

Perdido Watershed Management Plan Steering Committee Meeting-December 3, 2021

Meeting Attendees: Wade Burcham, Lani Cameron, Ashley Campbell, Mike Cleveland, Pete Garafola, Cindy Rae Jones, John LaGrone, Lucy Smith

- Wade Burcham opened the meeting with a PowerPoint presentation. Discussion centered around objectives for the Steering Committee.
- The Watershed Management Planning process should last from 13 to 18 months.
- Wade stated the Perdido Watershed (including Palmetto Creek & Bridge Creek Watersheds) is not currently developed beyond 20%. Wade stated since this watershed is developed less than 20%, this is an advantage for the Perdido Watershed and a critical time to create a Watershed Management Plan.
- Wade stated that when a watershed has a Watershed Management Plan in place, it becomes less challenging for a community to get funding to assist with issues within the watershed.
- Wade stated we should adhere to the principal of “Do No Harm to Your Neighbor” as we evaluate the Perdido Watershed.
- Wade stated public participation is an important part of the Steering Committee’s role.
- Wade stated the Steering Committee should plan a large public meeting in the first quarter of 2022.
- The public meeting attendance goal is 100 participants.
- The public meeting date and place will be determined at the next Steering Committee Meeting.
- Wade will provide a map for the Lillian Volunteer Fire Department and a map to use at the public meeting; This meeting will likely be held at the Lillian Community Club.
- Questions from new members indicated a need for an introductory presentation for members who were not part of the citizen’s advisory committee involved in selecting Geosyntec.
- Ashley stated she is going to do water testing training for Sandy Creek. She offered to allow Steering Committee Members to attend this training.
- Ashley provided a copy of a section from “City Sketches”, a Fairhope publication. This section included information regarding public participation in the D’Olive Watershed Management Plan. This information is for the Perdido Watershed Management Plan Steering Committee to use as a reference tool.
- Wade stated we should add 3 additional members. These 3 members should be as follows: 1 Farmer, 1 Developer and 1 additional Perdido Beach resident.
- Mike Cleveland is going to work with John LaGrone to add these additional members to the Steering Committee.
- Once the 3 additional members are identified, Mike Cleveland will set up the introductory presentation for Mike, John and Cindy Rae, as well as these new members.
- The next Steering Committee Meeting will be held at the Lillian Volunteer Fire Department, 11331 County Road 91, Lillian, AL at 6:00pm on January 11, 2022.
- The introductory presentation will be held at a date prior to the January 11th meeting
- It was determined Mike Cleveland will be the Committee Chairman, Lani Cameron the Co-Chairman, Cindy Rae Jones the Public Outreach Coordinator and John LaGrone the Fieldwork Coordinator.
- Lani Cameron stated she would complete minutes for this meeting and send links to all members of videos Wade Burcham has already shared with Lani, Lucy and Pete. These links will be sent at the same time as the minutes for this meeting.