

# Rivers Coalition

## Meeting Minutes

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Date: October 29, 2015

**Called to Order:** 11:00 am

Attendance: Darrell Brand, Jill Pinkham, Paul Gray, Charles Grande, Jim Moir, Todd Weissing, Jacqui Thurlow-Lippisch, Kenny Hinkle, Nic Mader, James Harter, Mike Littell, Jackie Trancynger, Richard Erth, Linnea Desmond, Dennis Killila and Donna Teuscher.

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

Chairman Darrell Brand called the meeting to order and noted that quorum had been met. He expressed thanks to Lt. Colonel Reynolds for joining us from the Army Corps of Engineers. He gave a short presentation stating the structure of the organization and the differences between the Coalition and the Defense Fund. Darrell welcomed the new Leadership Team: Mark Perry, Darrell Brand, Nic Mader, Jim Moir, and George Jones.

**Special Presentation:** Lieutenant Colonel Reynolds, ACOE, gave a special presentation. You can watch the presentation here: [www.youtube.com/user/RiversCoalition](http://www.youtube.com/user/RiversCoalition).

### **River Kidz of Martin County:**

Jacqui Thurlow-Lippisch announced the history of River Kidz. 1,500 River Kidz books have been passed out by Martin Memorial Health. River Kidz will be applying for one grant and another for 10,000 River Kidz workbooks. River Kidz also have teachers using workbooks in schools. Nic Mader reported that Lines in the Lagoon was a success, proceeds went to ORCA. Mrs. Hiasen helped organized this event. Also The Pine School 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be representing River Kidz oyster deployment. More River Kidz developments planned for the upcoming year.

**Speakers Bureau:** Todd Weissing announced the Rivers Coalition availability to present to the community.

### **Martin County:**

Deb Drum gave a comprehensive update on Martin County: Go to [www.riverscoalition.org/reports-info/local-updates](http://www.riverscoalition.org/reports-info/local-updates) for the full report.

### **WRAC & Water Quality:**

Paul Gray presented for Mark Perry: Lake Okeechobee is lower than optimal for this time of year. He noted that potential of a wet forecast and noted the ACOE accomplishments regarding the Lake Okeechobee releases. Paul also gave a dike safety report; he noted that recent releases are slower and are beneficial to the maintenance of the dike.

### **Indian Riverkeeper:**

Jim Moir and Marty Baum reported. To read Marty Baum's update, you can go to [www.riverscoalition.org/reports-info/local-updates/](http://www.riverscoalition.org/reports-info/local-updates/) for the full report.