

*Discussion will be reviewed by SMRMC on April 9, 2018.

St. Marys River Management Committee

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Folkston, GA 31537-2872

Discussion

March 5, 2018

The St. Marys River Management Committee (SMRMC or committee) held its noticed meeting on March 5, 2018, at the Callahan Volunteer Fire Department conference center in Callahan, Florida.

Committee members in attendance by county:

Baker –

Camden – Commissioner Ben Casey, Co-chair John Myers, Chris Chauncey

Charlton – Commissioner James Everett, Chip Campbell

Nassau – Commissioner George Spicer, Earl K. Tindall, Al Manning

Non-voting Members –

Others Present -

A quorum was not present

The discussions began at 7:32 PM.

General Discussion

Merrill Varn presented the Annual report to the Charlton County Board of Commissioners on February 15th. They agreed to ask the new County Administrator to reconvene the Spanish Creek task force. In addition, Merrill mentioned the County is working toward a meeting in April or May to discuss applying for CIG to fund expansion of the current implementation plan to a nine point watershed plan. Earl Tindall informed those present that Dean Woehrle will be presenting the Annual Reports to the Nassau County Board of Commissioner at the 9am meeting on March 21, 2018. Draft

Presentations slated for this year:

MS4 process -Merrill sent information that she could present information regarding the MS4 to the committee [May?]). Update on Traders Hill - Commissioner Everett was prepared to present, but it was decided to wait until April when more members are present(Shelley has the outline and will provide ahead of time to the Committee). Nassau County and the ENCPA, Shelley contacted Mike Mullen Nassau County Lawyer and is waiting for a response. Shoals Park update-TBD. Egans Creek and E. coli-Commissioner Spicer will contact District 1 commissioner and invite to the Committee meeting and will coordinate with Shelley.

Al Manning brought up questions about the withdrawal from the aquifer. He mentioned information on National Geographic and NASA regarding the condition of the aquifers. Below is a list of websites for Florida and Georgia regarding aquifers. Shelley will coordinate with SJRWMD and JEA to answer regional questions and provide it to the committee.

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<http://floridagroundwater.dep.state.fl.us/groundwater-aquifers.htm>

<https://fl.water.usgs.gov/floridan/>

<https://water.usgs.gov/ogw/aquifer/map.html>

<https://pubs.usgs.gov/ha/730g/report.pdf>

<https://water.usgs.gov/maps.html>

<https://visibleearth.nasa.gov/view.php?id=79184>

<http://floridaspringsinstitute.org/floridan-aquifer>

<http://coastgis.marsci.uga.edu/summit/aquifers.htm>

<http://www.georgiaenet.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/39JamesKennedy.pdf>

<https://waterdata.usgs.gov/ga/nwis/gw>

<https://pubs.usgs.gov/fs/FS-010-96/>

http://www.georgiawatercouncil.org/Files_PDF/plan_9-13-07_overview.pdf

Someone asked about springs in the River and there are small ones located throughout and seepages are evident. The most notable one is at Yankee Springs.

It was mentioned that there is a new operator at the port as Kinder Morgan sold. No official information on who is the new owner. Ben Casey informed those present that the 319 kick off meeting for Camden County went well with over 50 people interested in having septic tanks repaired/replaced. The county will meet next week to evaluate and choose the candidates.

John Myers informed the committee members that the FAA Environmental Impact Statement for spaceport is out this week. There will be a 45-day comment period and a public comment meeting in April. UGA has polled and there is a 77% approval rating for the spaceport. Space X is a county project and they are currently building policy for the management model. It is a over 12,000-acre project with approx. 10,000-acres being held for conservation easement, modeled similarly to Canaveral.

Shelley reminded the Committee they received an email regarding the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Impaired Waters Rule Notification Update and it was decided to keep it on the agenda for April.

County Updates:

Subcommittee Updates

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

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Public Comments

There were no comments from the public.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:02 PM.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2018**