**Wakulla Springs Alliance**

**7-15-16 WSA Board Meeting Minutes**

**Highlights**

1. The next BMAP OSTDS Committee meeting is Tuesday, Aug 2, 2016, 2:00 PM at the Woodville Community Center, 8000 Old Woodville Rd. (See Appendix D)
2. The Big Bend Environmental Forum Candidate Forum, August 11 at 5:30. (Ap E)
3. WSA needs help recreating our website. Contact [ttaylor@fsu.edu](mailto:ttaylor@fsu.edu)
4. Share Follow the Water to Wakulla video on [VIMEO](https://vimeo.com/174702213) and [YOUTUBE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VKAcRf97N5g)
5. Please like and share the [WSA Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=wakulla%20springs%20alliance) page.
6. Debbie Lightsey Gail Fishman and Sean McGlynn will meet with Charles Hargrave on the Capital Circle SW project and report back.
7. The WSA needs to review and comment on the draft SWIM plans in September and attend public meetings in December or January.
8. Bob Deyle and others will meet with Michael Bateman regarding the Highway 319 stormwater ponds.
9. The WSA will write a letter of support for the Leon County SWCD proposal for $2m to add the Ocklocknee basin to the Flint Regional Conservation TP grant.

**Overview**

The Wakulla Springs Alliance held a Board meeting on July 15, 2016 at the Renaissance Building. The draft agenda and list of participants can be found in Appendices A and B. Review the action items underlined below for your commitments and actions you can help with. This report is based on the secretary’s notes and does not capture everything or exactly what was said.

**Opening**

Chair Sean McGlynn welcomed everyone, reviewed the meeting agenda and everyone introduced themselves. The minutes of the last Board meeting and Treasurer’s Report (Appendix C) were not approved because they had not been sent out. Tom Taylor, the secretary, announced that we have lost all the information that was on the WSA website and that it needs to be rebuilt. We need someone willing to be the WSA webmaster. It may be possible to coordinate the WSA and Friends of WS websites. Anyone interested should contact ttaylor@fsu.edu.

**Status of Our State Parks**

Jim Stevenson reported that all is quiet. DEP is doing park management plans and Albert Gregory and Dana Bryant are monitoring these and there haven’t been major concerns regarding privatization or new park uses.

**Film: Following the Waters**

This film was shown. It was funded by one of the Springs License Plate grants. Everyone can help by posting it on their Facebook pages, sending it to friends and getting other organizations to distribute it and put it on websites. Bob Deyle will contact Wakulla Springs Park, Anthony Gaudio – School Media and Sustainable Tallahassee, Jamie Hughes – Facebook, Debbie Lightsey – Tallahassee and Leon County, Bob Henderson – Big Bend Environmental Forum and others.

VIMEO LINK: <https://vimeo.com/174702213>

YOUTUBE LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VKAcRf97N5g>

**[Saving Wakulla Springs – Overland Tour](http://www.palmettoexpeditions.com/index.php?page=shop.product_details&flypage=flypage.tpl&product_id=218&category_id=49&option=com_virtuemart&Itemid=105)**

Jim reported that a Wakulla Commissioner, Leon County Commission candidates, Brian Smart of 1000 Friends and others have taken recent tours. There will be a special candidate tour in September.

**Wakulla BMAP OSTDS Meetings**

* Bob Deyle expressed thanks to the Tallahassee Democrat for recent articles on problems with nutrients from all standard septic systems not just leaking ones.
* The June 28 OSTDS committee meeting included: an overview of information, introductions, ground rules stating that the committee will not seek agreement on recommendations. John Buss said the focus should be on creating a Responsible Management Entityy, RME, and we need to have a discussion of how to deploy potential technologies. The RME is needed to spend the money and manage the implementation of projects. We need Wakulla and Leon Counties and the City of Tallahassee to sit and talk in an informal conversation.
* Vince Long is concerned about the RME [customers may object to paying a new septic system management fee] and feel the County has taking adequate actions.
* Alex Dehan confirmed that Leon County can and must adopt performance-based (nutrient reducing) OSTDS standards.
* There may be a prohibition to issuing new standard OSTDS permits.
* Wakullla County has considered an ordinance to reduce requirements of performance-based OSTDS.
* Builders complain the pain is just on new construction and existing systems need to be addressed too.
* FL Onsite Wastewater Association (of contractors) fear a government takeover of their jobs.
* WSA should convene meeting of Vince Long, Rick Fernandez, Tom Frick and Alex Dehon. Bob Deyle & Tom Taylor will ask for a meeting with Tom Frick at DEP first. The Board authorized this meeting by a unanimous vote.
* We need to get clarification on the law and timetable for implementation of standard
* We can link to the sewer and water agreement between the City and County and blueprint agreement
* OSTDS Committee staff asked everyone to review uploaded data. Bob is uploading WSA studies.
* Tom Taylor will request that WSA meetings be noticed by DEP so that we won’t have sunshine problems if Anthony and Bob Deyle or Bob Henderson and/or Theresa, John, Buss, etc. happen to all attend a WSA meeting.
* **The next BMAP OSTDS Committee meeting is Tuesday, August 2, 2016, 2:00 PM at the Woodville Community Center, 8000 Old Woodville Rd.**

**What’s new**

* Department of Environmental Regulation’s plan to update rules concerning chemical compounds in the state’s waters. [This was approved over strong opposition in the press and at the hearing.]
* William Howell reported that there has been a grant by the Leon Soil and Water Conservation District for reducing groundwater pumping and improving water quality from agriculture in the Ochlocknee River Basin.
* FWC is having a hearing on the proposed Lanark Reef protection zone.
* 3 watersheds: Ocklocknee, Apalachicola and St. Marks are in the process of updating Surface Water Improvement Management Plans. This will establish priorities for Restore Act monies and other funding. We need to review and comment on the draft plans in September and attend public meetings in December or January. They include all kinds of projects including land acquisition. There are 150 proposed projects in our area. Some affect water quality and others don’t. We need to review these, prioritize them and make our views known. Rob and Bob Henderson will work on this for WSA and Audubon and provide updates. People need to attend public meetings that will be announced. This can have a big impact on stormwater.
* Jim Stevenson reported that the request for the Ames Sink acquisition has been withdrawn because the owners may not want to sell anymore. The owner was ready to sell but his son talked him out of it so it is on hold for now.
* The Buckeye Symposium, convened by Howard Kessler was announced (July 18 at Wakulla County Commission Chamber). [There was a large turnout with coverage by the media]
* Bob Deyle reported that he and Zoe reviewed the US 319 project analysis and WSA sent a letter to DOT. The response from Greg Bickery said they will not change the plans and will consider this later as part of the ERP process. Michael Bateman is waiting for the ERP application but will meet on WSA concerns. The WSA may ask for a nutrient study as part of the ERP. There is a conflict between the stormwater and nutrient reduction regulations. This may require taking it to a policy level discussion. A different approach was implemented in the Silver Springs area. This is land controlled by the Board of Trustees and they can have a role as they did at Silver Springs.
* The Big Bend Environmental Forum Candidate Forums are on July 27, July 28 and August 11 at 5:30. We need to attend and to inform candidates.
* License Plate Grant and Tracing Studies – Bob Deyle and Seán McGlynn

·         Springshed Updates –

* Cal Jamison said that the Wakulla Soil and Water and Conservation District wants to use bacteria with sewage sludge to make fertilizer rather than bio-solids. There is a claim that it is better than traditional fertilizers. It is an advanced product. There is a question on whether it should it be used in Wakulla County.
* The Corbett property may have a proposal for 250-units on 270 acres, all on septic tanks. It is now in long leaf pine and much of it floods. The density is less than 1 unit/acre. It will need to comply with the 2016 Water Bill.
* Joe Dugger said he had a call wanting 7 rather than 6 acres for the Highway 319 stormwater ponds.
* Capital Circle SW from Springhill to Orange Ave is a very environmentally sensitive area. It is now a FDOT not Blueprint project. Debbie Lightsey and others will meet with Charles Hargrave on this project and report back. Gail Fishman and Sean McGlynn will help. This is linked to airport improvements and the widening of Springhill road.
* Bill Howell stated that Agriculture BMPs make a difference. He wants a water budget for Leon and possibly Georgia too. EPA funds 2-state plans. There was a grant for the Flint and Apalachicola basins that showed a 50% reduction in the loss of flow to agriculture with funding of smart irrigation systems. There are many center pivots in Georgia in the Wakulla Springs watershed. The SWCD may get $2m to add the Ocklocknee basin to the Flint Regional Conservation TP grant. Tom Taylor made a motion to send a WSA letter of support, Bob Deyle seconded and it was approved unanimously.
* Jamie Hughes needs help with facebook and to share information with others.

Appendix A

7-15-16 WSA Board Meeting Draft Agenda

**9:00 Opening**

1. Welcome and meeting agenda review (Seán McGlynn)
2. Introductions (Board)
3. Secretary Minutes (Tom Taylor)
   1. Not attached
4. Treasurer Report (Howard Kessler)
   1. Not attached

**9:10        Status of Our Parks – Jim Stevenson**

**9:45 Wakulla Springs OSTDS Meeting – Bob Deyle**

**10:15      Wakulla Springs BMAP Meeting – Board**

IMPORTANT – noticing meetings so that we won’t have sunshine problems if Anthony and Bob Deyle or Bob Henderson and/or Theresa, John, Buss, etc. happen to all attend a WSA meeting. Sean or Tom should contact the FDEP attorney working with the Advisory Committee – Kenny Hayman (Kenny.Hayman@dep.state.fl.us; 850-245-2262). It’s probably too late to notice this Friday’s meeting.

**10:45       What’s new**

* Department of Environmental Regulation’s plan to update rules concerning chemical

Compounds in the state’s waters – please see attachment 1 (troubled waters)

* Grant by the Leon SWCD to reducing groundwater pumping and improve water quality

for agriculture in the Ochlockonee River Basin – William Howell

* Legislative Update – Ryan Smart, President of 1000 Friends of Florida (absent, update next meeting)
* SWIM Plan – Rob Williams, Seán McGlynn (another blueprint for improvements at Wakulla Springs)
* Other TMDLs in the Wakulla Springshed
* Ames Sink Acquisition – Jim Stevenson (owners may not want to sell anymore)
* Buckeye Symposium – Howard Kesler, July 18 @ 3pm
* US 319 project, response from the FDOT Secretary's office – Bob Deyle (no developments to report

until meeting with Michael Bateman at the WMD)

* Big Bend Environmental Forum – Jim Stevenson (reps Pam Hall, Seán McGlynn)
* License Plate Grant and  Tracing Studies – Bob Deyle and Seán McGlynn
* Springshed Updates – Cal Jamison

**11:25 Items from the floor**

**12:00 Adjourn**

Appendix B

**Board, Advisors and Guests**

\* Indicates 7-15-16 Participants

Board Members

Bob Deyle \*

Gail Fishman \*

Albert Gregory \*

Cal Jamison \*

Howard Kessler

Todd Kincaid

Debbie Lightsey \*

Terrance McCaffrey

Sean McGlynn \*

Ryan Smart

Jim Stevenson \*

Tom Taylor \*

Rob Williams \*

Guests

Doug Barr \*

James Call \*

Brett Cyphers \*

Bill Howell \*

Johnny Richardson \*

Ken Espy \*

Nick Wooten \*

WSA Advisors

Anthony Gaudio \*

Pam Hall \*

Julie Harrington

Bob Henderson \*

Bob Knight

Pam McVety

Dan Pennington

Bob Thompson

**Appendix C**

**Wakulla Springs Alliance Treasurer Report**

**for July, 2016 meeting**

Treasurer Report For Month ending June 30, 2016

Starting Balance May 1, 2016: 3,663.27

Deposits: None

Withdrawals: None

Balance ending May 31, 2016: 3,663.27

Appendix D

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| **Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) Notification** |
|  |
| You are subscribed to Basin Management Action Plan Notifications for Florida Department of Environmental Protection. This information has recently been updated, and is now available.  **To: Wakulla Stakeholders From: Moira Homann, Basin Coordinator**  **Reminder:** The next Upper Wakulla River and Wakulla Springs Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) Wastewater/On Site Sewage Treatment and Disposal System (OSTDS) Remediation Strategy meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 2, 2016.  This is a meeting of the OSTDS Advisory Committee associated with the Wakulla Springs Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP). Septic systems were identified as contributors to water quality impairment of the Wakulla Springs system. Meeting items will include technical discussions on possible approaches for addressing onsite sewage treatment disposal system loadings to Wakulla Springs. Everyone is welcome to attend.  **Tuesday, August 2, 2016**  **2:00 PM**  Woodville Community Center  8000 Old Woodville Rd.  Tallahassee, FL 32305  Below is a link to the draft agenda for next week’s meeting.  Please note that at the meeting we will be discussing the Lombardo Report findings and recommendations. The report is available for your reference via this [link](http://links.govdelivery.com/track?type=click&enid=ZWFzPTEmbWFpbGluZ2lkPTIwMTYwNzI2LjYxOTgzMzcxJm1lc3NhZ2VpZD1NREItUFJELUJVTC0yMDE2MDcyNi42MTk4MzM3MSZkYXRhYmFzZWlkPTEwMDEmc2VyaWFsPTE3MDYxOTk4JmVtYWlsaWQ9dHRheWxvckBmc3UuZWR1JnVzZXJpZD10dGF5bG9yQGZzdS5lZHUmZmw9JmV4dHJhPU11bHRpdmFyaWF0ZUlkPSYmJg==&&&100&&&http://publicfiles.dep.state.fl.us/DEAR/BMAP/Upper%20Wakulla/OSTDS%20Remediation%20Plan%20Meetings/June/Documents/Lombardo%20Report/onsite_sewage_mgt_rpt.pdf). The FTP site for documents pertaining to the Wakulla Springs BMAP OSTDS Remediation Plan Meetings can be found via this [link](http://links.govdelivery.com/track?type=click&enid=ZWFzPTEmbWFpbGluZ2lkPTIwMTYwNzI2LjYxOTgzMzcxJm1lc3NhZ2VpZD1NREItUFJELUJVTC0yMDE2MDcyNi42MTk4MzM3MSZkYXRhYmFzZWlkPTEwMDEmc2VyaWFsPTE3MDYxOTk4JmVtYWlsaWQ9dHRheWxvckBmc3UuZWR1JnVzZXJpZD10dGF5bG9yQGZzdS5lZHUmZmw9JmV4dHJhPU11bHRpdmFyaWF0ZUlkPSYmJg==&&&101&&&http://publicfiles.dep.state.fl.us/DEAR/BMAP/Upper%20Wakulla/OSTDS%20Remediation%20Plan%20Meetings/).   * [DRAFT\_Agenda\_WakullaOSTDS\_08022016\_fordistribution.docx](http://links.govdelivery.com/track?type=click&enid=ZWFzPTEmbWFpbGluZ2lkPTIwMTYwNzI2LjYxOTgzMzcxJm1lc3NhZ2VpZD1NREItUFJELUJVTC0yMDE2MDcyNi42MTk4MzM3MSZkYXRhYmFzZWlkPTEwMDEmc2VyaWFsPTE3MDYxOTk4JmVtYWlsaWQ9dHRheWxvckBmc3UuZWR1JnVzZXJpZD10dGF5bG9yQGZzdS5lZHUmZmw9JmV4dHJhPU11bHRpdmFyaWF0ZUlkPSYmJg==&&&102&&&https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/FLDEP/2016/07/26/file_attachments/592308/DRAFT_Agenda_WakullaOSTDS_08022016_fordistribution.docx)   Please feel free to contact me if you have questions at 850-245-8460 or by e-mail at [Moira.Homann@dep.state.fl.us](mailto:Moira.Homann@dep.state.fl.us).  As always, thank you for your interest and participation.  **Moira R. Homann**  Environmental Consultant  Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration  Florida Department of Environmental Protection |

Appendix E

**Big Bend Environmental Forum**

**What**: The Big Bend Environmental Forum and the League of Women Voters of Tallahassee are hosting a candidates' forum for candidates in the following races:

·         Leon County Commission District 2

·         Tallahassee City Commission Seats 1 and 2

·         State Representative Districts 8 and 9

·         School Board Candidates are also invited to speak

Citizens will be able to suggest questions covering environmental, energy, sustainability, and growth management issues. An open house prior to the forum will include displays by BBEF member organizations, and will provide an opportunity for voters to meet the candidates.

**When**: Thursday, August 11, 2016. The forum will begin at 6:00 PM, and will be preceded by a candidate meet and greet at 5:15 PM.

**Where**: Tallahassee City Commission Chambers

City Hall, Second Floor

300 South Adams Street

Tallahassee, FL 32301

Metered parking is available in the downtown area as well as in the Kleman Plaza parking garage for a small fee.

The BBEF is an alliance of local environmental and conservation organizations which have come together to conserve the region’s environmental qualities through education, advocacy, research, and networking among its members. For more information, visit: [www.bbef.org](http://www.bbef.org/) or <https://www.facebook.com/BigBendEF>

The League of Women Voters works to build citizen participation in the democratic process and enables people to seek positive solutions to public policy issues through a process of study, consensus, and advocacy. For more information, visit: [www.LWVTallahassee.org](http://www.lwvtallahassee.org/) and [www.vote411leon.org](http://www.vote411leon.org/)