

St. Mary's River Watershed Restoration Action Strategy

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MINUTES

10:00 AM July 14, 2008
Lexington Park Library room #A

St. Mary's River Watershed Association (SMRWA) executive Director Bob Lewis called the meeting to order at 10:07 AM. Attendees were: Carrie Decker, Jon Grimm, John Groeger, Larry Hartwick, Dan Ichniowski, Dudley Lindsley, Christian Mergner, Charles Newkirk, Bob Paul, and Sue Veith.

The **agenda** was accepted as presented.

The **minutes of the June 9 meeting** were accepted without changes. A request was made for future minutes to include dates for delivery on tasking.

Bob Paul launched into a **report on phase one** of the program utilizing a PowerPoint presentation, which will be published on the web site www.stmarysriver.org. The deliverables to DNR on this first phase are 1) watershed characterization, 2) synoptic survey, 3) stream corridor assessment, and 4) stakeholder outreach & involvement. Details of note: 174 miles of tidal streams, St. Mary's River is a "fifth order" stream, interim report is due today – July 14, and the final report is due October 1.

Larry Hartwick presented the **Green Highways Partnership** program, which has grant and informational help. Larry will follow up requesting a GIS survey of Rte. 5 as well as inviting SHA to the August or September steering committee meeting.

Bob Lewis attended the Potomac River Association training on surveying **storm-water facilities**. Consultant Richard Klein has compiled a list of facilities permitted through the State and within St. Mary's County. Those in the SMR watershed have been located on ADC maps grids. John Groeger said that the county has inspected more than a hundred facilities in the last few years.

Discussion moved through action items from last month and noting that **sewerage and water plans** need to be included and that **failing sewer systems** and geographic areas earmarked for upgrades were also important. Dan will follow up. Discussion also included **I&I (inflow and infiltration)** problems with storm water. Dan will contact the health department (Ann Rose) to make sure that they do not duplicate efforts.

Towson has completed (or soon to?) a **hurricane inundation report**. Carrie Decker will follow up and get this report as soon as it is available.

It was noted that the **Trib Teams** have a wealth of environmental information already assembled. Dudley Lindsley will follow up asking them for items such as the sea level rise reports and maps.

Other items not addressed yet and on the June action items list included the **old dumps, equestrian mapping and impact, impoundment sites, and mining operations**. Bob Lewis will follow up with Bruce.

Chesapeake and Coastal Bays Trust Fund is taking applications for this first cycle. The program is funded at \$25 million. Funding in the amount of \$600,000 to \$5,000,000 is available for watershed up to 30,000 acres (a portion of the St Mary's River watershed). Also applications are being sought for the **Chesapeake Bay Trust Targeted Watershed grants** – a two-year program. It was decided that we are not yet ready to apply and that our WRAS program will inform future applications. Sue Veith volunteered to take the lead on future grant proposals.

The **web site** www.stmarysriver.org is up and running. Please send comments to Bob Lewis at taylew@erols.com

The **second public meeting** will be scheduled for early September and has a budget of \$2,000. Bob Lewis will be on vacation in August and **Jon Grimm** had volunteered to be the recorder for the August 11 meeting.

Action items:

- Larry Hartwick will follow up requesting a GIS survey of Rte. 5 as well as inviting SHA to the August or September steering committee meeting. (prior to August meeting)
- Bob Paul will contact SMECO for environmental data on right-of-ways (prior to August meeting)
- Bob Lewis will see Klein has SM facility database with GPS coordinates (within a week)
- John Groeger will bring SW facilities inspection reports to the next meeting.
- Dan Igniosky will bring the sewer and water plans (routes and timing in particular) to the next meeting.
- Dan will also provide to Bob Paul a GIS layer of the current systems. (within a week)
- Dan will provide the I & I report at the next meeting.
- Carrie Decker will provide the hurricane inundation report as soon as it is available.
- Dudley Lindsley will follow up asking them for items such as the sea level rise reports and maps, and septic system data.
- Bob Lewis will contact Bruce regarding data on old dumps, equestrian mapping and impact, impoundment sites, and mining operations.
- Sue Veith volunteered to take the lead on future grant proposals.
- Bob Lewis and Bob Paul will organize the second public meeting (within two weeks)
- Jon Grimm will be the recorder for the August 11 meeting
- Bob Lewis will add Carrie Decker to the email group list

The next meeting will be 10 AM August 11 at the Lexington Park Library room #B.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Lewis
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For more information contact Bob Lewis at 301-862-3517 or taylew@erols.com
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