

# Rivers Coalition

## Meeting Minutes

---

Date: January 31, 2013

**Called to Order:** 11:03

Attendance: Leon Abood, Darrell Brand, Shari Anker, Jeff Stukel, Jim Harter, Marty Baum, Henry Camiotto, Todd Weissing, Paul Gray, Phil Tafoya, Marge Ketter, Rob Ranieri, John O'Brien, Mark Perry, Max Quackenbos, Lisa Fiore, Pat Eltz, Bev Poppke, Liz Elliott, Benjamin D'Avanzo, Jackie Trancynger

### **Chairman's Comments:**

Leon Abood announced new membership application, St. Lucie Sailing Club, Pat Eltz. Motion made to accept membership, seconded and passed.

Leon Abood reviewed 2012 and upcoming new changes to the organization. A special thank you to Liz Elliott, Committee Coordinator, that committee is working really hard behind the scenes to help grow our organization and get younger.

### **Special Presentation:**

Lieutenant Colonel Thomas M. Greco gave a special presentation on the Army Corps.

Video and presentation can be found at [www.RiversCoalition.org](http://www.RiversCoalition.org).

Paul Nicolletti announced that the City supports the Rivers Coalition's mission 100%.

Jim Harter announced that the CCA has agreed to advocate for clean water and give back to the Rivers Coalition and Florida Oceanographic. February 21<sup>st</sup> at the Indian Riverside Park there will be a fundraiser.

### **River Kidz:**

Nicole Mader announced that the River Kidz participated in the Christmas parade and they will have events coming up, stay tuned and follow on Facebook and through the newsletter.

### **Speakers Bureau:**

Todd Weissing announced that Leon will speak at the Junior League in February.

### **SFWMD:**

Boyd Gunsalus announced he will be happy to come back to another meeting and discuss Water Farming.

### **Martin County:**

Deborah Drum announced:

- Danforth Creek Stormwater Retrofit Phase I is scheduled for substantial completion on February 14, 2013. Final completion is expected March 14, 2013. The project will clean up water that would otherwise go untreated into the South Fork of the St. Lucie River. It treats an approximately 2300 acre basin upstream of the project. It includes an 8.2 acre lake and STA. We are initiating Phase II of Danforth Creek and adding additional storage and treatment.

# Rivers Coalition

## Meeting Minutes

---

- Martin County completed a three-phased project in Warner Creek involving the installation of exfiltration trench, baffle boxes, excavation of a 2 acre dry retention area, and cleaning out a clogged portion of Warner Creek. Additional activities include the construction of 5.4 acre STA in the Beacon 21 community. Also involved was the decommissioning of an old wastewater treatment plant (residents converted to county sewer). These projects benefit the St. Lucie River by providing water quality treatment prior to flowing into the St. Lucie River.
- Martin County has been awarded a \$240,000 TMDL grant to assist in completing the Rio Exfiltration Project, which will treat water that would otherwise enter untreated into the St. Lucie River. This project will treat a 45-acre basin.
- Martin County completed the Cypress Creek Phase IV project which involved installing a water control structure at Gulf Stream Citrus Blvd. to hold water on the Cypress Creek property. Cypress Creek is a roughly 1,500 acre property that has been significantly impacted by ditching and drainage and this project will help restore the impacted hydrology. The County also constructed a ditch block upstream of this culvert to further help rehydrate the property.
- Martin County has awarded a construction contract to complete the restoration work on the Ranch Colony berm immediately east of Culpepper Ranch. The project purpose is to restore freshwater flows to the NW Fork of the Loxahatchee by holding more water in the wetlands to the west. This is known as Flow Way 3 in the Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Project. Work includes construction of a 2-mile berm, replacement of 2 culverts with the installation of water control structures at Culpepper Ranch, replacement of twin 84" diameter pipes, and the installation of a sheet pile water control structure. Work commences on February 4, 2013 and is scheduled to complete in August/September 2013. (just over \$1.24 million contract).
- Martin County is preparing construction bid documents to complete the restoration work for the central flow way of Kitching Creek. Permits are in place for excavation to create a lake / flow-through marsh. We recently removed approximately 164,000 cubic yards from the site in preparation for construction work.
- We continue to update the Speak Up for the St. Lucie Facebook page. Please continue to spread the word on this great communication tool for anyone who cares about the St. Lucie to speak on their issues.