

**St. Marys River Management Committee**  
P.O. Box 251 Folkston, Georgia 31537

**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**February 2, 2004**

The St. Marys River Management Committee (SMRMC) held its regularly scheduled meeting on Feb. 2, 2004, at the Nassau County Building in Callahan, Fla. Committee members and visitors in attendance are listed on a separate sheet. A quorum of members was not present.

In the Chairman's absence, Committee Vice-Chairman Dean Woehrle called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. The minutes from the month of January were reviewed. They could not be approved due to lack of a quorum.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Boating Safety Grant Proposal – status update**

Melinda Granlund, SJRWMD, informed the committee that the U.S. Boating Safety grant proposal had been completed and was submitted by the required deadline.

**St. Marys River Cleanup**

The St. Marys River Management Committee will sponsor the river cleanup on Saturday, March 20.

Dean Woehrle asked Bob Merck if he knew of any Navy personnel who could participate in the cleanup. Merck said he didn't know anyone personally but agreed to check around. Woehrle said Nels Parsons with the St. Johns River Water Management District had placed a used kiosk at Scott's Landing. Woehrle said he is looking for someone to donate yellow trash bags with "SMRMC" printed on the bags. Rick Walsh said he sometimes get small colored bags through his profession and agreed to check with the bag company.

Jim Wildes, White Oak Plantation, said John Lucas wants participants/volunteers to have tickets to gain entry to the Plantation. The suggestion was made to give the tickets to the site captains to distribute to the volunteers. The committee agreed to pay White Oak the same amount of money as the previous year for the use of their facilities. George Varn stressed the point that volunteers need to stay within the designated areas and not wander around White Oak.

The cleanup will begin at 8 a.m. and last until noon. White Oak Plantation will be open between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Wildes agreed to contact local Coast Guard staff and ask them to participate as site captains.

Woehrle said he is looking for dumpsters. He asked if anyone has any county or military contacts who might be able to loan the committee some dumpsters for the cleanup.

Varn said the committee's name needs to be prominently displayed on the cleanup signs and t-shirts. He said the committee does a lot of work as the host of the cleanup and needs to be more recognized.

### **Miscellaneous**

George Varn suggested having the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (GA DNR) attend one of the upcoming SMRMC meetings to provide a sampling update.

Donny Rominger said GA DNR has a boater safety course that the committee could sponsor. He suggested that it would be great if the committee could organize a boater safety class in each county on the same weekend. GA DNR is conducting a class on March 27; Rominger suggested the committee sponsor the class and also advertise the class at the river cleanup on March 20.

Varn said the committee needs to find a replacement for Mike Branch. Dean Woehrle said he feels it is very important to have Branch remain on the roster because of his experience and understanding of the issues. Varn agreed to talk to Branch about his membership.

Varn stressed the need for Baker and Charlton county attendance at the monthly SMRMC meetings. Rominger suggested having Chairman Campbell write letters to the commissioners urging attendance or asking them to appoint someone else in their place.

Paula Staples offered to provide a sampling update in April. She has organized a sampling group with a group of Outward Bound youth; they will be sampling insect larvae for biological indicators at Orange Bluff and Brickyard.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.