

# Rivers Coalition

## Meeting Minutes: May 23, 2018

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Darrell Brand called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M pm. 76 people were present. Members In attendance: Jim Moir, George Jones, Jacqui Thurlow-Lippisch, Mark Perry, Charles Grande, Marty Baum, Nic Mader, Richard Erth, James Harter, Joanne Swann, Kenny Hinkle, Todd Weissing, Jennifer Brand, Linda Grand, Jeanette Hartzell, Greg Braun, Paul Gray, Willie Montes, Marcy Pitkin, Paul Laura, Wayne Kuster, Robert Ryba, Toby Overdorf, Joe Banfi, Brian McGann, Donna Crary, Sam Hay, Daina Karol, Tom Dee, Sandy & Tom Thurlow, Todd Thurlow, David Cross, Jim Skeoch, Bill Roberts, Eula Clarke, Mel Bromberg, , Dianne Hughes (MC Water Quality),

**Chairman's Comments:** Darrell Brand welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. with The Pledge of Allegiance. Darrell had the organizational members present to introduce themselves. Candidates currently running for a seat stood and spoke: Pam Keith, Joe Banfi, Toby Overdorf, Eula Clarke, and John Haddox for Brian Mast.

**Current Action Items and Voting:** n/a

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

Nic Mader said that the River Kidz workbooks will be a part of the curriculum at the Environmental Studies Center; Pine School Senior, Sophia Siegel started her own website to provide links to water issues around the country.

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

**Special Presentation:** Jacqui Thurlow-Lippisch gave a presentation on the Florida Constitution Revision Committee. o view the presentations and all reports: <https://www.youtube.com/user/RiversCoalition>.

### **Government & Agency Progress Reports:**

- **Martin County:** Dianne Hughes reported that the Lake O. level is at 13.62'. To view Dianne's report go to: [www.riverscoalition.org/reports-info/local-updates/](http://www.riverscoalition.org/reports-info/local-updates/) Go to the following websites for water quality updates: [www.martin.fl.us](http://www.martin.fl.us) ; [www.martin.floridahealth.gov](http://www.martin.floridahealth.gov) ; [www.dep.state.fl.us](http://www.dep.state.fl.us) and [www.reportalagalbloom.com](http://www.reportalagalbloom.com).
- **State and Federal Agencies and Issues:** Dr. Paul Gray of Audubon: Lake O is over 2.5' from this time last year. **Coalition Reports:** N/A
- **Rivers Coalition Defense Fund Update:** Charles Grande says 1) we need to pressure SFWMD to send as much water south as possible 20 PSL: their canals feed the North Fork of St. Lucie River, There are the same human markers in inland as with septic systems because of the bio-solids being spread on inland farms and the rain flushes the excrement into the north Fork.
- **Indian Riverkeeper Update:** Marty Baum said there is a movement to rename Ft. Pierce State inlet Park to Lacey Vatanac State Park. Grant Gilmore and Marty put hydrophones into the Jensen Beach Causeway waters and there was NO fish noise. No trout spawning now, even though there have been noise there ever since they started monitoring it 1960.
- **Local Issues & Estuary Water Quality:** Mark Perry says we have had rain for the past two weeks.
- **Member Comments:**  
Darrell Brand announced that the next RC meeting is June 28<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am and Lt Reynolds of ACOE will be speaker.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:40 PM