

Draft Resolution
Baldwin County Commission, July 2019

RESOLUTION NUMBER _____
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE BEACH CLUB WEST NFWF PROJECT FOR
THE STATE OF ALABAMA

Whereas, The 2010 Deepwater Horizon Accident and subsequent settlements provided financial assistance to coastal areas for recovery related activities, including but not limited to economic development and land acquisition for the purpose of ecological preservation; and

Whereas, the Beach Club West Project has been submitted to the State of Alabama's public projects portal since January 2017; and

Whereas, the Beach Club West property is one of the largest still-undeveloped lands in coastal Alabama; and

Whereas, the Beach Club West property shares environmental studies and a beach access easement with the Gulf Highlands property, which has already been acquired by the NFWF fund and would make larger the ecological and environmental preserve as they are contiguous; and

Whereas, the partners of Fort Morgan Paradise Joint Venture have worked extensively and comprehensively with the State of Alabama and other groups on due diligence for this project, ensuring that the ecological and environmental thresholds would be met – including multiple meetings with the Governor's office and representatives of state and federal agencies; and

Whereas, the only way to maintain the current ecological and environmental integrity of the Beach Club West site for the purposes of this project would be for a public entity to hold title to it instead of a private development company; and

Whereas, when the interests of a private development company and the interests of the environmental preservation community are aligned, and resources exists to support that confluence of interests, we are supportive of their effort to work together to further their collective goal; and

Whereas, the Beach Club West Project has the support of the United State Fish and Wildlife Service, the Alabama Coastal Heritage Preservation Trust, and local elected officials and citizens who believe in the value of maintaining the natural state of the Beach Club West property for the purposes of this project;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Baldwin County Alabama that in all the information provided to us and the facts presented before us, the Governor would be well served to add the Beach Club West Project to her NFWF request list for 2019; additionally, the Governor is well served by the knowledge that we support the appropriate balance between development and ecological and environmental concerns, and we believe the acquisition of the Beach Club West project is and will remain the highest and best use of that property for generations to come.