

*Discussion notes were reviewed and approved by SMRMC on August 7, 2017

St. Marys River Management Committee

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

MINUTES OF MEETING

July 10, 2017

The St. Marys River Management Committee (SMRMC or committee) held its noticed meeting on July 10, 2017, at the Callahan Volunteer Fire Department conference center in Callahan, Florida.

Committee members in attendance by county:

Baker – Commissioner James Croft, Ed Barber

Camden – Commissioner Ben Casey, Chris Chauncey, John Myers (Co-chair), Karen Chisholm

Charlton –Merrill Varn (Secretary), Chip Campbell

A quorum was not present.

Call to Order and Housekeeping

The discussions began at 7:00 PM. No items could be voted on.

General Information Discussed

The felling of healthy trees on the banks of the Nassau River was not a FEMA project, but a Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) project. The St. Marys Riverkeeper is meeting with a DEP representative and a representative from each of the sub-contractors and taking them out on Nassau River. The Riverkeeper also confirmed that the 319 Grant was approved and 30 septic tanks in the Browntown area will be replaced. They are currently working out the best methods to talk to homeowners and distribute the septic systems.

John Myers mention the Regional Community Institute will be having a meeting at the Regional Water Plant in Jacksonville on Wednesday July 12, 2017 from 2-4pm and several members will be in attendance to represent the St. Marys River. More information about the group and the meeting can be found at <http://www.rcinef.org/Water-Committee.html>

Merrill Varn was able to get all the data from EPD regarding Spanish Creek. Sampling will be conducted by Folkston above and below the water treatment facility out to 121. There will be three sampling days to try and better determine where the water quality issues are emanating.

Chip Campbell informed the committee that NMFS has stopped sturgeon sampling in the River. The sturgeon are still reproducing but not in large numbers. There is sidescan SONAR information on the river and Chip will see if the committee can get access to it.

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Public Comments

No comments

Discussion ended at 8:15 PM.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for August 7, 2017**