

St. Marys River Management Committee

P.O. Box 251 Folkston, Georgia 31537

MINUTES OF MEETING

December 2, 2013

The St. Marys River Management Committee (SMRMC or committee) held its noticed meeting on December 2, 2013, at the Callahan Volunteer Fire Department conference center in Callahan, Florida. Committee members and visitors in attendance are listed at the end of the minutes. A quorum of members was present.

The following items were discussed:

Call to Order and Housekeeping

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM. The draft agenda was accepted without revision (motion by Greg Sheppard, seconded by Chip Campbell).

- October 7, 2013 meeting minutes: approved without revision (motion by John Myers, seconded by Chris Gazes).
- November 4, 2013 meeting minutes: approved without revision (motion by Greg Sheppard, seconded by John Myers).
- Treasurer's Report: Committee Treasurer John Myers reported that the committee's main bank account has \$6,236.12. The Harrigan Fund has \$506.50. Myers introduced a proposed budget for 2014 to be included with the Annual Report. The committee decided to add \$150 for a water quality task force lunch, and \$500 for outreach project costs, such as booth rentals and supplies for county festivals. There was discussion of reprinting river maps but it was decided that updating the current website posting was more cost-effective. Updates will be discussed next year.
- Toys for Tots were placed in the fire department bins.

New business

Subcommittee breakout/planning session

The committee began the process of re-evaluating the river management plan goals by asking each subcommittee to list two focus projects for 2014.

- Land Use:
 - 1) contact county commissioners in January or February to present the Annual Report, and contact at least the county commission representative in April or May following the river clean up, and in August or September prior to the fall festival season with additional committee updates
 - 2) monitor agenda for items of interest to the committee (e.g. Baker County - Oldcastle, Camden-Horsepen 319 grant, Charlton-Spanish Creek 319 grant. (Nassau County had no representatives present.)
- Outreach:
 - 1) improve river clean up by recruiting more site captains and adding sites on tributaries

*Minutes approved at SMRMC meeting on January 6, 2014.

- 2) investigate designation and sponsorship of St. Marys as a paddling trail and report to county commissions
- Water Quantity (Floods, withdrawal permits, etc.)
 - 1) investigate heavy rainfall event runoff monitoring at Steel Bridge (Baker County) and Chesser Island (Charlton County) landfills, whether data exist, and if not, should it be added?
 - 2) flood gauge - location, calibration, type of device, funding options
 - Water Quality
 - 1) encourage Charlton County to apply for Spanish Creek Implementation Plan
 - 2) host a water quality task force to promote data sharing among Georgia (DEP), Florida (EPD and SJRWMD) and federal (EPA) agencies

Each county was asked to submit one or two suggestions for speakers in 2014.

- Baker – rural on-site sewage disposal options, sludge management, sprayfields
- Camden – sea level rise, adopt a stream program
- Charlton – Southern Ionics zircon mining methods, Chesser Island Landfill stream protection protocol for Boone and Cornhouse Creeks
- Nassau – no representative present

The annual report to the county commissions will be emailed with the January agenda. The following county representatives agreed to make arrangements to be placed on agenda for their respective counties to deliver the report: Baker - Chris Gazes, Camden - Jim Wildes, Charlton - Chip Campbell, Nassau - no representative present.

Subcommittees

- Water Quality – the Horsepen 319 grant had four additional septic inspections completed, Scott Pippin is still trying to contact the remaining three. The demonstration project at Temple Landing should be completed by Friday, December 6, 2013. Scott will submit the last quarterly report and the final closeout report by December 31, 2013; he will send copies to Camden County and the committee. Scott has submitted a grant for continuation of the project.
- Nominating – met during the breakout sessions, and proposed the following slate of officers for 2014: Co-chairs Chip Campbell and Kevin Shell, Secretary Merrill Varn, and Treasurer John Myers.

Public Comments

There were no comments from the public.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:28 PM.

St. Marys River Management Committee Attendance – December 4, 2013

Baker County Members

Chris Gazes
Kevin Shell
Greg Sheppard

Nassau County Members

Camden County Members

Karen Chisholm
Rick Frey
John Myers
Jim Wildes

Charlton County Members

John Meyer, Commissioner
Russell Barber
Chip Campbell
Merrill Varn

Non-voting Members

Alice Vick, GEPD

Visitors

Al Crace, Charlton County
Steve Nance, Charlton County
Dyana Jo Stewart, Florida Rural Water Association



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2014 PROPOSED BUDGET

ANTICIPATED COUNTY REVENUE:

Baker County, FL \$	500.00
Camden County, GA	\$500.00
Charlton County, GA	\$500.00
Nassau County, FL	\$1,000.00 (2012 delinquent)

TOTAL \$2,500.00

DEDICATED REVENUE:

Grant – Pentecost Fund	\$500.00
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TOTAL \$500.00

TOTAL REVENUE \$3,000.00

ALLOCATED EXPENSES:

Administrative Assistant	\$1,200.00
Office Expenses	\$ 100.00

TOTAL \$1,300.00

ANTICIPATED EXPENSES:

River Celebration	\$1,500.00
Tire Cleanup Expenses	\$1,500.00

TOTAL \$3,000.00

TOTAL EXPENSES \$4,300.00

12/02/13 CASH OH HAND: \$6,263.12

HARRIGAN FUND \$ 506.50

The St. Marys River Management Committee is an intergovernmental entity of elected and appointed members from the four counties framing the river: Charlton and Camden, GA, and Nassau and Baker, FL. The committee advises the four county commissions and provides a public forum on issues concerning the St. Marys River.