**Wakulla Springs Alliance**

**3/20/15 Board Meeting Minutes**

**Renaissance Center**

**Overview**

The Wakulla Springs Alliance held a Board meeting on March 20, 2015 at the Renaissance Center. The draft agenda and list of board members, advisors and guests who participated 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.

**Meeting Notes**

**Opening**

President Sean McGlynn welcomed everyone and Secretary Tom Taylor reviewed the meeting agenda. Everyone Introduced themselves included the Natural Resource Leadership Institute fellows and staff who attended part of the study of Wakulla Springs issues and actions. The minutes and treasurer’s report were approved.

**Legislative Action**

A spring legislation update was provided by Rob Williams. There was a shared concern that Amendment 1 mandates are being ignored by the legislature that the proposed springs bill is even weaker than others. The legislation is changing daily and everyone is encouraged to respond to updates from 1000 Friends, Audubon, the FL Springs Council and others.

Albert Gregory, Bob Deyle, Cal Jamison and Jim Stevenson are using GIS to prioritize parcels for acquisition using Amendment 1, Hwy 319, Springs and other funds.

**Influencing Governmental initiatives**

Bob Deyle reported on the letter to FDOT about the widening of Hwy 319. It addressed roadway design of swales, retention ponds and mitigation for impacts on Wakulla Springs State Park land. Bob Deyle, Eric Livingston, Cal Jameson and Albert Gregory are going to meet with FDOT.

Debbie Lightsey talked about efforts to address pollution from septic tanks. Debbie, Jim Stevenson, Bob Henderson, Tom Taylor and others will be meeting with Commissioners as a follow-up to a letter regarding establishing a Responsible Management Entity and appropriate sewering projects.

Sean McGlynn reported on conditions and responses to Weems, Weeks and Other Lake Protection efforts, including the recent tour of the Weems Alum Treatment Facility.

Howard Kessler announced that there will be a meeting next week to consider changes in the Wakulla County Comp Plan allowing higher densities, eliminating the need for performance-based septic systems on lots greater than 5 acres and allowing commercial development in new areas. Bob Deyle moved, Debbie Lightsey seconded and everyone approved sending a letter to Wakulla County.

Wakulla Environmental Institute’s made an application to lease 2000 acres of Wakulla Springs State Park. Jim Stevenson explained how the WSA and others were able to get TCC to withdraw their application.

**Outreach and Collaboration:**

Jim Stevenson described WSA education efforts including the Saving Wakulla Springs tours for OLLI, the FSU Law School, and the Democrat’s new publisher and many more. WSA also works with the Friends of Wakulla Springs and others by having tables and talks at different events. The Wakulla Wild Life Festival will be April 18. WSA volunteers are needed to staff our table. WSA is also continuing the tradition of identifying Wakulla Spring Champions.

Our cooperation with the Florida Springs Council was described by Rob Williams. Rob made, Debbie Lightsey seconded and everyone approved a motion to join and support the FL Springs Council.

**Research Activities**

Bob Thompson talked about efforts monitoring wildlife & aquatic plants and Sean McGlynn described Wakulla Springs water color and other research projects. Bob Deyle described the three Springs License Tag Grant Proposals [These have all been funded]. There was also a discussion of water quantity and quality modeling and monitoring.

Appendix A

**Proposed 3-20-15 WSA Agenda**

**Renaissance Center**

435 N. Macomb Street

2nd Floor Conference Room

**9:00  Opening**

Welcome and meeting agenda review (Presentations, decisions, NRLI Q&A)

Introductions

Secretary Minutes

Treasurer Report

WSA Logo, Carol

**9:30 Legislative Action**

Spring Legislation, Rob

Land Acquisition, Albert

**10:00 Influencing Governmental initiatives**

DOT Retention Ponds, Bob D.

Septic Tanks, Debbie

BMAP Stakeholder, Rob

Weems, Weeks and Other Lake Protection, Sean

Wakulla County Comp Plan, Howard

Wakulla Environmental Institute, Jim

**10:30 Break**

**10:45 Outreach and Collaboration:**

Education:  Jim

Wakulla Spring Champions, Jim

Florida Springs Council, Rob

           Friends of Wakulla Spring, Sean

**11:15 Research Activities**

Monitoring:  Wildlife & Aquatic Plants, Bob T.

Wakulla Springs Water Color and other Research Projects, Sean

Spring Tag Grant Proposals, Bob D.

Water quantity and quality modeling and monitoring, Todd

**11:45 Other Business**

**12:00 Adjourn**

Appendix B

**Board, Advisors and Guests**

\* Indicates 3-20-15 Participants

Board Members

Bob Deyle \*

Albert Gregory \*

Cal Jamison \*

Howard Kessler \*

Todd Kincaid

Debbie Lightsey \*

Sean McGlynn \*

Charles Pattison

Jim Stevenson \*

Tom Swihart

Tom Taylor \*

Rob Williams \*

WSA Advisors

Anthony Gaudio

Pam Hall

Julie Harrington

Bob Henderson \*

Bob Knight

Pam McVety

Dan Pennington \*

Bob Thompson \*

Guests

Gail Fishman \*

Bill Howell \*