

Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute Foundation, Inc.
Grants Committee Meeting
March 26, 2014

The Grants Committee Meeting of the Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute Foundation, Inc. was held at the Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute at Florida Atlantic University's ("HBOI at FAU") campus in Fort Pierce, Florida at 12:30 pm on March 26, 2014.

The following Board members were present: Mike Toner, Chair; Joseph Duke; C. Amos Bussmann.

Also in attendance: Katha Kissman, Interim Executive Director, HBOIF; Colleen Brennan, Director of Operations, HBOIF; Dr. Megan Davis, Interim Executive Director, HBOI.

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 pm.

The meeting began with a general discussion of the desired the nature of the HBOIF Grants Committee now and in the future. Specifically, a discussion of "what kinds of grants do we wish to entertain" took place which involved the questions:

- Do we want to focus on hardware and bricks and mortar versus funding for labor?
- How can we stay nimble and responsive?
- How can we best maximize or leverage our dollars (looking at projects with potentials for matching funds)?

The Committee then reviewed a specific proposal from HBOI for Land/Ocean Biogeochemical Observatories (LOBOs) for Intensive, Real-time Water Quality Sampling in the Indian River Lagoon. This new proposal was submitted in response to the HBOI Foundation's request to increase estuarine observation and prediction network in the IRL, through the purchase and operation of three (3) additional LOBO instrumentation to be deployed in St. Lucie and Indian River counties (likely Vero Beach, downstream of the North, Main, and South Relief Canals, and near the Sebastian River and Sebastian Inlet; in St. Lucie County near Taylor Creak and Fort Pierce Inlet. These would complement the three (3) current LOBOs operated by HBOI and will complement the 5 current LOBO-like monitors recently deployed by St. Johns River Water Management District in the central and north IRL.

Because of the critical timeliness of the proposed project, it was moved unanimously to:

- Request a resubmission of the proposal from HBOI for the period of one year and which backs out Dr. M. Dennis Hanisak's salary and fringe benefits and reduces other costs, for a new request of \$559,295.
- Request a detail of "man-loading" from HBOI to forecast the labor needs under three scenarios – 1) should this proposal be funded; 2) should the pending legislative request which includes an additional purchase of three LOBOs be

funded; 3) should the pending SFWMD River Team issue proposal be funded, or 4) any combination of these scenarios.

- Request a projection from HBOI regarding the current data from existing LOBOs and making a case for “Given the data we have seen so far which is ... , we project if we have these additional data points from additional LOBOs, we can surmise ...” (Demonstrating how HBOI can have a wider Statewide impact through this work.)
- Present this funding opportunity to the Board of Directors at its April 24, 2014 meeting submit to the recommendation of the annual amount to the Discretionary Fund by the Finance Committee.

There followed a discussion about obtaining a Centers of Excellence designation from the State and looking into the Baldrige National Quality Award for HBOI. Davis and Kissman were tasked with looking into these opportunities.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1:15 pm.