**Wakulla Springs Alliance**

**1-20-17 WSA Board Meeting Minutes**

**Highlights**

* The Nominating Committee: Jim Stevenson and Debbie Lightsey recommended reelecting Board members Rob Williams and Cal Jamison. Bart Bibler and Bob Henderson were nominated from the floor and all four were elected unanimously.
* Albert Gregory made a motion for the WSA to send a letter supporting acquisition of Camp Indian Springs as an addition to the State Park. This was seconded by Debbie Lightsey was passed unanimously.
* Debbie Lightsey moved and Ryan Smart seconded the motion to accept the following slate as officers for 2017 and it was approved unanimously.

Chairman: Sean McGlynn

Vice chairman: Bob Deyle

Treasurer: Bob Henderson

Secretary: Tom Taylor

* Todd Kincaid, Terry McCaffrey and Chuck Hess were added to the list of WSA Advisors.
* We will get an update at our next meeting on development around the airport.
* **Everyone is encouraged to attend the St. Marks River and Apalachee Bay SWIM Plan meetings** (View) 1 p.m. Technical meeting, 5:30 p.m. Public workshop, Wakulla County Community Center, 318 Shadeville Road, Crawfordville, Florida 32327.
* Ryan Smart, President of 1000 Friends of Florida, provided a legislative update. See the [webinar](http://www.1000friendsofflorida.org/free-2017-florida-legislative-preview-webinar/) PowerPoint. There will be a water bill and other bills, WSA needs to respond to.
* Cheryl Corbett called Cal and said they are interested in selling to the state. Nick Wooten will talk to the WMD leadership about the next steps in negotiation. There may be a possibility for an easement. The Corbetts will probably hear from DEP.
* Advocates seeking the advance funding for wastewater facility management and funding plan proposal have gotten endorsements from WSA and 6 other groups with more groups being contacted. There have been and will be more meetings with Commissioners. We need to work with staff who are preparing Blueprint funding priorities. Kim Williams will support this and we need more business support. We need letters from the support groups and attendance at a workshop on priorities. The board approved sending another letter of support.
* Next WSA Meeting: February 17, 2017, 2nd floor conference room, Renaissance Building.
* “Sweethearts Forever” Valentines Cruise (February 11, 2017), Wakulla Springs
* Springs Roundtable (Feb ???)
* Friends of Wakulla Springs Annual Meeting (Feb 26)
* Wakulla Wildlife Festival (Apr 15)
* Wakulla Springs Annual Run (May 20)
* Wakulla Wildlife Festival (Apr 15)

**Overview**

The Wakulla Springs Alliance held their Annual General Membership meeting and a regular Board meeting on January 20, 2017 at the Renaissance Building. The draft agenda, treasurer’s report 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 recorder’s notes and does not capture everything or exactly what was said.

**WSA Annual Meeting**

**Opening**

Chair Sean McGlynn welcomed everyone, and everyone introduced themselves. **The** Minutes and Treasurer’s Reportwere presented and approved.

**Election of Board**

The Nominating Committee: Jim Stevenson and Debbie Lightsey recommended reelecting Board members Rob Williams and Cal Jamison. Bart Bibler and Bob Henderson were nominated from the floor and all four were elected unanimously.

**Camp Indian Springs property update**

Cal Jamison, Chuck Hess, Howard Kessler and others recently took a tour of the property. The following are comments about the possible state acquisition to be part of Wakulla Springs State park:

* There were a dozen on the tour. We saw the property on both sides of Hwy 267 [just west of the entrance of Wakulla Springs]. There are skate board ramps. Cabins that may need to be dismantled. Some are in bad shape with water leaks and mold. The property is in good shape. There are some runoff problems by the sink. Cal has done mitigation in the past and most of this is still in place. The sinkhole has algae buildups that are typical for this time of year when there is little flow. There are multiple septic tanks that are not in good shape and other problems that may make the property less attractive to the state.
* DEP went out and looked at it.
* The WMD has put it on their acquisition list and the WMD and DEP are examining the site.
* It is appraised for $1.1 million and they are asking $1.6 million. A new appraisal will be needed.
* There are concerns about historical resources that may limit development
* There is a strategic value to this property.
* Albert Gregory made a motion for the WSA to send a letter supporting acquisition of Camp Indian Springs as an addition to the State Park. This was seconded by Debbie Lightsey was passed unanimously.
* We need to change the Wakulla County Commission view of natural resources and help them see the value of public lands. This message will make this acquisition more palatable to the commissioners. We need new advocates for native lands. The divers and horse folks can help fend off threats.
* Jim Stevenson’s presentations include good data on the economic values of parks.
* The Wakulla County Commission had a 5-0 vote to support acquisition so Chuck Hess and others can now go out and work to achieve this.
* The extent of development will be better worked out through the future management plan.
* People need a place to camp, eat and experience when they are visiting Wakulla County.

**General Member Meeting Adjourned**

**WSA January Board Meeting**

**Opening**

Seán McGlynn called the meeting to order and projected the agenda.

**Election of Officers**

As required by the bylaws the Nominating Committee, Jim Stevenson and Debbie Lightsey, had e-mailed out these nominations for officers:

Chairman: Sean McGlynn

Vice chairman: Bob Deyle

Treasurer: Howard Kessler

Secretary: Tom Taylor

The nominations e-mail indicated that Howard Kessler and Tom Taylor were willing to serve but they would also be glad to pass the opportunity to another. Bob Henderson agreed to be nominated for Treasurer.

Debbie Lightsey moved and Ryan Smart seconded the motion to accept the following slate as officers for 2017 and it was approved unanimously.

Chairman: Sean McGlynn

Vice chairman: Bob Deyle

Treasurer: Bob Henderson

Secretary: Tom Taylor

**Appointment of New Advisors**

Todd Kincaid and Terry McCaffrey haven’t been able to attend many board meetings and asked to be removed from the board and added to the list of WSA Advisors. Chuck Hess was also nominated as an advisor. Cal Jamison made and Debbie Lightsey seconded a motion to approve adding all three. The vote was unanimous.

**Introduction of Guests**

Kristina Bridger is with Leon County and was at DEP in the ground water section and with springs. She works with Johnny Richardson. She did research on septic tanks in the Wakulla Springs basin with Jeff Chanton at FSU. Edgar Wade also worked at DEP before coming to Leon County. They both work for Theresa Heiker and are filling in for Mark Heidecker

Susan Poplin, is a Principle Planner with the City-County Planning Commission and worked at the Department of Community Affairs before including addressing Wakulla Springs issues.

Nick Wooten, is a surface water hydrologist and at NW Florida WMD.

**State Park Status Update**

Jim Stevenson and others shared these comments:

* Things are quiet. There is a new Parks Director Lisa Edgar. She was the DEP Deputy Secretary for Administration and an attorney, then she was at the PSC. Old manager moved to Paynes Prairie. out Jim and Albert will meet with her to talk about parks.
* The CSOs have had problems with DEP and they can have a key role making the parks work. They do good things for the park and WSA does good things for the Spring and take political action, which the CSO (FOWS) can’t.
* The local Legislative Delegation last night had strong statements on the parks, Wakulla Springs, fracking and other environmental issues.
* We need to get an update on plans for NE and NW corners of the Springhill and Capital Circle intersection. The solar farm is going into that general area too. There is the Debbie Lightsey park in a former industrial park. Audubon is working on funding. We will get an update at our next meeting
* WMD is having a public meeting Shadeville Road, Thursday, January 26, at 5:30 for public input on the SWIM plan. Funding from the National Fish and Water for the plan for St. Marks-Apalachee Watersheds. This can prioritize projects for Restore and other funds. This has great potential and everyone is encouraged to attend.

**US Highway 319 / Crawfordville Road Widening**

Bob Deyle, email (Appendix C) reported that FDOT is reconsidering the retention pond design to use BAM (biologically active material) and that it can be permitted. The BAM can be used in the currently designed ponds without more land acquisition. Bob is also looking at the nutrient calculations. This is a great success story. The ARC stepped up and FDOT is responding to hopefully make this happen.

**Legislative Update**

Ryan Smart, President of 1000 Friends of Florida, reported that they just did a [webinar](http://www.1000friendsofflorida.org/free-2017-florida-legislative-preview-webinar/) on Wednesday. The Senate looks good and the House bad. There will be a water bill and others that WSA needs to respond to. We need to stop putting septic tanks in places where they must be removed. The state lands bill passed last year was bad. We haven’t seen anything new this year. There is a bill to ban fracking that may pass. This session will be about appropriations more than policy. Everglades wants a billion dollars and others will battle over the money between north and south, environmental and developers, etc. They are looking for $70 million in budget reductions. The Everglades is a political not an environmental issue. If you believe in climate change then SLR may eliminate the everglades.

**Archeology Update**

Jim Dunbar was not at the meeting but he will give a talk to Audubon Thu, March 16, 7pm – 9pm, King Life Sciences Building, Tallahassee, FL 32304, USA ([map](https://maps.google.com/maps?hl=en&q=King%20Life%20Sciences%20Building%2C%20Tallahassee%2C%20FL%2032304%2C%20USA))

**Website and Social Media**

Tom Taylor reported that the site is up but that he is having trouble uploading all the materials. He requested a volunteer willing to help post to our site. The board approved an additional payment to Rob Gelhardt for additional assistance.

**Springshed Updates**

Cal Jamison reported that conditions have changed dramatically. Sinks that were clear are dark. Cheryl sink went from green to brown. Spring Creek has changed. Stream flows were up and have come down but are still flowing. Some creeks have been out of their banks. Heavy rains have been in different areas at different times.

**Corbett and Other Property Acquisition**

* Cheryl Corbett called Cal and said they are interested in selling to the state. Nick Wooten will talk to the WMD leadership about the next steps in negotiation. There may be a possibility for an easement. The Corbetts will probably hear from DEP.
* The 319-project mitigation calls for acquisition by the State Park of a 10 A and 40 A properties that will provide access to other State Park lands.
* The state bought the Eastside of the St. Marks River rise from the Gerald. It is not open to the public. The state also bought 12,000 acres adjacent from this from a Mormon corporation.
* We need maps of the area to show at meetings. Wakulla County has appraiser maps on line.

**Wakulla Springs BMAP / OSTDS update**

Tom Taylor announced the next meeting of the Onsite Sewage Treatment Disposal System (OSTDS) Advisory Committee associated with the Wakulla Springs Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP), Tuesday, February 14, 2017, 2:00 PM, Woodville Community Center, 8000 Old Woodville Rd. Tallahassee, FL 32305

* Advocates seeking the advance funding for wastewater facility management and funding plan proposal have gotten endorsements from WSA and 6 other groups with more groups being contacted. There have been and will be more meetings with Commissioners. We need to work with staff who are preparing Blueprint funding priorities. Kim Williams will support this and we need more business support. We need letters from the support groups and attendance at a workshop on priorities.
* Debbie Lightsey made and Tom Taylor seconded a motion to send a support letter, which passed unanimously.

Appendix A

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**Wakulla Springs Alliance**

Agenda 01/20/17

9 am to 12 pm, Renaissance Center

435 N. Macomb Street, 2nd Floor Conference Room

**WSA Annual Meeting**

**9:00 Opening**

Welcome and meeting agenda review (Seán McGlynn)

Introductions (Board)

Secretary Minutes (Tom Taylor)

Treasurer Report(Howard Kessler, will not be present)

**9:05 Camp Indian Springs property update – Cal Jamison, Chuck Hess**

***9:25 Questions***

**9:40 Election of Board – Nominating Committee: Jim Stevenson, Debbie Lightsey and Tom Taylor**

**10:00 Adjourn**

**WSA January Board Meeting**

**10:00 Opening**

Welcome and meeting agenda review (Seán McGlynn)

Secretary Minutes (Tom Taylor)

Treasurer Report(Howard Kessler, will not be present)

**10:10 Election of Officers**

As required by the bylaws the Nominating Committee (Jim Stevenson and Debbie Lightsey) announce these nominations:

Board members:

Rob Williams: re-elect

Cal Jamison: re-elect

Bart Bibler: elect

Officers:

Chairman: Sean McGlynn

Vice chairman: Bob Deyle

Treasurer: Howard Kessler

Secretary: Tom Taylor

New Advisory Committee Members:

Todd Kincaid

Terry McCaffrey

Note that Howard Kessler and Tom Taylor expressed a willingness to serve and would welcome new leaders in their roles and on the Executive Committee. If you want to be on the board or be an officer or know someone who would, nominations may be sent to ttaylor@fsu.edu or made at the meeting.

**10:20 Park Status Update -** Jim Stevenson

**10:40 What’s new** (about 5 minutes each)

* **US Highway 319 / Crawfordville Road Widening –** Seán McGlynn
* Legislative Update – Ryan Smart, President of 1000 Friends of Florida
* Archeology Update – Jim Dunbar
* Website and Social Media, Updates – Seán McGlynn
* Springshed Updates – Cal Jamison
* SWIM Plan/Restore Act – Rob Williams
* Corbett property update – Cal Jamison, Ryan Smart
* Ferrell property update – Cal Jamison, Ryan Smart

**11:10   Wakulla Springs BMAP / OSTDS update –** Tom Taylor

* *11:45 Questions*

**11:20 Items from the floor**

**11:30 Adjourn**

**Next WSA Meeting: Annual General Meeting and Board meeting, February 17, 2017. In our old room, 2nd floor Conference Room, Renaissance Building**

**Upcoming Events**

* “Sweethearts Forever” Valentines Cruise (February 11, 2017), Wakulla Springs
* Springs Roundtable (Feb ???)
* Friends of Wakulla Springs Annual Meeting (Feb 26)
* Wakulla Wildlife Festival (Apr 15)
* Wakulla Springs Annual Run (May 20)
* Wakulla Wildlife Festival (Apr 15)

IMPORTANT –Sunshine problems if Anthony and Bob Deyle or Bob Henderson and/or Theresa, John, Buss, etc. happen to all attend a WSA meeting the FDEP attorney working with the Advisory Committee should be contacted the FDEP – Kenny Hayman (Kenneth.Hayman@dep.state.fl.us; 850-245-2262).

Appendix B

**Treasurer Report For Month ending Dec. 31, 2016**

Starting Balance November 30, 2016: **4,269.27**

Deposits: 435.25

Withdrawals: none

Balance ending December 31, 2016: **3,854.46**

**Board Advisors and Guests**

\* Indicates 1-20-17 Participants

Board Members

Bob Deyle

Gail Fishman \*

Albert Gregory \*

Bob Henderson \*

Cal Jamison \*

Howard Kessler

Debbie Lightsey \*

Sean McGlynn \*

Ryan Smart \*

Jim Stevenson \*

Tom Taylor \*

Rob Williams

Guests

Kristina Bridger \*

Bart Bibler \*

Ken Espy \*

Chuck Hess \*

Susan Poplin \*

Edgar Wade \*

Nick Wooten \*

WSA Advisors

Anthony Gaudio

Pam Hall

Julie Harrington

Todd Kincaid

Bob Knight

Terrance McCaffrey

Pam McVety

Dan Pennington

Bob Thompson

Appendix C

**Hwy 319 Widening Project Update for the WSA Board and others**

As most of you know, I talked with Marty Wanielista at the UCF Stormwater Management Committee last week. He averred that FDOT could implement a modified stormwater pond design incorporating BAM within the footprint of the ponds as currently designed. I passed that information along to Project Manager, April Williams, along with an invitation from Wanielista to meet with FDOT District 3 folks when in Tallahassee this week.

I am pleased to report that I learned yesterday that FDOT District 3 is actively reconsidering the pond design, although I don't yet have details. District Drainage Engineer Miranda Glass has been in contact with FDOT drainage specialist Katie Earp who has been working with Wanielista and the UCF group. Glass also has contacted Marty Wanielista to learn about additional BAM options. Evidently, she initiated her conversation with Earp prior to my email extending Wanielista's offer to meet. I don't know if her contact with him was a result of my email or not.

This is essentially the primary objective we strove to achieve both prior to the ARC meeting and through the delay taken by the Council. I don't think we'll be in a position to second FDOT's decision, but I am hoping they will be willing to explain what they have considered and how they came to whatever conclusion they eventually make so that we can make appropriate remarks at the ARC meeting in February that reflect some degree of collaboration.

Miranda also is reviewing my calculations of the net increase in total nitrogen that will result from the highway widening. She hasn't completed her review but did make once observation that will require some additional calculations. I had expressed hope to April Williams that we could go into the February ARC meeting with an agreement on the net loadings increase.

The primary loose end is getting a renewed commitment not to apply fertilizer to state highway ROWs within the WS basin and to limit or altogether desist from applying fertilizer when establishing the new ROW landscaping. I will check on this with Miranda Glass when I finally get to talk with her. We may need to address that with a letter directly to the new District Secretary, Phillip Gainer.

If we continue to feel that FDOT is now making a good faith effort to consider modified pond designs, I don't think we'll need to move to plan B where we suggest in-lieu-mitigation by purchasing additional land. But I would keep the option ready until we are satisfied with their current efforts.

Bob Deyle

Sounds like good progress.  Has the WMD concurred (or not) that BAM are non-permitable, as DOT implied at ARC?  Thanks. Albert Gregory

No problem with permitting. Wanielista and the UCF group are working with FDOT to design two ponds for the intersection of SR 40 and SR 35 next to Silver Spring State Park. Wanielista and Eric Livingston developed a drainage manual for Escambia County that includes use of BAM. That passed muster with the NWFWMD. Michael Bateman claimed no knowledge of any special permitting status nor did Wanielista.  Bob Deyle