

*Governor's Gulf Coast Advisory Committee's  
Eco-Restoration Subcommittee Meeting  
August 24, 2021, Official Minutes*

The Eco-Restoration Subcommittee ("Subcommittee") meeting was held virtually/telephonically on August 24, 2021, beginning at 10 a.m. Notice was provided on MDEQ and DFA website. The public had the opportunity to attend the meeting telephonically. Access to meeting materials were provided via a link in the Subcommittee meeting's notice available at [https://www.mdeq.ms.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Meeting-Notice-8\\_24\\_2021\\_2.pdf](https://www.mdeq.ms.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Meeting-Notice-8_24_2021_2.pdf).

I. Meeting Attendees

Subcommittee Members who participated: Chris Wells (Co-Chair), Brandon Pike (Co-Chair), Kelly Lucas, Brenda Lathan, Jason Chiniche, Moby Solangi, Johnny Marquez, Mike Thompson, Rob Stinson

Subcommittee Members not in attendance: Representative Jeremy Anderson and Representative Hank Zuber.

Others present were: Valerie Alley, staff to MDEQ, and support contractors.

II. Subcommittee Meeting Discussion

- Co-Chair Chris Wells, MDEQ, welcomed the Subcommittee members and attendees to the meeting and described the Subcommittee of its role and the purpose of the meeting.
- Mr. Wells detailed portal project submission timing for any projects not currently in the project portal, project eligibility considerations, and this year's funding amount available for potential projects.
- The Subcommittee discussed how projects across the different subcommittees should be considered, and how projects should be reviewed for the purpose of coming to a list of recommended projects.
- The Subcommittee discussed various potential project ideas, and how other funding stream activities differed from RESTORE Act activities proposed for consideration (i.e. water quality related sewer improvement activities).
- The Subcommittee agreed to recommend an additional \$5,000,000 for the Water Quality Improvement Program funded under Bucket 1.
- The Subcommittee discussed establishing a fund for habitat management on state lands such as the Coastal Preserves Areas. There was some support for the idea. Discussion will resume next meeting.
- The Subcommittee members agreed to bring their project ideas for discussion at the next Subcommittee meeting to be held on September 1, 2021.

III. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned by the Sub-committee members at 10:57 a.m.