

*Minutes will be approved by SMRMC on January 4, 2016.

St. Marys River Management Committee

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

MINUTES OF MEETING

December 7, 2015

The St. Marys River Management Committee (SMRMC or committee) held its noticed meeting on December 7, 2015, at the Callahan Volunteer Fire Department conference center in Callahan, Florida.

In attendance, Committee members by county:

Camden – Jim Wildes

Charlton – Chip Campbell, Merrill Varn

Baker – Chris Gazes (Co-chair), James Croft

Nassau – George Spicer, Cory Black, Keith Tindall, Dean Woehrle, Al Manning

Non-voting Members – None.

Committee Staff: Shelley Beville, Committee Admin. Asst.

The following items were discussed:

Call to Order and Housekeeping

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM. A quorum was present . The draft agenda was reviewed and approved.

- The minutes from October 5, 2015 and November 2, 2015, were reviewed and approved unanimously.
- Treasurer's Report: The treasurer was not present, so no report was given.

Old Business

The pipeline accident that Keith mentioned in the last meeting was a Kinder Morgan pipeline that burst in Benson City approx. 8 months ago. Keith heard about it on 60 minutes.

Hap Harrigan fund can only be used for the river management plan, or if the committee ever has a permanent office, to put up a plaque commemorating Hap Harrigan.

The treasurer position is still vacant, but new officers should be nominated in January. The committee selected a nominating committee, consisting of Chip Campbell, Dean Woehrle, James Croft and Jim Wildes (all counties were represented). In addition, James Croft mentioned that Mr. Porterfield of Baker County will be unable to continue on the committee.

New Business

Shelley will remind Rick that he needs to write the Annual Report.

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Meeting dates for 2016 are as follows: Jan. 4th, Feb 1st, Mar 7th, Apr 4th, May 2nd, Jun 6th, Jul 11th, Aug. 1st, Sept. 12th, Oct 3rd, Nov. 7th and Dec 5th.

Jim Wildes asked Dean Woehrle about dates for the River Clean-up, it is set for the third Saturday in March (3/19/16). Commissioner Spicer asked that we not have people drop off tires at the boat ramp in Nassau County. It is an issue at all the sites, and several ideas about searching for disposal funding or alternative uses for the tires were discussed. Camden and Charleton counties have been able to find disposal methods in previous years.

Jim Wildes also asked for an update on the RiverKeeper discussion. Chip Campbell informed the group that Rick Frey was still pursuing it, and had spoken to many people who were on board with the possibility. The committee expressed the need to remain separate from a Riverkeeper. However, it was noted that having support for a Riverkeeper from the broader community as well as people and companies with a vested interest in the quality of the river is important .

Subcommittee Updates

- **Government/River Issues:**
- **Outreach and Education:**

Public Comments

There were no comments from the public.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for January 4, 2016.