Minutes – Wakulla Springs Alliance Board Meeting – February 28, 2010

Attending: Bob Deyle, Sean McGlynn, Cal Jamison, Albert Gregory, Debbie Lightsey, Terry Tyan, Jim Stevenson, Tom Taylor, Doug Barr

9:00 Opening

* Welcome and introductions (Bob Deyle)
* Agenda review (Bob Deyle)
* Secretary Report (Gail Fishman) Minutes January 24, 2020 and February 10, 2020
* Debbie Lightsey made a motion to accept the minutes, that was seconded by Cal Jamison and approved unanimously.
* Treasurer’s Report (Jim Davis)
* Terry Ryan made a motion to accept the report, that was seconded by Jim Stevenson and approved unanimously.

9:15 “Wakulla Springs and River Through the Lens of Bob Thompson”

Bob Thompson, former WS park ranger and specialist, presented slides of his photographs of water, people, aquatic plants, upland plants, and wildlife of Wakulla Springs, still fabulous.

10:00 Bob Deyle and Doug Barr recognized Seán McGlynn for his extraordinary service as president.

* Presided over 70+ meetings and lining up speakers and providing bagels
* Served on BBEF, Audubon, Friends of Wakulla Springs
* Principle investigator on 4 research license plate grant projects. Much of the services were donated.
* Doug Barr presented a plaque on behalf of the WSA.

10:15 Membership report and discussion of dues (Bob Deyle)

* Gail and Bob updated the membership list.
* Everyone was asked to respond to be members, on the list or removed: 46 members, 30 on list, 5 remove, 66 non-respondents.

Submersible pump

Doug Barr moved that the Alliance give out submersible pump to Sean for his use. Terry Ryan seconded, and the motion passed. Bob Deyle will write the required transfer letter.

Bob has presentations lined up through May and asked for other topics:

**March 27**, 9-12, Renaissance Center: Presentations by Blueprint re Capital Circle Southwest greenway and Debbie Lightsey Park and by Northwest Florida Water Management District re Wakulla minimum flows and levels study

**April 24**, 9-12, Renaissance Center: Presentation by FDOT re Capital Circle Southwest project design for Route 20 to Springhill Road segment

**May 22,** 9-11, Woodville Community Center: Presentation by Wakulla Springs State Park staff re acquisition and management of the Ferrell tract followed by field trip

Other suggestions:

1. Presentation on the Leon County Wastewater Facilities Efforts.
2. Bluegreen Algae and sinking lakes and related public health issues. The city is doing a report to Blueprint.
3. Apple snails update. Dana Bryant did a study on this.
4. Mar 8 talk at St. Marks, Michael Hill, retired FWC biologist.
5. Girl scout’s study of water may go on Bob’s boat tour and the Water Treatment Plant. We can ask them to make a presentation to us.
6. It is time for a new report from the cave divers that have been using new sonar equipment. (This film could be shown on the lodge screen)
7. Have a report on upper Lake Lafayette area development, sinkholes and diving reports.
8. Report on Wakulla Springs monitoring.
9. Presentation by DEP BMAP staff on monitoring and legislative update.
10. Presentation by TAPP

Springfest at Silver Springs State Park, Mar 7-8 (Seán McGlynn)

Sean will put out materials on the WSA table.

Update on Leon County Comprehensive Wastewater Facilities Plan (Bob Deyle)

• Pam Hall and Debbie Lightsey and others were able to get Blueprint pre-funding for this study.

• It fits well with the BMAP process to prioritize cost-effective areas and techniques for action.

• Anthony Gaudio has concerns about what is in the contract.

• There is related funding for passive systems.

• Rick Minor had a meeting of Theresa Heiker, her boss, Pam Hall, Anthony Gaudio and Bob Deyle.

• It was confirmed that all the things in the RFP are in the contract.

• They discussed the passive system design technology options. The county will check on the requirements.

• There will be 2 sets of 5 public participation meetings in each County District in May and September.

• There may be changes based on new legislation.

• The City and County have been using State funding for conversions to sewer.

• It would be good to have a pilot cluster system.

• We need to check if financing and management of systems is included in the contract. Legislation may influence this.

• Sidham has the contract for the study.

• Dewberry has the contract for the Wakulla County study. Bob Deyle will contact David Edwards to get a copy of the contract.

Springshed update (Cal Jamison)

• We are still in drought. Down 5 inches for the year but up 1 inch for the last month.

• Cassey reports that the dive conditions have improved.

• Visibility was 33’ last week and 25’ this week.

• There has been a salinity spike since November. There is specific conductivity coming from the south. To salty for drinkability. Elevated chlorides dehydrate you. This changes with temperature. Park staff have been tracking this.

• The bull rush island on the boat tour is disintegrating and there is more open water. The rush is a freshwater plant and may be affected by the salinity. The cattails are expanding at the lower end of the island. This may be affected by lower water levels with the drought.

• Saw an Osprey with offspring. They haven’t been here for years.

• Indian Springs is OK with continued sampling and cave diving.

• We had a tour of the Ferrell site. Diving may be allowed as some sinks.

Spring and river update (Seán McGlynn and Bob Deyle)

• Add a place on our website to acknowledge people who donate services. Bob will do this on Monday.

• Thanks to the NWFWMD for support of the brochure.

• The Revell property acquisition is proceeding

• $1.6m for monitoring and removing blue green algae at Lake Munson for 12 months. Board approved the funding. AECOM is the contractor. If this works here, it can be used statewide. It would be good to see if there is a connection to Wakulla Springs.

Legislation

• Legislation may affect BMAP activities, springs funding. Everyone should get on the 1000 Friends and FL Springs Institute and call and email legislators about SB 712 and other bills. We will want to follow the rulemaking process and ask Ryan Smart to present at a WSA.

11:35 Adjourn to closed session of the Board - Jim Stevenson made the motion.

Directors’ and Officers’ Insurance.

• Bob Deyle has gotten 3 bids from companies recommended by other non-profits.

• One quote from Carolina Casualty from Bacon Agency. $1047 for one year $1m policy. There are the insured (board members) and the insured organization.

• There are many complicated definitions and provisions.

• We had to describe the Alvin Hines potential lawsuit, and this will not be covered.

• Carolina has the same rate whether you have employees or not. Other insurers may have different rates.

• Jim Davis has suggested that we have a budget and a way to fund it.

• We may want to consider membership dues.

• Jim Stevenson will check on what Itchetucknee does.

• We may also want general liability insurance

• 1000 Friends has been threatened a lot but have never been sued.

• There is a law that says we are required to have insurance and a provision in our bylaws.

• Explore a general liability comprehensive plan with a rider for directors’ and officers’ liability.

Membership

• Tom Taylor made a motion to have a $25 membership Jim Stevenson seconded the motion and the motion was amended.

• Tom made an amendment to add 50, 100 and 250+ membership categories, Jim seconded it.

• We could ask for contributions from the board.

• After discussion Tom offered a substitute amendment, seconded by Albert Gregory for Tom and Terry Ryan to come back to the next meeting with a recommendation for memberships, which passed unanimously.

Fish Farm Water Quality Monitoring

• The Aquifer Watch have done a plan for collecting samples from neighbors’ wells. There could be monthly testing until it opens to establish a baseline and then quarterly samples after that.

• Friends of Wakulla Springs has appropriated $400 to pay for sampling.

• DACS said they were OK with the sampling and would respond if problems are identified.

• There was no motion for the WSA to take any action on the proposed monitoring.

Adjourn

Gail Fishman made the motion, seconded by Terry Ryan, that passed unanimously.