

MEETING MINUTES

Springs Coast Management Committee

June 14, 2017

The Springs Coast Management Committee meeting convened at 1:02 p.m., June 14, 2017, at the Southwest Florida Water Management District, Building 4 Conference Room 112, 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899.

Members Present

Alys Brockway, Hernando County
Dave Bruzek, Industry
David Burnell, City of Crystal River
Ken Cheek, Citrus County
Yesenia Escribano, FDACS alternate (via telephone)
Brian Katz, FDEP alternate (via telephone)
Flip Mellinger, Pasco County
Michael Molligan, SWFWMD
Richard Owen, Public Supply
Tracy Straub, Marion County (via telephone)
Jason Wagman, FWC
Heather Young, Regional Planning Council

SWFWMD Staff

Chris Anastasiou
Dave DeWitt
Melissa Gulvin
Sean King
Sky Notestein
Danielle Rogers
Jennette Seachrist

Recording Secretary

Jet Houser, SWFWMD

Members Absent

Katie Hallas, FDACS
Rick Hicks, FDEP
Charles Lee, Environmental
Dr. Mahmood Nachabe, Academia
Rick Owen, State Parks
Curt Williams, Agriculture

Other

Jeff Rogers, Citrus County (via telephone)

FDACS – Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
FDEP – Florida Department of Environmental Protection

FWC – Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
SWFWMD – Southwest Florida Water Management District

A list of others present who signed the attendance sheet is filed in the permanent files of the Springs Coast Management Committee.

1. Call to Order and Roll

Mr. Michael Molligan, SWFWMD, called the meeting to order. Ms. Jet Houser, SWFWMD, called the roll and a quorum was noted.

2. Action Item: Minutes Approval from 04/12/2017

Mr. Flip Mellinger, Pasco County, moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting; seconded by Mr. Dave Bruzek, Industry. The motion passed.

3. Public Input - None

4. Update: Chassahowitzka SWIM Plan

Mr. Molligan noted that the Chassahowitzka SWIM Plan was approved at the last meeting, but the item is on the agenda today to give the Committee the opportunity to make any changes to the Plan prior to it going to the Steering Committee. No changes were made to the Plan since the last meeting and no further changes were requested.

5. Discussion Item: Ideas for the future mission and structure of the Springs Coast Steering Committee, Management Committee and Technical Working Group

Mr. Molligan introduced Chris Anastasiou, Ph.D., SWFWMD, to lead the discussion for the mission and structure of the Committee moving forward. Dr. Anastasiou outlined four points that he felt were important: (1) update the mission – why we are here; (2) define goals – what are the next goals as we move into the next year; (3) define structure – do you want to keep as is or modify; and (4) develop a schedule for the coming year – how many times do you want to meet?

Committee members presented and discussed their thoughts for the Committee moving forward. Members expressed the importance to monitor, track and update the projects; and the ability to identify projects and secure springs funding from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). Members requested the current FDEP list of projects identified for springs funding be provided to them. Committee members noted that they should be involved in prioritizing projects for available funding and identifying obstacles to get things done.

Dr. Anastasiou advised that it is important to understand what the overall objective is. The Committee members identified issues in policy gaps and the need for coordination. Mr. Jeff Rogers, Citrus County, discussed leveraging funds and sequencing projects. Dr. Anastasiou identified the key objectives moving forward as coordination, sharing information, leveraging funding, and assessing progress.

Dr. Anastasiou guided the discussion to define the specific goals that the group wants to accomplish within the next year: report card and project status update, coordination, project sequencing or funding plan, and reassess plans. The Committee then discussed the structure of the group moving forward. Ms. Jennette Seachrist, SWFWMD, advised that the Steering Committee is meeting on July 12, 2017, and may provide some direction for the Management Committee. The Committee discussed potentially having a series of workshops throughout the next year that will focus on each of the priority management categories.

Mr. Mellinger advised that the Committee needs to meet again to develop a master list of projects to submit to FDEP for springs funding and proposed a future meeting date. After discussion, Mr. Mellinger made a motion for the Committee to meet on August 9, 2017. Further discussion ensued regarding the meeting date and Member availability.

Mr. Mellinger amended his motion for the Committee to meet on August 16, 2017, at 1:30 pm. Mr. Ken Cheek, Citrus County, seconded the amended motion. The motion passed.

Discussion continued regarding the need for future meetings and sunshine laws.

Mr. Mellinger made a motion for the Committee to also meet on September 27, 2017, at 1:30 pm; seconded by Mr. Cheek. The motion passed.

Mr. Molligan recapped the meeting discussion and called for adjournment.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:23 p.m.