



FAIRHOPE

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD

AGENDA ~ MONTHLY MEETING

SEPTEMBER 12, 2025 / 3-4 PM, FAIRHOPE PUBLIC LIBRARY ~ UPSTAIRS BOARD ROOM

ATTENDEES

COF Officials: Christina LeJeune, Nicole Love

FEAB Board Members: Amy Paulson, Ben Frater, Gary Gover, Nigel Temple, Jennifer Foutch, Anna Miller
FEAB Members Absent: Carl Couret, Steven Scyphers, Jim Horner
Official Quorum Count: 6/9

FEAB Active Participants: Sarah Bogdanovich, Jeanine Normand, Sarah Chandler, Nancy Harrison, Cassidy Redding

Honored Guests Susan Hammack and Sandy Tormoen - Baldwin County Trailblazers; Don Joffe - Baldwin County EAC; Gustavo Dovaihi – resident/Geologist; Sully VanSise, Braeden Mason, Benjamin Ford - Fairhope High School (FHS) Future Farmers of America (FFA)

Minutes Author: Nigel Temple

Commencement: Amy called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

SUMMARY OF SALIENT DECISIONS, DISCUSSION, AND ACTIONS

- RESOLUTIONS:
 - Reappointment for Amy Paulson and Jennifer Foutch.
 - Request for official Board meeting cadence to adjust to every-other-month starting January 2026. Interim months will focus on special workgroups or subcommittee efforts. This change enables all volunteers to continue to function as publicly accessible and available City asset while providing time for subgroups to focus on detailed planning and actioning of priority issues.
- Working Groups: Greenspace WG continues to network across City, including engaging other City (Bike & Ped) and County (BC Trailblazers) groups. SWaMP subcommittee is currently on hiatus.
- Fairhope High School Future Farmers of America engaged FEAB to assist their student-led leadership project to increase ecological beneficial use and potential catch-and-release fishing recreation opportunity at a pond on BC School property.

DETAILED MINUTES

1. Housekeeping

- a. Introduction of Guests
- b. RESOLUTION: Board unanimously approved July Meeting Minutes
- c. Membership Details
 - i. Amy, Gary, and Jennifer appointments expired
 1. Gary Gover declined reappointment and requested to be reclassified as Active Participant.
 2. FEAB now has 1 open space. Next-in-line Active Participant will have first right of refusal. Amy will discuss with Participants and will bring motion for appointment to October meeting.
 - ii. RESOLUTION: FEAB unanimously approved re-appointment for Amy Paulson and Jennifer Foutch.



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1. ACTION: Nicole to facilitate official Council vote in October, after September FEAB Meeting Minutes are approved.
- d. Meeting frequency/cadence
 - i. RESOLUTION: Beginning 1/2026, Regular FEAB meetings to meet bimonthly, sub-committee meetings in off-months. Motion passed unanimously.
 1. ACTION: Nicole to facilitate with Lisa Hanks/Council vote in October, after September FEAB Meeting Minutes are approved.
 - ii. Rationale: This change enables all volunteers to continue to function as publicly accessible and available City asset while providing space/time for subgroups to focus on detailed planning and actioning priority issues.
 - iii. If City officials, public citizens, or FEAB Board members or Participants find after implementation that this change hinders our success and accessibility, we commit to holding special meetings or adjusting the schedule back to 12 meetings per year if needed.

2. Priority Issues & Subcommittee Reports

- a. Sustainable Waste Management (SWaMP) – Sarah B/Sarah C/Jennifer/Gary
 - i. Leadership and Focus – Sarah B needs help. She will continue to lead in new bimonthly meeting format but may need to transition to support role.
 - ii. 2025 focused on worms and compost. 2026 can continue this as well but may broaden to include additional focus as identified.
 - iii. ACTION: Sarah B to organize next meeting.
- b. FHS Future Farmers of America (FFA)
 - i. Student-led project as part of leadership/mentorship program to explore careers in Agricultural Extension. They would like to target the stormwater pond at Fairhope Middle School / behind City of Fairhope Water Treatment Plant to increase ecological beneficial use and potential catch-and-release fishing recreation opportunity.
 1. Cost for any recommended work comes from FHS, FFA, or Baldwin County Schools (BCS) (i.e., they are not asking for funds from COF or FEAB).
 2. Michelle Melton identified that the pond belongs to BCS as part of the campus stormwater infrastructure (not COF).
 - ii. Students seek advisory assistance from FEAB expertise as they pursue an ecologically friendly approach to restoration, including assistance with water quality assessment and native species planting and stocking.
 1. Nigel offered that USA would be absolutely willing to assist with water quality monitoring and other elements as identified.
 2. FEAB is overwhelmingly supportive of this idea and available to assist as needed. Several members are interested in forming a subcommittee that would fully dedicate to supporting FHS FFA in this effort.
 - iii. ACTIONS:
 1. Amy to connect everyone over email so students can plan next steps.
 2. Nicole to find ownership and a POC to identify any use or constraint information for the selected location.
- c. Greenspace Assessment Working Group – Ben
 - i. Ben met with Katie from COF Bike and Ped Committee re: next steps for Greenspace effort.
 1. BC Trailblazers interested in collaborating.
 2. ACTION: Ben to organize next meeting with expanded participant list.
- d. Wildlife and Butterflies - Nancy
 - i. Nancy requested that anyone with available milkweed reach out to her – she's got a bunch of caterpillars that need to eat and they ate all her plants.



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- ii. The National Fish and Wildlife Federation (NFWF) has a back yard as habitat certification program. Qualifying yard attributes are fairly easy to attain. Nancy recommends more properties in Fairhope should get certified, starting with FEAB people. She is available to help assess your yard and complete the paperwork.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 4 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

October 10, 2025: 3-4, Fairhope Public Library Upstairs Boardroom. NOTE: Amy will not be present. Kathy Barnette to attend November meeting.



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FEAB CONTACT INFORMATION:

Chairperson:

Amy Paulson	amy.paulson@yahoo.com	(251) 654-7401
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Board Members:

Carl Couret	ccouretjr@yahoo.com	TBD
Jennifer Foutch	Foutch.jennifer@gmail.com	(618) 318-0354
Ben Frater	ben.frater@gmail.com	(404) 314-8815
Gary Gover	govers@bellsouth.net	(251) 990-8662
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Steven Scyphers	sscyphers@southalabama.edu	(334) 701-8864
Nigel Temple	757nigel@gmail.com	(757) 803-3589

Active Participants

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Sarah Chandler	sarahchandler504@gmail.com	(504) 239-6651
Lance Slater	lanceslater@gmail.com	
Jamie Crawford	7jamiecrawford7@gmail.com	TBD
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Cassidy Redding	credding@southalabamalandtrust.org	TBD
Jean Normand	DrJNormand@aol.com	TBD
Nancy Harrison	twicethroughdunloe@gmail.com	(251) 923-9453
Carole Tebay	cftabay@gmail.com	(850) 466-6592

CITY CONTACTS:

Nicole Love, COF Grants Coordinator	nicole.love@fairhopeal.gov
Justin Hammers, COF Urban Forrester	justin.hammers@fairhopeal.gov
Christina LeJeune, COF Planning and Zoning Department	christina.lejeune@fairhopeal.gov



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MEETING REFERENCES

FEAB Vision: *to serve as a trusted, scientific resource providing a local environmental perspective to policy decisions to ensure environmental matters are given full consideration in the City's decision-making processes. We strive to positively affect the quality of life for all residents, their connection to our local ecosystems, and the resilience and sustainment of Fairhope as a small, yet world-class, city.*

FEAB Role: *the FEAB is dedicated to increasing awareness of environmental issues, offering recommendations to City administrators, and providing state-of-the-science consultation in the implementation of sustainable solutions.*

MEETING READ-AHEADS

Land Use Plan - Environmental Issues.

See [FEAB NOTES](#) and [2024 FEAB LUP SUPPORT LETTER TO CITY](#).

The following list identifies specific sections of the LUP that are relevant to the FEAB's mission, speak to member professional expertise, or have been identified as Board priorities. We offer our utility to the City as you identify opportunities and track progress across the LUP and particularly for the following Tasks:

Ongoing

- Task C-2: Preserve natural areas and wetlands for recreational use
- Task C-3: Enforce green space requirements within new developments
- Task C-6: Encourage pest control and landscaping companies to implement best practices when applying pesticide and fertilizer
- Task C-7: Promote living shorelines
- Task C-8: Preserve and maintain gullies for recreational areas
- Task C-11: Implement Low Impact Development through the use of green infrastructure
- Task C-12: Construct Low Impact Development pilot projects in public right-of way and green space
- Task G-1: Design more parks for passive recreation

Year 1:

- Task C-9: Develop and/or update City codes to protect the environment
- Task C-10: Identify development incentives for environmentally-friendly project components

Year 2-3

- Task C-4: Develop and implement green space maintenance plans for areas that are not covered by existing maintenance agreements
- Task E-20: Develop a citywide Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Greenways Masterplan

Year 3-5

- Task G-2: Develop new parks in the eastern and southern portions of Fairhope