

## **St. Marys River Management Committee**

P.O. Box 251 Folkston, Georgia 31537

### **MINUTES OF MEETING**

**January 7, 2013**

The St. Marys River Management Committee (SMRMC or committee) held its noticed meeting on January 7, 2013, at the Nassau County Building in Callahan, Florida. Committee members and visitors in attendance are listed at the end of the minutes. A quorum of members was present.

#### **Call to Order and Housekeeping Items**

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chairman Chip Campbell at 7:08 p.m. Members and visitors introduced themselves. Baker County Commissioner James Croft was introduced as a new member to the committee, replacing former commissioner Gordon Crews. The draft agenda was reviewed and approved. Previous meeting minutes from December 3, 2012, were reviewed and approved. John Myers, committee Treasurer, presented the committee's bank statement for December (2012). The committee's main account has a balance of \$3,381.51.

#### **Officer Nominations / Approval for 2013**

Greg Sheppard, for the Officer Nominating Subcommittee, informed the SMRMC that he and the others members of the subcommittee had conferred since the last meeting and developed a list of candidates for the officer positions for 2013. Sheppard said the potential officers had been contacted and that each had agreed to assume their respective officer positions for 2013. The slate of members for nomination was: Chip Campbell – Co-Chairman; Kevin Shell – Co-Chairman; John Myers – Treasurer; Merrill Varn – Secretary. Chris Gazes offered a motion to accept the slate of nominees as committee officers for 2013. The motion was seconded by Dean Woehrle. The motion was approved by the members.

#### **Review of 2012 Annual Report**

A draft version of the committee's Annual Report for 2012 was distributed and reviewed by the members. Upon completion of discussion, Chip Campbell offered a motion to accept the report, as amended. The motion was seconded by Winifred Stephenson and approved by the members.

The following members agreed to present the annual report to their respective county commissions: Dean Woehrle – Nassau County; Kevin Shell – Baker County; Chip Campbell – Charlton County; John Myers – Camden County.

#### **Proposed 2013 Budget**

Committee Treasurer John Myers reviewed the proposed budget for 2013. There was discussion among members about the budget and about ways to use the funds in the dedicated, or "Hap Harrigan," account. Myers mentioned that the committee had not received funding from Camden County or Nassau County for 2012. Merrill Varn, Charlton County, suggested mentioning the delinquency during the presentations of the annual report. Greg Sheppard offered a motion to accept the proposed budget, as amended. The motion was seconded by Chip Campbell and the motion was approved by the members.

### **2013 River Cleanup & Celebration**

The annual river cleanup will be March 16, 2013. Dean Woehrle said he will send letters to previous cleanup sponsors, asking for donations for 2013. There was discussion among members as to whether the committee should support a tire removal project, as part of the clean up. Chip Campbell offered a motion that the committee would organize a tire collection/removal project, contingent upon receiving funding from the four counties. The motion was seconded by Greg Sheppard and was approved by the members. It was agreed that Melinda Granlund, administrative assistant, would contact the tire removal company and confirm pricing and dates.

### **Subcommittee Updates**

Melinda Granlund, administrative assistant, asked for clarification of membership for each of the subcommittees. There was general discussion among members as to who was on which subcommittee. Keith Tindal offered a motion to accept the following subcommittee assignments:

- Water Quality: Merrill Varn, Winifred Stephenson, Kevin Shell, and Karen Chisholm
- Water Quantity: Teresa Crawford, Kevin Shell, Keith Tindall, and John Myers
- Public Outreach (and River Cleanup): Dean Woehrle, Karen Chisholm, Jim Wildes, Teresa Crawford, and Russell Barber

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Land Use & Planning: John Myers, Chip Campbell, Greg Sheppard, Russell Barber, Dean Woehrle, and Chris Gazes

The motion was seconded by Kevin Shell and approved by the members.

### **Water Quality Subcommittee Update**

Merrill Varn said the University of Georgia River Basin Center would be meeting on January 8, 2013, to discuss the next steps for the Section 319 grant. Varn asked that the Water Quality Subcommittee meet the following week (on January 15) to review the River Basin Center's decisions and to decide the SMRMC's involvement with the grant. John Myers offered a motion that the subcommittee meet on the 15<sup>th</sup>. Winifred Stephenson seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by the members.

### **Committee Member Reports or Comments**

John Myers informed the committee that a well on the Gilman property had blown out and was flooding into the North River (which feeds into the St. Marys River). There was discussion about the possible contamination of the well-water.

Chip Campbell informed the committee that The Nature Conservancy's property at Devil's Elbow had been sold. The sale included various conservation restrictions. Campbell said that both he and Russell Barber were formal stewards of the property until it was sold, but that neither he nor Barber had heard from the buyer regarding the sale or the property.

Melinda Granlund, administrative assistant, asked members if they would consider bringing their own copies of the agenda and minutes to the meeting, in an effort to save on copying fees. The members agreed to do so.

\*Approved at SMRMC meeting on February 4, 2013.

Merrill Varn suggested the committee send a letter to former member Mitchell Crawford, thanking him for his time and service to the committee.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

**St. Marys River Management Committee  
Attendance Log – January 7, 2013**

**Baker County Members**

James Croft, Commissioner  
Chris Gazes  
Kevin Shell  
Greg Sheppard

**Nassau County Members**

Cory Black  
Winifred Stephenson  
Keith Tindall  
Dean Woehrle

**Camden County Members**

Karen Chisholm  
John Myers

**Charlton County Members**

Chip Campbell  
Merrill Varn

**Non-voting Members**

Alice Vick, Georgia Environmental Protection Division

**Visitors**

Leonard Davis  
Danny Norton

**Administrative Assistant** – Melinda Granlund