Wakulla Springs Alliance

**Friday, October 26, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes**

This section provides information on what you and others can do to support research-based actions to enhance water quality and quantity in Wakulla Springs and springshed and to improve related environmental, economic and social systems. Efforts by all, produce results!

**Background on Wakulla Springs**

• Wakulla Springs Information

• WSA Purpose and Plans

• WSA Action Resources

**Action Items**

* Volunteers are needed for the archeological dig at the site behind the Wakulla Springs Lodge.
* Review the WSA ever evolving WSA Strategic Plan in Appendix D to see what you can do to advance research, to take actions to improve Wakulla Springs and build a better WSA.
* We need a new secretary to step up.
* We need to document the impacts of the Hwy 310 retention ponds for use in future projects.
* Jim Stevenson will have the “Burma Shave” style signs promoting Wakulla Springs made.

**WSA July Board Meeting Notes**

**Overview**

The Wakulla Springs Alliance held their regular Board meeting on October 26, 2018 at the Renaissance Building. The agenda and participants are in Appendices A and B. Review the action items underlined for your commitments and actions you can help with. Our success in protecting and enhancing Wakulla Springs depends on the actions of the WSA board, advisors and supporters. This report is based on the recorder’s notes and does not capture everything or exactly what was said.

**Opening**

* Welcome and meeting agenda review (Seán McGlynn)
* Introductions (Board, advisors and guests)
* Secretary Report (Tom Taylor, substitute secretary) There was not a quorum, so the report will be voted on at the next meeting. We need a new secretary to step up.
* Treasurer Report(Jim Davis, treasurer) The report was presented and had been sent out with the agenda. There was not a quorum, so the report will be voted on at the next meeting.

**Revision of BMAP Nitrogen Target and Loading Reduction**

* Doug Barr explained the history of how the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) was set for Wakulla Springs and other springs and recommended that the level should be set at .27 rather than the adopted level of .35.
* A TMDL of .35 will require a 139,564 lb./yr. reduction in Nitrogen. A 250,404 lb./yr. reduction will be needed if the TMDL is changed to .27.
* Doug sent a letter to DEP with his analysis and is waiting for a response.
* UF may have more data.
* Flow reductions may impact concentrations.
* Keep in mind that this is a 15-year BMAP.

**Recreational Diving in Wakulla Springs**

* The Wakulla County Commission will consider a resolution on recreational diving in Wakulla Springs at the November 5 meeting.
* Commissioner Jerry Moore proposed allowing recreational diving at WS
* This is a bad idea.
* It is just a resolution that may be considered by the WS State Park.
* Cal Jamison drafted letters for WSA and FOWS for last diving attempt.
* Gail Fishman will go to the meeting. Cal will send letters to Gail
* There is a difference between cave and recreational diving. There could be a big audience for recreational diving and dangers if they go too far down. There will be very little benefit.
* Tour boats can’t operate if there are divers, cave walls and entrances get damaged and there are other problems.
* They can dive in Emerald, Cherokee, and other entrances. Emerald is set up for diving, but no one is diving.
* The diving issue has been pulled from the agenda.

**US Highway 319 Widening**

* Cal Jamison’s and Seán McGlynn’s PowerPointshowed the water quality, turbidity and clarity and photos of the construction sites.
* Cal and Sean will notify the WMD of potential construction permit violations.
* There will also be long-term impacts after the construction is complete.
* WSA advocated during the permitting process and failed to get recommended ponds with BAM (Biologically Active Material) and other mitigation measures.
* We need to document the impacts for use in future projects.
* The sinks have 4-5 feet of surface water with clearer water below in the cave system.
* There is a pulse in storm events where the water goes into the cave system.
* Closing one sink hole may create new sink holes.

**Wakulla County Septic Tank Ordinance revisions**

* Now lots over 5 acres do not require a PBST. There is an ordinance proposed to change this to 1 acre
* Chuck Hess proposes that PBST should not be required if sewering is planned in the next 5 years.
* The ordinance has not been written yet. There is a feasibility study underway that is similar to the Leon study. DEP said they will fund it. Wakulla County has requested funding.

**Springs Restoration Council:** **November 1**

* Meredith Tangua will represent the WSA in High Springs meeting.
* There has been a 6-month extension on the adoption of BMAPs based on a request from the FHBA.

**Springs Restoration Summit: Ocala on November 2-3**

* Kathleen Coates and others may be talking.
* At Central FL Community College

**Dye Study Workshop: 3:30-4:30pm, Friday, Oct. 26, CAR 101**

* Delineating Recharge Areas for America’s Large Springs will be discussed.
* Speaker: Tom Aley, President and Senior Hydrogeologist, Ozark Underground Laboratory, Protem, Missouri.
* There is a lot of good information on testing methodology and results

**Proposed Conservation Easement at Spring Creek**

* Seán McGlynn reported that the USGS gauge was removed after Michael.
* The Spears own about 300 acres that they may sell. They may be willing to consider an easement purchase by the WMD.

**Burma Shave Signs**

* Cal Jamison reported that we have an owner willing to place the signs.
* Jim Stevenson will have them made.

**Springshed Updates**

* Cal Jamison said that there has been no change, all creeks are flowing. Some spring runs are drying out.
* Cal found hand cut logs at Sally Ward Spring and Jim Dunbar thinks this was the site of paths to a structure. Bathametric Lidar has helped them identify a Spanish watch tower and other features
* Kathleen Coates said that Wakulla Springs flow reversed during Hurricane Michael for the first time.

**Big Bend Environmental Forum (BBEF)**

* Seán McGlynn reported that there was a lot of talk about WS and algal blooms at Lake Jackson.

**Appendix A**

**WSA October Board Meeting**

# 9:00 Opening

Welcome and meeting agenda review (Seán McGlynn) Introductions (Board)

Secretary Report (Tom Taylor, substitute secretary) Treasurer Report (Jim Davis, treasurer)

# 9:15 Revision of BMAP Nitrogen Target and Loading Reduction. – Doug Barr

**9:40 Questions**

**10:35 What’s New**

* Wakulla County considers recreational diving in Wakulla Springs (November 5 meeting)
* US Highway 319 Widening – Cal Jamison and Seán McGlynn
* Wakulla County Septic Tank Ordinance revisions
* Springs Restoration Council: Next meeting November 1 - Seán McGlynn
* Springs Restoration Summit: Ocala on November 2-3 - Seán McGlynn
* Dye Study Workshop – Cal Jamison and Andreas Hagberg

o Delineating Recharge Areas for America’s Large Springs 3:30-4:30pm, Friday, Oct. 26, CAR 101

Speaker: Tom Aley, President and Senior Hydrogeologist, Ozark Underground Laboratory, Protem, Missouri.

* Proposed Conservation Easement at Spring Creek - Seán McGlynn
* Burma Shave Signs – Cal Jamison
* Springshed Updates – Cal Jamison
* Big Bend Environmental Forum (BBEF) – Seán McGlynn
* Lake Jackson algae bloom, red tide and other Hurricane Michael and related matters.

# 11:45 Items from the floor

# 12:00 Adjourn

Appendix B

**Board, Advisors and Guests**

\* Indicates 10-26-18 Participants

Board Members

Doug Barr \*

Jim Davis, Treasurer

Gail Fishman

Albert Gregory

Jamie Hughes

Cal Jamison \*

Howard Kessler, V-Chr. \*

Debbie Lightsey

Sean McGlynn, Chair \*

Jim Stevenson

Vivian Young

Guests

Kathleen Coates \*

] Susan Foley \*

Andreas Hagberg \*

Mark Heidecker \*

Mary Beth Litrico

Tom Taylor \*

Sophie Wawngne-Speer \*

WSA Advisors

Bob Deyle

Anthony Gaudio

Pam Hall

Julie Harrington

Chuck Hess \*

Todd Kincaid

Bob Knight

Terrance McCaffrey

Pam McVety

Dan Pennington

Bob Thompson

**Appendix C**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  **Financial Statement** |  |  |  |
|  |  **Wakulla Springs Alliance** |  |  |  |
|  |  **For Period Ended**  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **September 30, 2018** |  |  |  |
|  **INCOME** | **Budget** | **In-Kind** | **Current Month** | **Y-T-D Trans** |   | **Checking Account** |
| Fund Balance (January 1, 2018) | 3654.95 |  |  | 3654.95 | BFB | 3654.95 |
| Palmetto Tours |  |  | 244.00 | 812.00 | Income | 912.00 |
| Board Member Contributions (4) |  |  |  |  | Expense | 835.34 |
| Other Donations |  |  | 100.00 | 100.00 | Grant |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |   |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | EFB | 3731.61 |
| Subtotal | 0.00 | 0.00 | 344.00 | 912.00 |   |  |
| **TOTAL** | **3654.95** | **0.00** | **344.00** | **4566.95** |   |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |   |  |
| **EXPENDITURES** |  |  |  |  | Rest |  |
| BBEF Dues |  |  | 85.00 | 85.00 |  |  |
| Web Support |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Corporate Filing Fee | 61.25 |  | 61.25 | 61.25 |   |  |
| Grants |  |  |  |  | Bank Statement | 3731.61 |
| Florida Springs Alliance |  |  | 500.00 | 500.00 |   |   |
| Board Workshop |  |  |   |  | Checks not |  |
| Awards |  |  | 189.09 | 189.09 | Recorded |  |
| **RESERVES** |  |  |  |  |   |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | Deposits not |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | Recorded |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |   |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | Due to/from |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | Projects Fund |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |   |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | EFB | 3731.61 |
| **TOTAL** | **61.25** | **0.00** | **835.34** | **835.34** | (Overage) | 0.00 |

Appendix D

**WSA Strategies**

Tom Taylor reported that he reviewed the results of the strategic planning session held on July 26, 2017 and subsequent efforts, including the recent BMAP discussions. He presented the following goals that everyone agrees to at the August WSA meeting. Next the group reviewed the strategies. The comments at the meeting are bulleted “•”.

**Possible WSA Strategic Goals**

1. Improve Water Quality
2. Maintain Water Quantity
3. Support Restore Ecosystems
4. Promote Acquisition and Management Land
5. Advance Science/Research
6. Educate the Public & Leaders
7. Build a more Effective Board
8. Raise Funds for the Alliance

**Goals, Strategies and Responsibilities**

1. **Improve Water Quality** (Chair needed), Bob Deyle and Cal Jamison.
	1. Monitor BMAP litigation and respond appropriately.
		* Follow what the FL Springs Institute is doing
		* The FHBA and other springs have petitioned for a delay in BMAP approval
	2. Oppose the Wakulla County PBTS Comp Plan and Ordinance changes.
	3. Complete Comprehensive Wastewater Plan (CWP) RFP for facilities plan
	4. FDEP Discussion of BMAP Feasibility plan “template” (Greg DeAngelo) – Facilities, Financing and Management
	5. Discussion and coordination for financing and management with Septic Tank Companies, Home Builders (TBA), Chamber of Commerce, Development Community (Todd Sperry). Seek agreement about financing and management to bring to local govt (BP-IA, LC), enhancing BMAP requirements for new development
	6. Discuss with ED-FDOH (Alex Mahon) about new OSTDS regulations, relationship to COT and LC LDRs, 1 acre minimum for new development in PFAs
	7. Comp Plan and LDRs - Reconcile PSPZ and PFAs – both LC and WC staff
	8. Credit reduction calculation methods – FDEP staff
	9. Enlist input and help from other organizations and committees such as LC Water Resource Committee, LC&COT Science Advisory Committee, Friends of Lake Jackson, Sustainable TLH, Wakulla organizations?? HOAs?
	10. Advocate for cluster demonstration projects in new and existing developments,
	11. Provide input on the Comprehensive Plan update. (Pam Hall)
	12. Provide input on how BP oil spill funds will be used.
		* 15 Million will be used in Wakulla for sewering
2. **Maintain Water Quantity** Cal Jamison
	1. Support WMD efforts to set minimum flows and levels.
3. **Restore** **Ecosystems** (Chair needed), Gail Fishman, Sean McGlynn,
	1. Provide sound data on the natural world encompassed within the Wakulla Springs basin, the changes occurring due to human impacts, and other naturally occurring phenomena.
4. **Acquire and Manage Land** Cal Jamison, and Albert Gregory.
	1. Address this in the SWIM plans, with the local legislative delegation before and during legislative sessions, with state agencies for funding, with local government commissions and departments, and with a campaign to build public support for protection of the Springs zone
* There is an airport advisory board that needs environmental and resident representatives to address the master plan for management of the land that will affect water quality, wildlife and the eco-system. A lot of development is being considered.
* Ask about the renovation of the FSU Golf Course to consider reuse water and pollution control.
1. **Advance Science/Research** Sean McGlynn (Chair), Bob Deyle, & Cal Jamison
	1. Understanding the role of the lakes in Wakulla Springs ecological status, including better analysis of storm water runoff.
		* There are dye and algae studies being conducted by the WSA.
		* Modeling is needed for storm water runoff from landscape to conveyances to lakes, to groundwater and to the aquifer
		* Quantification of nitrogen budgets for lakes is needed
		* There should be a discussion with COT (Marc Heidecker), LC (Johnny Richardson), FDEP (Brian Katz), hydrologists (Alan Niedoroda, Tom Kwader), etc.
		* Consider the history of lake “clean ups” such as removal of sediments from Lake Jackson, Lake Munson drawdowns, Lake Henrietta, etc.
		* Other sources of nitrogen in runoff than fertilizer
		* Integrate lakes as final receiving water body
		* Consider using storm water treatment studies – Bradfordville Storm Water Study (2000?), Statewide Study (2007)
		* BMAP – Agriculture Fertilizer
			+ Evidence for effectiveness – BMAP literature, staff help
			+ Evidence from existing BMAP plans, first 5-year implementation reports
			+ Re-estimate Ag fertilizer using USDA data?? Is this worth it??
		* Initially done with WSA experts and other groups with expertise or as presentations to them for feedback.
2. **Educate the Public & Leaders** Gail Fishman (chair), Debbie Lightsey, Howard Kessler, and Jim Stevenson
	1. WSA Burma Shave Campaign (see above)
	2. Big Bend Environmental Candidate Forum
	3. Host public presentations at special meetings.
	4. We will get septic tank information out. The CONA-Sustainable Tallahassee sustainability award can include Springs related criteria. Having a TAPP presentation could be a check item.
	5. We could have a special springshed tour for key leaders.
	6. There are PSAs on dog poop. TAPP has a $200k budget and we can talk to them. Debbie will follow-up on this. They have a good video on fertilizer. It would be good to get them to focus on springs as well as lakes.
	7. Keep website and FB current.
	8. Howard Kessler will look for information on pharmaceuticals in the water.
	9. Jim Stevenson is doing an OLLI group that can become advocates. There will also be tours for McClay and other schools.
3. **Build a more Effective Board** Howard Kessler
	1. Review the bylaws should be reviewed to determine if updates are needed, including clarification of definition of “members.”
4. **Raise Funds for the Alliance**
	1. Encourage board members to provide a $100 annual contribution.
	2. Create possible sponsor/supporter categories and amounts, e.g. WS Eagle, Osprey, Limpkin, Coot
	3. Seek grants with administrative fees