

*Minutes were officially approved by SMRMC on February 2, 2015.

St. Marys River Management Committee

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

MINUTES OF MEETING

January 5, 2015

The St. Marys River Management Committee (SMRMC or committee) held its noticed meeting on January 5, 2015, at the Callahan Volunteer Fire Department conference center in Callahan, Florida. A quorum of members was present.

In attendance: Committee Members by county - [Charlton] Chip Campbell (Co-Chairman), Merrill Varn (Secretary), Russell Barber, Dr. Josh Howard; [Camden] John Myers (Treasurer), Karen Chisolm, Rick Frey; [Baker] Chris Gazes; [Nassau] County Commissioner George Spicer, Earl K. Tindall, Dean Woerhle; Non-voting Members - Alice Vick, GA DNR, Geoff Sample, SJRWMD, Shelley Beville Committee Admin; Visitors - Steve Nance.

Call to Order and Housekeeping

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM. The draft agenda was reviewed and approved. The minutes from November 3, 2014 were reviewed and approved with the following change:
In regards to the report by Josh Howard (related to sediment, likely colloidal clays, discharged into the river near the Harris Creek area following a 4-6" rain event on September 6, Alice Vick said there may be water quality violations.

The December minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: John Myers reported \$5,407.79 cash on hand, \$506.50 in the Harrigan Fund, one deposit of \$500.00 from Camden County and one debit of \$315.32 for Shelley Beville/Admin duties.

In addition, John reported on the budget for the upcoming year:

- Total revenue of \$4,000 is anticipated with the funds from each county, Camden and Baker counties are current, Nassau is delinquent for 2012, received funds for 2013 and 2014, and 2015 are expected. Commissioner Spicer said he would look into the 2012 funds. Charleton County is delinquent since 2012 because other donations were mistakenly attributed to their account. Al Crace has looked into the issue and will share this with the County.
- Allocated Expenses - \$2700.00
- Anticipated Expenses – Approximately \$3000.00
- Cash on Hand - \$5407.79

Old Business

Discussions about the presentations for 2014 took place. Chip Campbell reviewed the ideas from the December meeting, suggesting that there be four presentations, one from each county throughout the year. Chris Gazes was asked about St. Marys Shoals Park being the first presentation. Baker County representatives need to meet before a suggestions for

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presentations are made. The committee agreed that county representatives will need to meet and prepare presentations ideas.

Discussion regarding a review of term appointment for members was brought up by Shelley Beville and Geoff Sample. The Committee by-laws state members are on 4 year terms, staggered by two years. However, the term limits do not preclude members from reappointment to the committee. Shelley Beville and Al Crace will work on a document to circulate to the committee updating the information regarding each members' information.

New Business

Chip Campbell also presented the slate of committee officers selected by the Nominating Committee:

John Myers – Georgia Co-Chairman

Chris Gazes – Florida Co-Chairman

Josh Howard – Treasurer

Rick Frey – Secretary

The floor was open to nominations; having none, the nominations were unanimously approved by the committee.

The Annual Report was reviewed by the committee and is the final stages of editing and the financial data will be added. Requests were made for a representative from each county to present the Annual Report to their county representatives. Volunteers included Dean Woehrle (Nassau County), John Myer (Camden), Chris Gazes (Baker), Merrill Varn (Charleston).

Dean Woerhle was asked if the Committee members could help with River Clean-up preparations. Dean suggested the committee help find site captains and procure donations or sponsorships. In addition, the date of the clean-up needs to be confirmed with White Oak. The sooner the date is known the better as Charleston County likes to coincide their clean-up event with that of the committee. An announcement and informational sheet will be prepared by Shelley and Dean Woerhle to be distributed by Geoff Sample and others.

Subcommittee Updates

Water Quality and Water Quantity – Rick Frey suggested the committee work with Georgia's Coastal Solid Waste Advisory Committee to get school groups or classrooms to participate in the Adopt-a-Stream program and begin utilizing the bacterial investigation component (E.coli specific) on streams of the St. Marys. Josh Howard had some ideas about local Georgia County Environmental School Groups that might be engaged.

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Chip Campbell and Merrill Varn both had proposal to restructure the subcommittees to simplify better represent the work of the committee. They proposed two sub-committees: Outreach and an Issues/Governmental. Benefits and pitfalls were discussed. The changes were accepted.

Public Comments

There were no comments from the public.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for February 2, 2015**