposed Phase II Reorganization. Staff replied, that a response has not been received yet.

### **New Business**

- COJ BMAP Status Report & Assessment – Dr. Lucinda Sonnenberg made a recommendation to have the BMAP status as a topic for discussion to address whether the COJ will be able to meet TMDL obligations for nutrient and fecal coliform reductions in the main stem of the SJR by 2015. Chair Jenkins indicated the topic will be placed on the September Board agenda.  
*\*\*Note – Jim Robinson, Dir of Public Works, has agreed to be present at the September meeting.*
- Erosion and Sediment Control Issues – Dr. Sonnenberg also recommended this as a topic of discussion in an effort to assist in compliance with erosion and sediment control issues for city contractors. Chair Jenkins indicated the item will be placed on the Water Committee and Board agendas.

### **Comments from the Public**

None.

### **Item(s) referred to Committees**

Water - COJ BMAP Status

Water - Erosion and Sediment Control Issues

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**Next Scheduled Board Meeting(s)**

Monday, August 12, 2013

EPB Retreat – August 19, 2013

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

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Ruby Tucker, Executive Secretary I  
Environmental Protection Board