

Water Quality Subcommittee (St. Marys River Management Committee)

MINUTES OF MEETING December 6, 2010 6 p.m.

The Water Quality Subcommittee (of the St. Marys River Management Committee) held a meeting on December 6, 2010, at the Cedar River Seafood restaurant in Callahan, Florida.

Members in attendance:

Jeremy Flood, Chip Campbell, Merrill Varn, Kevin Shell

Call to Order

The subcommittee meeting began at 6:15 and was led by member Jeremy Flood, Nassau County.

Sampling by DEP, EPD, and SJRWMD

Jeremy said that he had received all the data and forwarded it to Kevin.

Data Analysis

Kevin had only looked at the SJRWMD data but, because of the huge number of tests and data points, he had not been able to complete a summary report. Jeremy said that none of the agencies had supplied the requested summary reports and he assumed that there were none. He will call again to ask if there are any historic summaries. There was general discussion about which parameters to analyze first and Merrill Varn was asked to contact Kraig McLane (SJRWMD) and Laurie Fowler (UGA- River Basin Center) to get their suggestions. Once several of the parameters are analyzed, the subcommittee will be able to write a summary report for distribution to the counties.

Water Quality Technical Meeting

Merrill Varn was asked to contact Hollie Hall (UF- Conservation Clinic) to help organize the next meeting in March. There was general discussion about the need for additional interstate cooperation and communication on testing issues and the committee agreed that some effort should be made to address this issue at the March meeting. Perhaps the committee could ask them what would be the ideal way to sample the river and then ask how we can move closer to that ideal given the current two-state, three-agency system. The main topic for discussion at the meeting will be fecal coliform testing, specifically which tests have been used when, and can the data of the current and historic multi-agency tests be compared on the same graph. If not - is there a conversion factor? And if not, what is the best way to approach the analysis.

Several members of the subcommittee would like to attend the Technical Meeting so it will need to be a public meeting and will need to be noticed on the website. The location of the meeting will be either Coleraine Plantation or Charlton County Office Building.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be at Cedar River Seafood 6 p.m. January 10, 2011. The subcommittee will discuss data analysis and continue planning for the March Water Quality Technical Meeting.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.