

*Minutes were approved by SMRMC on February 3, 2020.

St. Marys River Management Committee

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

MINUTES OF MEETING

January 6, 2020

The St. Marys River Management Committee (SMRMC or committee) held its noticed meeting on January 6, 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, Chris Chauncey, Karen Chisholm

Charlton – Merrill Varn, Chip Campbell, Russell Barber

Nassau – Earl K. Tindall

Non-voting Members –

Others Present –

A quorum was present.

Call to Order and Housekeeping

The meeting was called to order at 7:10pm. Following introductions, the December agenda was approved. Merrill Varn requested adding more detail to the Spanish Creek CIG report for clarification. Minutes approved as amended. The Treasurer, Karen Chisholm, reported that the balance in the bank account was \$5538.53 and all the letters to the counties requesting dues had been sent out in December 2019.

OLD BUSINESS:

Horsepen/Temple Creek 319 Septic Project- Ben Casey reported that 18 systems have been completed and the last 3 are delayed because of rain. In addition, at the statewide meeting with EPD this project was chosen as a model for ordinance and project success. Karen Chisholm had a question about on the houses getting septic and the placement of the drain field the committee looked at the home and will look into the reason for that configuration.

City of St. Marys 319 SHRIMP Project- The work on St. Marys St is complete except for the replacement of plant material killed by king tide floods. The contractor has moved to Osborne St near City Hall.

Spanish Creek Nine Point CIG Project- Spanish Creek- The first meeting of the Citizen's Advisory Committee was held December 10, 2019. Rob Brown (GMC) presented information about the physical characteristics of the creek and past sampling data. The group discussed past sampling sites and set new sites for the student samplers. Stakeholders were able to provide excellent access to selected sites. Audrey Pickren and Ashley Raulerson, the Charlton County teachers

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assigned to the project, have received Adopt-A-Stream training from Anna Laws (SMRK) and will in turn train their students in January. The first two sampling dates will be February -mid April.

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

Four County Stormwater Management- Each county reviewed any progress made from the suggestion to propose a project to help mitigate the effects of stormwater runoff on the St. Marys River:

Merrill called Deatre Denion, previous DNR Stormwater Specialist. She made the following prioritized recommendations to rural counties:

1. Capture all the information going forward by requiring new development to submit digital stormwater management plan.
2. Capture past development by inventory and assessment (ditches, pipes, culverts, existing damage) GPS would be cheaper than LiDAR.
3. List out problems and solutions
4. Prioritize the list of problems
5. Identify and seek out funding sources.

Shawn Boatright reported that Camden County is doing a pilot stormwater system inventory project with USACE (Silver Jackets Program) and hopes to apply for future CIG funding to do a countywide stormwater management plan.

Baker - Merrill called Geoff Sample concerning Baker stormwater maps. He reported that SJRWMD has shared permitting with DEP since 1984. There hasn't been any mapping completed besides what is included in permitted plans. There is a 10yr old stormwater plan in Macclenny, but it is not known if it is actually utilized. Geoff Sample recommended speaking with the Road Supervisor, Robert Fletcher to find out about any ditches. Geoff also suggested talking to Sean Lahav, Resiliency Coordinator at NEFL Regional Council to see if there is and work done in conjunction with sea level rise. Baker commissioners will need to look towards preservation rather than existing WQ issues and can think about utilizing the REDI-grants.

NPDES permit City of Folkston- No report this month

Charlton County Comprehensive Plan Update- No report this month.

Twin Pines update- Chip Campbell said that The Southern Environmental Law Center has requested a Freedom of Information Act from the United States Corps of Engineers (USACE) which has delayed any of the hydrologic data being uploaded to the USACOE website and moving forward of the EIS.

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Update on No-Wake Zone Signage Nassau County- Nassau County supplied an application for a new No Wake Zone requiring a \$175 fee. Sam Williams is completing the application. When he is finished, John Myers will discuss the fee with the Nassau County attorney.

NEW BUSINESS

All existing officers have agreed to continue for another year except for Karen Chisholm the committee treasurer, who stated that she will be stepping down from the committee altogether, but will still assist with the River clean-up and bringing any pertinent information about the river to the committee. Karen has said she will step down after the February 2020 meeting and Merrill Varn has volunteered to take up Treasurer duties until a Treasurer is named.

Merrill informed the committee that Sam Williams will need a letter from the committee as well as a copy of the 2019 annual report to present to his supervisors to be able to continue as a member of the committee. The letter written by Merrill was approved by the committee.

Annual report was reviewed and some clarification to the SHRIMP 319 and typos were identified. There was a motion to approve as amended, was 2nd and unanimously approved by committee.

County Updates:

Baker – Boat Ramp improvements at St. Marys Cove at the Boyscout ramp. Need information about the Grant and the plans from riprap on the shoreline. Need to ask the Commissioners to send to the committee to review.

Nassau – No new updates

Camden – HWY 17 Blue Bridge public access is on hold due to title/ownership issues. Spaceport is in 180 day review and FAA issues are being addressed and may require another application. Airport is currently reviewing site locations.

Charlton – No new updates

Subcommittee Updates

- **Government/River Issues :**
- **Outreach and Education:**

Public Comments

The meeting was adjourned at 8:48pm.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for February 3, 2020.**