

*Minutes will be reviewed by SMRMC on May 1, 2017.

St. Marys River Management Committee

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

MINUTES OF MEETING

April 3, 2017

The St. Marys River Management Committee (SMRMC or committee) held its noticed meeting on April 3, 2017, at the Callahan Volunteer Fire Department conference center in Callahan, Florida.

Committee members in attendance by county:

Baker –

Camden – Commissioner Ben Casey, Karen Chisholm, Chris Chauncey

Charlton – Commissioner James E. Everett, Sam Williams (Treasurer), Chip Campbell

Nassau – Earl K. Tindall, Dean Woehrle

Non-voting Members – Others Present - Shelley Beville, Admin Assistant; Geoff Sample, SJRWMD; Rick Frey, St. Marys Riverkeeper; Michael Powell

A quorum was present.

Call to Order and Housekeeping

The discussions began at 7:10 PM. The agenda for April was reviewed and approved. The minutes from March 6, 2017 were reviewed and approved.

As of April 3, 2017 there was \$6,148.87 in the account.

Old Business

Sam Williams finished the budget for the annual report and Shelley will have it available by the end of the week. Sam Williams volunteered to present the Annual Report(what?) at the Charlton County meeting, Dean Woehrle may present at Nassau County, John Myers will present at April Camden County meeting and Baker County presentation is still to be decided.

Rick Frey updated the committee on the progress of the FEMA project reported by Karen Chisholm. The Riverkeeper reported he investigated the problem and contacted the state regarding the vegetation cutting, and the contractors stopped within 48 hours. Approximately 700 tons of vegetation were removed from the Nassau County side of the river from King's Ferry to White Oak. A link to the article will be added to the website.

New Business

Shelley Beville brought up information regarding the NOAA sea level rise visualization application. She will be posting a link to the application on the SMRMC website.

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Geoff Sample provided the committee with the “Assessment of the St. Marys River Biological Water Quality, Primary Productivity, and Pollutant Load – Phase I Monitoring” from 10/2006-3/2008 by University of Georgia Marine Extension Service. This report will be added as additional documents from the April 2017 meeting on the website.

Subcommittee Updates

- **Government/River Issues :** Rick Frey informed the committee that the Rayonier Stewardship District was voted out of the Ways and Means Committee. John Myers informed the committee that Georgia House will revisit the Coastal Protection Act next year once they redefine boundaries of sand dunes.
- **Outreach and Education:** No report.

Public Comments

Rick Frey handed out posters for the River Clean-up planned for 4/22. There are 20 sites, and White Oak will be welcoming participants from 12:00-4:00 pm.

Mr. Michael Powell attended the meeting and asked a question regarding the Rayonier discussion from the March meeting. He wanted to know if the drawdown from the water table proposed by the Phase I construction would affect the wells of nearby homeowners. Geoff Sample generally described the SJRWMD consumptive use permitting process and the monitoring of impacts on the aquifer. Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM

The next committee meeting is scheduled for May 1, 2017**