

*Minutes will be reviewed by SMRMC on March 2, 2020.

St. Marys River Management Committee

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

MINUTES OF MEETING

February 3, 2020

The St. Marys River Management Committee (SMRMC or committee) held its noticed meeting on February 3, 2020, at the Callahan Volunteer Fire Department conference center in Callahan, Florida.

Committee members in attendance by county:

Baker – Ed Barber

Camden – Commissioner Ben Casey, John Myers, Jim Wildes, Karen Chisholm

Charlton – Commissioner James Everett, Merrill Varn, Chip Campbell

Nassau – Dean Woehrle

Non-voting Members –

Others Present – St.Marys RvierKeeper, Anna Laws

A quorum was present.

Call to Order and Housekeeping

The meeting was called to order at 7:07pmThe February agenda was approved. Merrill Varn requested adding more detail to the Spanish Creek CIG report in the January Minutes so that it could be used for grant reporting. There were also other minor corrections made. The minutes were approved with the suggested corrections. Merrill will send the corrections to Shelley. The Treasurer, Karen Chisholm, reported that the balance in the bank account was \$7399.93.

OLD BUSINESS

Land Use (including public access)

no reports

Water Quality

Horsepen/Temple Creek 319 Septic Project- Ben Casey reported that 19 systems had been completed and there were 2 of the approved 21 remaining. The steering committee will be reviewing the budget to see if there is money to do additional repairs or a replacement. Camden County is expanding the work to Malletts and Temple Creeks.

City of St. Marys 319 SHRIMP Project- Jim Wildes reported that the project had moved down to the Osborne St area but was paused while the City made an ADA change order. The pause and change order will delay completion until March.

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Spanish Creek Nine Point CIG Project- No report this month. Second Advisory Committee Meeting is February 11, 2020.

NPDES permits- Anna Laws reported that the state review of the permit for River Oaks Mobile Home Park (Harriett's Bluff Crooked River) had been delayed because of agency backlog. No other permits are up for renewal in Camden or Charlton.

Water Quantity (Flooding and Water Removal)

Four County Stormwater Management- In January, Merrill Varn requested that each county propose a project that would help mitigate the effects of stormwater runoff on the St. Marys River. Deatre Denion's highest priority was for counties to pass ordinances to have any development submit approved stormwater plans to the county in digital format. This action would capture all data going forward. Ed Barber said that if he were asked whether Baker County should pass an ordinance, he would say no because it would imply that someone needed to do something with the information and there was no staff to do that. Ed also said that Sara Little, rather than Robert Fletcher should be asked about drainage for Baker Co. Ed will ask Phil Rhoden, the City Manager for Macclenny, if they are actively using the Stormwater Management Plan that Geoff Sample referenced. John Myers reminded the committee that the City of St. Marys (Camden Co) was studying the need for a Stormwater Utility.

Merrill reminded the committee they had previously expressed interest in asking various cities in the four-county area to present their stormwater plans (eg Andre Desilet, Lee Spell). She will ask Shelley to investigate and suggest dates. Merrill reported that there was a March 2-3, 2020 workshop "Cross Boundary River Systems: Working together to Incorporate Natural Infrastructure into Flood Management" funded by a joint grant to The Nature Conservancy and NOAA. She asked SMRMC county representatives to encourage their county and city governments to send at least one person to the conference. The focus rivers for the conference are the St. Marys (GA/FL) and the Waccamaw/Lumber (NC/SC). Merrill and Anna are on the organizing committee for the conference.

Federal, State and Local Regulations and County Comprehensive Plans

Update on No-Wake Zone Signage Nassau County- Waiting for Sam Williams to complete the application so that John Myers can talk to the Nassau County Attorney about the resolution requiring the \$175 fee.

Partner Reports

Twin Pines update- Chip Campbell said that Twin Pines and USACE were continuing to meet about the mining project. There is no deadline for this stage of the permit. There is also a GA-EPD permit required.

Anna said that the River CleanUp will be April 25, 2020.

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Joint Meeting SMRMC and SMRK- Chip Campbell said the two organizations should still work toward periodic joint meetings once SMRK completes their strategic plan.

Administrative

County Participation and Annual Contribution- All counties except Baker have paid their annual dues. Ed Barber suggested Karen send Baker County a second notice and address it specifically to Sara Little, the Acting County Manager.

Dean Woehrle said that he would talk to Nassau County about filling their two vacancies. Ed Barber will talk to the City of Macclenny about one of their City Council Members joining the committee to fill one of the three Baker vacancies.

The Annual Report will be delivered to the counties only the following schedule:

Baker- 2/4

Camden- 2/18

Charlton- 2/6

Nassau- Dean will arrange and notify committee of date

Merrill asked the committee if it would be possible to change the order of the discussion items on the agenda and in the minutes to make it easier to collate the minutes for the annual report. The February minutes reflect that order rather than the order of the agenda.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:19pm.

Public Comments

The meeting was adjourned at 8:19pm.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for March 2, 2020.**