

Rivers Coalition

Meeting Minutes: June 28, 2018

Mark Perry called the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m. 130 people were present. Members In attendance: George Jones, Jacqui Thurlow-Lippisch, Mark Perry, Charles Grande, Marty Baum, Richard Erth, James Harter, Joanne Swann, Kenny Hinkle, Todd Weissing, Linda Grand, Jeanette Hartzell, Greg Braun, Michele Weiler, Paul Gray, Paul Laura, Toby Overdorf, , Daina Karol, Tom Dee, Sandy Thurlow, Todd Thurlow, Karessa Kernan (RK), David Cross, Jim Skeoch, Eula Clarke, John Bobb, John Malanchuk, Cheryl Bryson, Regina Wood, Tony Polito, Jackie Trancynger, dew Martin, Shari Anker, Allen Herschkowitz, Irene Gomes, Allie Preston, Glenn Kellis, Laura Bulawski, Dianne Hughes (MC Water Quality), Nick Blount (Stuart City Council), Drew Marting, Brandon Tucker (SFWMD), John Cambell (USACE), Ed Killer (TC Palm), David Cox (FDEP),

Chairman's Comments: Mark Perry welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 11:10 am. Organizational members present introduced themselves. Mark Perry said the "Algae Bloom in on" and showed a green water bottle of a sample taken that morning.

Current Action Items and Voting: Karl Wickstrom, recently deceased founder of Rivers Coalition, was eulogized.

River Kidz of Martin County: Katie Hinkle got up and spoke of the RK's trip earlier this week to Wash, D.C.

Speakers Bureau: Todd Weissing encouraged people to book RC speakers.

Special Presentation: Lt. Col Jennifer Reynolds of USACE gave a presentation tailor made for the RC meeting because RC is a "sophisticated" audience. To view the presentation:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/RiversCoalition>.

Government & Agency Progress Reports:

- **Martin County:** Dianne Hughes reported that the Lake O. level is at 14.10'. To view Dianne's report go to: www.riverscoalition.org/reports-info/local-updates/ Go to the following websites for water quality updates: www.martin.fl.us ; www.martin.floridahealth.gov ; www.dep.state.fl.us and www.reportalagalbloom.com.
- **State and Federal Agencies and Issues:** Dr. Paul Gray of Audubon: Lake O is over 2.' from this time last year. Brandon Tucker of SFWMD spoke of how there an emergency of high water and Martin County got hit the hardest. Caulkins Water Farm is working great. C-44 STA coming on line this year. He got "boo-ed" when he spoke highly of deep injection wells. www.sfwmd.gov
- **Coalition Reports:** n/a
- **Rivers Coalition Defense Fund Update:** n/a
- **Local Issues & Estuary Water Quality:** Mark Perry said the water quality is bad. 7 weeks of fresh water inundation. Michelle of FOS has cards with numbers and websites on where to check the condition of the water. Seagrass surveys found that there is no seagrasses left. First time in 4 years with that result.
- **Indian Riverkeeper Update:** Marty Baum paid homage to the late Karl Wickstrom. "We don't need pulse releases, we don't need deep injection wells. The solution is at the ballot box."
- **Member Comments:**
Announcements of the 6:00 USACE meeting tonight at Blake Library, 8:00 Friday Light Vigil on Roosevelt Bridge, Toxic Trail Run on Saturday. Wear green at noon at Stuart Beach.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:40 PM