



Florida Department of Environmental Protection

CITIZEN SUPPORT ORGANIZATION

2015 REPORT

IMPLEMENTATION OF 20.058

F.S.

Citizen Support Organization (CSO) Name: Estero Bay Buddies, Inc.

Mailing Address: 700-1 Fisherman's Wharf, Fort Myers Beach, FL. 33931

Telephone Number: 239-707-3015 Website Address (if applicable): www.esterobaybuddies.org

Statutory Authority:

Section 20.2551, F.S., Citizen support organizations; use of property; audit; public records; partnerships. In summary, the statute specifies the organizational requirements, operational parameters, duties of a CSO to support the Department of Environmental Protection (Department), or individual units of the Department, use of Department property, audit requirements, public records requirements, and authorizes public-private partnerships to enhance lands managed by the Department.

Brief Description of the CSO's Mission:

Mission

The Estero Bay Buddies (EBB) is a non-profit Citizen Support Organization (CSO) for the Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve and the Estero Bay Preserve State Park. The mission of the EBB is to support the further protection, conservation, restoration, management and the enhancement of the natural and cultural resources of the coastal and aquatic ecosystems of the Estero Bay estuary and watershed for the enjoyment and appreciation of current and future generations.

Brief Description of the CSO's Results Obtained:

Estero Bay Buddies annual projects include but are not limited to National Estuaries Day at Estero River Outfitters, National Estuaries Day at San Carlos Bay- Bunche Beach Preserve, National Public Lands Day, Earth Day, International Coastal Clean Up, Monofilament Madness, Spring Fling Trash Bash, Estero Work Days (minimum of 2), 5th of July Beach Clean Up, Stand Up Paddle Board Race including Special Olympians, Big Hickory Island Clean Ups (2) and the Florida Sportsman Expo. Volunteers staff these events and provide educational exhibits.

Brief Description of the CSO's Plans for Next Three Fiscal Years:

Continue with public outreach and education and plan the 50th anniversary for the First Aquatic Preserve in the state of Florida.

Copy of the CSO's Code of Ethics attached

Certify the CSO has completed and provided to the Department the organization's most recent Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-N/Annual Financial Statement

Model CSO Code of Ethics – June 2014

Estero Bay Buddies CODE OF ETHICS

PREAMBLE

- (1) It is essential to the proper conduct and operation of the Estero bay Buddies (herein “CSO”) that its board members, officers, and employees be independent and impartial and that their position not be used for private gain. Therefore, the Florida Legislature in Section 112.3251, Florida Statute (Fla. Stat.), requires that the law protect against any conflict of interest and establish standards for the conduct of CSO board members, officers, and employees in situations where conflicts may exist.
- (2) It is hereby declared to be the policy of the state that no CSO board member, officer, or employee shall have any interest, financial or otherwise, direct or indirect, or incur any obligation of any nature which is in substantial conflict with the proper discharge of his or her duties for the CSO. To implement this policy and strengthen the faith and confidence of the people in Citizen Support Organizations, there is enacted a code of ethics setting forth standards of conduct required of the Estero Bay Buddies board members, officers, and employees in the performance of their official duties.

STANDARDS

The following standards of conduct are enumerated in Chapter 112, Fla. Stat., and are required by Section 112.3251, Fla. Stat., to be observed by CSO board members, officers, and employees.

1. Prohibition of Solicitation or Acceptance of Gifts

No CSO board member, officer, or employee shall solicit or accept anything of value to the recipient, including a gift, loan, reward, promise of future employment, favor, or service, based upon any understanding that the vote, official action, or judgment of the CSO board member, officer, or employee would be influenced thereby.

2. Prohibition of Accepting Compensation Given to Influence a Vote

No CSO board member, officer, or employee shall accept any compensation, payment, or thing of value when the person knows, or, with reasonable care, should know that it was given to influence a vote or other action in which the CSO board member, officer, or employee was expected to participate in his or her official capacity.

3. Salary and Expenses

No CSO board member or officer shall be prohibited from voting on a matter affecting his or her salary, expenses, or other compensation as a CSO board member or officer, as provided by law.

Model CSO Code of Ethics – June 2014

4. Prohibition of Misuse of Position

A CSO board member, officer, or employee shall not corruptly use or attempt to use one's official position or any property or resource which may be within one's trust, or perform official duties, to secure a special privilege, benefit, or exemption.

5. Prohibition of Misuse of Privileged Information

No CSO board member, officer, or employee shall disclose or use information not available to members of the general public and gained by reason of one's official position for one's own personal gain or benefit or for the personal gain or benefit of any other person or business entity.

6. Post-Office/Employment Restrictions

A person who has been elected to any CSO board or office or who is employed by a CSO may not personally represent another person or entity for compensation before the governing body of the CSO of which he or she was a board member, officer, or employee for a period of two years after he or she vacates that office or employment position.

7. Prohibition of Employees Holding Office

No person may be, at one time, both a CSO employee and a CSO board member at the same time.

8. Requirements to Abstain From Voting

A CSO board member or officer shall not vote in official capacity upon any measure which would affect his or her special private gain or loss, or which he or she knows would affect the special gain or any principal by whom the board member or officer is retained. When abstaining, the CSO board member or officer, prior to the vote being taken, shall make every reasonable effort to disclose the nature of his or her interest as a public record in a memorandum filed with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who shall incorporate the memorandum in the minutes. If it is not possible for the CSO board member or officer to file a memorandum before the vote, the memorandum must be filed with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting no later than 15 days after the vote.

9. Failure to Observe CSO Code of Ethics

Failure of a CSO board member, officer, or employee may result in the removal of that person from their position. Further, failure of the CSO to observe the Code of Ethics may result in the Florida Department of Environmental Protection terminating its Agreement with the CSO.

From: toadfish10@comcast.net
To: [Powers, Brian](#)
Cc: [Cain, Terri](#)
Subject: Fwd: Form 990-N E-filing Receipt - IRS Status: Accepted
Date: Wednesday, June 03, 2015 5:04:05 PM

To be included in annual report of Estero Bay Buddies.

From: epostcard@urban.org
To: [Toadfish10@comcast.net](mailto:toadfish10@comcast.net)
Sent: Friday, January 23, 2015 5:55:32 PM
Subject: Form 990-N E-filing Receipt - IRS Status: Accepted

Organization: ESTERO BAY BUDDIES INC
EIN: 65-0902021
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Year: 2014
Submission ID: 7800582015023ed45066
e-File Postmark: 1/23/2015 5:49:38 PM
Accepted Date: 1/23/2015

The IRS has accepted the e-Postcard described above. Please save this receipt for your records.

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e-Postcard technical support
Phone: 866-255-0654 (toll free)
email: ePostcard@urban.org

ESTERO BAY BUDDIES INC
700 Fishermans Wharf Unit 1
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931