

St. Marys River Management Committee

68 Kingsland Dr., Suite B ATTN: SMRMC
Folkston, GA 31537-2872

MINUTES OF MEETING

July 7, 2014

The St. Marys River Management Committee (SMRMC or committee) held its noticed meeting on July 7, 2014, 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 7:00 PM. A quorum was not present at the start of the meeting. The following items were reviewed and approved unanimously after the presentation.

- July draft agenda
- The minutes from June 2, 2014

Treasurer's Report: John Myers reported that the committee's main bank account has \$5,898.12; the Hap Harrigan Management Plan Fund has a balance of \$506.50. John Myers had drafted a letter to the counties of the interlocal Agreement requesting funding for the upcoming year. The letter was approved to be sent to the counties. There was discussion on the website hosting company, billing cycles and current billing method. This current bill will be paid check by mail. The Treasurer and Administrative Asst. will do research on alternative hosting companies and prices to ensure the best deal.

Presentation

Options for On-Site and Cluster Waste Water Management

Katie Sheehan, Senior Legal Fellow, University of Georgia, River Basin Center
She discussed the information in the Guidebook developed by the River Basin Center for Georgia but pointed out how it could be applicable in Florida. The Guidebook provides groups with policy strategies, program development and guidance on Waste Water Management Systems. She focused on three segments of the Guidebook – 1) Non-Regulatory Programs and Regulatory Programs with case studies, 2) Planning and Implementation and 3) Community Cluster Systems. She emphasized that an inventory and maps of existing systems is the most important first step. The guidebook models a point system for rating risk factors, but each community or entity has to modify it based on their area. Currently, Chatham and Bryan County are considering the risk-based point system. (The presentation will be available on the committee's website.)

Old Business

*Minutes were approved by SMRMC meeting on October 6, 2014.

Future meeting topics

The calendar for upcoming speakers was reviewed, and next month's speaker was confirmed.

New business

The decomposition poster, from last month's meeting has been revised for river items. It was asked if the Education Subcommittee could review it and follow-up with its possible use in a future education capacity.

City of St. Marys is sponsoring a Wilderness Act Celebration for Cumberland Island to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act on Saturday September 6th. The booth fee is \$20. Several groups will be participating including NPS. There was discussion on whether we should participate and what educational materials should be used. It was unanimously voted that \$125 of the education budget be used for materials and booth fee for the Wilderness Act Celebration Event.

Subcommittee Updates

Water Quality/Quantity –Discussed logistics for the Risk-based Management of On-site Septic Disposal Systems meeting being held on July 8th.

Land use and Planning –
Public Outreach/River Clean up –

Public Comments

There were no comments from the public.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.