

\*discussion will be reviewed by SMRMC on October 3, 2016.

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

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

**September 12, 2016**

The St. Marys River Management Committee (SMRMC or committee) noticed meeting on September 12, 2016, at the Callahan Volunteer Fire Department conference center in Callahan, Florida.

In attendance:

**Baker** – Ed Barber

**Camden** –

**Charlton** – Commissioner James E. Everett, Merrill Varn, Chip Campbell, Russell Barber

**Nassau** - Earl K. Tindall

**Non-voting Members** - Shelley Beville, Committee Admin.

Visitors- Rick Frey, St. Marys Riverkeeper

In the absence of a quorum, no business was conducted but the following discussion was held.

The meeting began at 7:25pm. Merrill Varn reviewed the bank statements: Currently \$5,735.01. The balance of the Hap Harrigan Fund was donated to the St. Marys Riverkeeper and therefore will no longer be included in the report. The balance of the Management Plan Fund, moved from the separate account, is \$506.50.

### **Discussion Topics**

Rick Frey provided a review of the 319 grant for Horsepen Creek in Camden County. He and the new Camden County grant writer are working on it and should have it submitted by 10/31/2016. They are proposing a 3year budget of \$350,000 to replace 30 septic tanks Camden County will provide 40% match through in-kind services.

Merrill Varn provided an update on the Spanish Creek water quality efforts. Folkston received a combination loan and grant to replace their package plant off Gowen Drive. The engineer for the project will speak at the next meeting for us to learn about the proposed Folkston treatment facility. When the request to begin work on the fecal coliform impairment on Spanish Creek was brought before the Charlton County Board of Commissioners, they asked that the County Administrator collect more data from EPD. They will be requesting all data from Georgia EPD, if there is any missing from what they were already provided. In addition, Ryne Nimmo, the planner with South Georgia Regional Commission who helped with the presentation to the commissioners, will be attending seminars on applying for Coastal Incentives Grants and writing effective Watershed Plans in October and December.

Merrill Varn updated the committee on the Kinder Morgan pipeline and Southern utility. Merrill spoke with Ashby Nix who said she didn't think that the union of the companies to

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install natural gas pipelines mostly in south Florida would affect the proposed Palmetto Pipeline.

Dean Woehrle asked about an update on the spaceport. John Myers will update the committee on this during the next meeting. (may want to mention that spaceport meeting being held at same time as SMRMC meeting which was why we didn't have a quorum).

Rick Frey informed the committee the St. Marys Riverkeeper Grand Opening will be held on November 19<sup>th</sup>. The VIP tickets are sold out but the general admission is still available. If interested, see their website at [smrv.org/events](http://smrv.org/events).

The next committee meeting is scheduled for October 3, 2016.\*\*