

St. Marys River Management Committee

P.O. Box 251 Folkston, Georgia 31537

MINUTES OF MEETING

January 9, 2012

The St. Marys River Management Committee (SMRMC or committee) held a meeting on January 9, 2012, at the Nassau County Building in Callahan, Florida. Committee members and visitors in attendance are listed at the end of the minutes. A quorum of members was present.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chairman Chip Campbell at 7:07 p.m. Members and visitors introduced themselves. The draft agenda and previous meeting minutes (from December 5, 2011) were reviewed and approved. The treasurer's report was presented by Treasurer John Myers and approved by the committee. Myers also distributed copies of a cash flow document for the committee for 2011. He asked if anyone would be willing to contact Nassau County to request payment for 2011; Dean Woehrle volunteered to do so.

St. Johns River Water Supply Impact Study

Geoff Sample, St. Johns River Water Management District, shared information with the committee about the District's St. Johns River Water Supply Impact Study (WSIS). Sample distributed a fact sheet regarding the WSIS, which was conducted in two phases over four years, with the goal of providing a comprehensive analysis of potential environmental effects of river water withdrawals. The WSIS will be discussed at an upcoming District governing board meeting.

2012 SMRMC meeting dates

The committee reviewed and agreed upon the following meeting dates for 2012: January 9, February 6, March 5, April 2, May 7, June 4, July 9, August 6, August 27, October 1, November 5, and December 3.

2011 Annual Report

Committee Secretary Merrill Varn distributed a draft version of the 2011 Annual Report for the members to review. Members offered various suggestions and edits. Kevin Shell, Baker County, made a motion to approve the report, with the suggested revisions. The motion was seconded by John Myers, Camden County, and the report was approved by the committee. Varn will update the report and distribute to members. It was agreed that the following members would present the report to their respective county commissions: Chip Campbell – Charlton; John Myers – Camden; Dean Woehrle – Nassau; and either Greg Sheppard or Kevin Shell – Baker.

Miocene Holdings GORA Request Update

Melinda Granlund, administrative assistant, informed the committee that she had spoken with Doralyn Kirkland (with Georgia Department of Natural Resources), who said the complete record of Miocene Holding documents is located in Atlanta. Kirkland confirmed that it would be \$0.25 per page for copies.

Co-chairman Chip Campbell informed the members that he had spoken with Gil Rogers with the Southern Environmental Law Center (SELC) regarding the Miocene records, and that the SELC is already planning to review, and presumably copy, the records. Campbell said that Rogers indicated

the SELC would be willing to share their findings with the committee, but Campbell indicated that he would follow up with Mr. Rogers to confirm, and to stress that the committee is a concerned entity regarding the Miocene case.

Subcommittee Updates

Water Quality Subcommittee

Charlton County Merrill Varn said she had received a voicemail from Laurie Fowler (University of Georgia, River Basin Center) indicating that funding for the Section 319 grant project has been released and that meetings are currently being scheduled. She said there will be a meeting in February to discuss the ability of various tests to determine whether fecal coliform is coming from animals or humans.

Land Use & Planning Subcommittee

Charlton County member Chip Campbell informed the committee about the dock improvements and beach stabilization at Trader's Hill. He said Charlton County member Russell Barber was instrumental in bringing about the needed improvements.

Public Outreach Subcommittee

Members of the subcommittee agreed to meet at 6 p.m. on February 6 at Cedar River Seafood to plan and discuss the upcoming annual River Cleanup (which will be on March 17). There was discussion about holding the celebration picnic (following the cleanup) at Trader's Hill.

Member Comments

Charlton County member Merrill Varn asked if anyone knew about the Charlton County Development Board and wondered if members of the SMRMC should attend their meetings. Al Crace, Charlton County Administrator, said he would look into it.

Baker County member Mike Griffis said he would be monitoring water quality legislation during Florida's upcoming legislative session and would keep the committee updated of any potential issues.

Melinda Granlund, administrative assistant, asked whether the committee should apply for a grant from the Pentecost Fund. It was agreed that the committee should submit two applications: one to support the Annual River Cleanup and one to support the efforts of the Section 319 project. Granlund will work on those applications.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

St. Marys River Management Committee Attendance Log – January 9, 2012

Baker County Members

Mike Griffis
Kevin Shell

Nassau County Members

Winifred Stephenson
Keith Tindall
Dean Woehrle

Camden County Members

Karen Chisholm
John Myers

Charlton County Members

Mitchell Crawford, Commissioner
Chip Campbell
Teresa Crawford
Merrill Varn

Non-voting Members

Bruce Foisy, GEPD
Geoff Sample, SJRWMD

Visitors

Al Crace

Administrative Assistant

Melinda Granlund