

# Agenda

## WWALS Quarterly Board Meeting

2:45-4:00 PM, Sunday, 12 July 2020

<http://wwals.net/?p=52881>

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89625948199?pwd=aklhZnNnVIRLQ1RnV0ZFTlkxSFM4QT09>

**ZOOM Meeting ID:** 896 2594 8199    **Password:** Annual

**One tap mobile:** +19294362866,,89625948199#,,,0#,,828964#

**Dial In:** +1 929 436 2866 **Meeting ID:** 896 2594 8199 **Meeting Password:** 828964

Election of officers, Annual Financial Report, Budget, Membership levels, WWALS online store, contests, outings, fundraisers, finances, budget, membership, water quality monitoring, water trails, Suwannee Riverkeeper Songwriting Contest, no festivals for now, projects and programs, pipelines, LNG export, titanium mines, phosphate mines, Bill of Rights for Nature, and more.

**Invited to attend:** WWALS members, especially committee members, and the general public.

All WWALS Board Members are expected to attend.

The more done on the board list, the less time we have to spend in this meeting.

### Board Members:

- *John S. Quarterman* (President, Chair of PR and Watershed Issues Committees, and Suwannee Riverkeeper®)\*†‡
- Tom Potter (Senior Vice President and Chair of Science Committee)\*
- *Gretchen Quarterman* (Treasurer, Chair of Membership, Finance, and Grant-Writing Committees, and Acting Executive Director)\*†‡
- Garry Gentry (Secretary and Board delegate to Advisory Committee)\*
- Dan Phillips (Chair of Water Trails Committee)
- *Bobby McKenzie* (Chair of Outings Committee)†
- Dave Hetzel (WWALS Ambassador and Chair of Advisory Committee)
- Laura D'Alisera (Scribe of Songwriting Contest Committee)
- Tom H. Johnson Jr. (Chair of Nominating and Songwriting Committees)
- Shelby Miller (Assistant Treasurer)\*

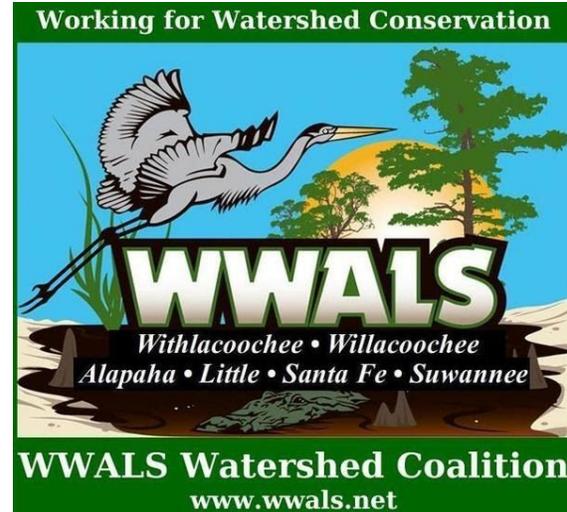
\* Executive Committee.

† *Term is expiring.* There will be at least three new board members after the Annual Member Meeting.

‡ *Term limited.* A new President and Treasurer will be elected in this Board Meeting.

**Committees:** see also [wwals.net/about/committees/](http://wwals.net/about/committees/) and [Committee items](#) below.

- Eileen Box (Chair of Events Committee)
- Suzanne Hall (Chair of Testing Committee)



## Agenda:

1. Call to Order including welcoming guests and explaining how this meeting is conducted (anyone can speak; only board members vote; try to stick to the topic at hand). We will be using the zoom waiting room to avoid trolls, so the host will approve you after you join the meeting.
2. Election of Officers
  - a. Present [Nominating Committee Report](#) on Officers
  - b. Further Nominations
  - c. Vote on Officers
  - d. Reconstitute standing nominating committee to recruit board and committee members and officers?
3. Secretary
  - a. Agenda Review: Additions and Changes
  - b. Approve Minutes
    - i. Vote: Approve Minutes of 14 April 2020 WWALS Quarterly Board Meeting
    - ii. Vote: Record in minutes of this WWALS board meeting the Email votes by WWALS Board or Executive Committee since last WWALS Quarterly Board Meeting (see [Secretary Report](#)).
  - c. Next Meetings:
    - i. Board: 2PM Sunday October 18, 2020. No vote needed. We set that last October.
    - ii. Later in the agenda, we will also see Outings Committee and Events Committee.
4. Treasurer. See [Treasurer Report](#).
  - a. Annual Financial Report
  - b. Review FY 2021 Budget that the board already approved when we made FY == calendar year.
  - c. Review Vision Budget  
[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1BYbeKTGTnmFXEuBjPVI1-qHCp5v21k45\\_vKIMj2Rq\\_g/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1BYbeKTGTnmFXEuBjPVI1-qHCp5v21k45_vKIMj2Rq_g/edit?usp=sharing)
  - d. Define meanings of membership levels and organizational memberships or sponsorships.
5. President. See [President Report](#).
  - a. Welcome, new President and Treasurer!
6. Executive Director (business). See [Report](#).
  - a. **Vote needed:** appoint Gretchen Quarterman Executive Director, a staff position, currently with no pay, but with intent to raise funds for pay and to allocate pay with a later vote.
  - b. COVID-19 response
  - c. **Projects and Programs.** Survey - first for board, then for members.
  - d. See also [Grants Committee Report](#).
7. Suwannee Riverkeeper (advocacy); see [Report](#).
8. **Committee items for discussion or vote are in agenda; see also appended reports.**
9. Advisory Committee: Chair Ambassador Dave Hetzel, Board Delegate Garry Gentry. See [Report](#).
10. Nominating Committee: Chair Tom H. Johnson Jr.; see [Report](#)



11. Membership Committee: Chair Gretchen Quarterman; see [Report](#)
12. Finance Committee: Chair Gretchen Quarterman; see [Report](#)
13. Grant-writing Committee: Chair Gretchen Quarterman; see [Report](#)
  - a. Vote on new members.
  - b. **We need to apply for grants to get money.**
  - c. Would someone else like to chair this committee?
14. Events Committee: Chair Eileen Box; see [Report](#)
  - a. Festival Booth out of commission for a while
  - b. Booth online: <http://wwals.net/2020/03/24/videos-wwals-booth-2020-03-21/>
  - c. On-Line events (quiz, facebook live, etc)
  - d. Organize event, Natural History of the Suwannee River Basin, With Rights of Nature? Online?
15. Songwriting Contest Committee: Chair Tom H. Johnson Jr.; see [Report](#).
  - a. At Turner Center Art Park.
16. Outings Committee: Chair Bobby McKenzie; see [Report](#).
  - a. Vote on additional Outings Committee members.
  - b. "Virtual Outings"
  - c. Review [Outings Checklist](#).
17. Public Relations Committee: Chair John S. Quarterman; see [Report](#).
  - a. Several [press releases](#), news coverage (songwriting, titanium mine, Valdosta Consent Order).
  - b. Much social media, the most about water quality.
  - c. Newsletter (previously under Membership): please add to it before end of month.
  - d. SoGaConnections, monthly.
18. Watershed Issues Committee: Chair John S. Quarterman. See [Issues Report](#).
19. Testing Committee: Chair Suzy Hall; See [Testing Committee Report](#).
  - a. Georgia testing training schedule.
  - b. Get data into Georgia Adopt-A-Stream.
  - c. Florida testing training needed again.
  - d. Confluence Conference is now on-line in August.
20. Science Committee: Chair Tom Potter; See [Science Committee Report](#).
21. Trails Committee: Chair Dan Phillips; see [Trails Committee Report](#)
22. How busy everybody is and how many technical difficulties.
23. Executive Session if needed.
24. Reconvene from Executive Session and vote on any resulting items.
25. Adjourn

## Reports:

Updated reports: Executive Director, Finance, Grants, Issues, Membership, Nominating, Outings, PR, President, Science, Secretary, Suwannee Riverkeeper, Songwriting, Testing, Trails, Treasurer,

Not updated: Advisory, Events, Committee system; see [purpose, dos, and don'ts](#)

1. Secretary Report Updated 2020-07-09

## WWALS Board motions passed via email, 14 April 2020 to 12 July 2020

We have [a spreadsheet on the google drive](#) to record these email motions as they are passed.

Three out of five of the below motions were to add people to committees.

Exceptions are highlighted, and were to create organizational outings sponsorship levels with numbers of outings coupons each valued the same as the usual outing fee, and another motion to extend the coupons to be usable at face value as partial payment towards the paddle races and the Light Parade. See coupon offer letter:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/15Bk3y70Bk9\\_0zJ\\_3vP\\_T7S\\_plvTnfBdHcPTzYh-wb5w/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/15Bk3y70Bk9_0zJ_3vP_T7S_plvTnfBdHcPTzYh-wb5w/edit?usp=sharing)

| Date made   | Date passed    | Moved by            | Seconded by        | Unanimous | Ratio | Did not vote                       |
|---|----------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------|-------|------------------------------------|
| The Motion  | URL of passage | Comments            | Other              | More      |       |                                    |
| 2020-05-07  | 2020-05-11     | Gretchen Quarterman | Tom H. Johnson Jr. | Yes       | 9:0   | Dave Hetzel                        |
| <i>to add Renee Kirkland to the testing committee</i>   |                |                     |                    |           |       |                                    |
| <a href="https://groups.google.com/d/msg/wwalsboard/2F-Dv3k1otg/WaHfgtUFCAAJ">https://groups.google.com/d/msg/wwalsboard/2F-Dv3k1otg/WaHfgtUFCAAJ</a>   |                |                     |                    |           |       |                                    |
| Renee took AAS certification in February. She recently renewed her membership and is ready to start testing. We have funds available to get her a kit and get her started. The testing committee and chair (Suzy) are in favor of adding her. |                |                     |                    |           |       |                                    |
| 2020-05-16  | 2020-05-22     | Bobby McKenzie      | John S. Quarterman | Yes       | 8:0   | Tom H. Johnson Jr.,<br>Dave Hetzel |
| <i>to add Russell McBride to the Outings Committee</i>  |                |                     |                    |           |       |                                    |
| <a href="https://groups.google.com/d/msg/wwalsboard/z709XpgABYU/MaxTBCrVAwAJ">https://groups.google.com/d/msg/wwalsboard/z709XpgABYU/MaxTBCrVAwAJ</a>   |                |                     |                    |           |       |                                    |
| 2020-06-25  | 2020-06-29     | John S. Quarterman  | Garry Gentry       | Yes       | 9:0   | Dave Hetzel                        |
| <i>To establish organizational outings sponsorship levels and bulk pre-purchase of outings coupons.</i>   |                |                     |                    |           |       |                                    |
| <a href="https://groups.google.com/d/msg/wwalsboard/_BAgvLXKIV8/fCkHwPe1AwAJ">https://groups.google.com/d/msg/wwalsboard/_BAgvLXKIV8/fCkHwPe1AwAJ</a>   |                |                     |                    |           |       |                                    |
| <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/15Bk3y70Bk9_0zJ_3vP_T7S_plvTnfBdHcPTzYh-wb5w/edit?usp=sharing">https://docs.google.com/document/d/15Bk3y70Bk9_0zJ_3vP_T7S_plvTnfBdHcPTzYh-wb5w/edit?usp=sharing</a>                               |                |                     |                    |           |       |                                    |
| 2020-07-01  | 2020-07-05     | Tom Potter          | Tom H. Johnson Jr. | Yes       | 8:0   | Garry Gentry, Dave Hetzel          |
| <i>To add Loretta Tennant to the Testing Committee</i>  |                |                     |                    |           |       |                                    |
| <a href="https://groups.google.com/d/msg/wwalsboard/9VzSU6zHZsY/auEiCMJCAgAJ">https://groups.google.com/d/msg/wwalsboard/9VzSU6zHZsY/auEiCMJCAgAJ</a>   |                |                     |                    |           |       |                                    |
| Loretta passed the most recent AAS certification. She is a WWALS member. She has been asking for some time to be on the Testing Committee. The Committee is in favor.   |                |                     |                    |           |       |                                    |
| 2020-07-01  | 2020-07-07     | Laura D'Alisera     | Bobby McKenzie     | Yes       | 9:0   | Dave Hetzel                        |
| <i>that WWALS will accept the face value of one or more outings coupons in lieu of cash when presented as payment for one of the WWALS paddle races or the light parade.</i>  |                |                     |                    |           |       |                                    |
| <a href="https://groups.google.com/d/msg/wwalsboard/_BAgvLXKIV8/oNj00iPhAgAJ">https://groups.google.com/d/msg/wwalsboard/_BAgvLXKIV8/oNj00iPhAgAJ</a>   |                |                     |                    |           |       |                                    |
| <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/15Bk3y70Bk9_0zJ_3vP_T7S_plvTnfBdHcPTzYh-wb5w/edit?usp=sharing">https://docs.google.com/document/d/15Bk3y70Bk9_0zJ_3vP_T7S_plvTnfBdHcPTzYh-wb5w/edit?usp=sharing</a>                               |                |                     |                    |           |       |                                    |

2. Treasurer Report **Updated 2020-07-09**

- a. Please ask if you have any questions.

Balances as of June 30, 2020

|                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|
| <b>Checking</b>      | \$6,609.53  |
| <b>Savings</b>       | \$5,850.06  |
| <b>Paypal</b>        | \$4,426.30  |
| <b>Total Balance</b> | \$16,885.89 |

Outstanding Commitments:

|                |                                    |
|----------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>725.00</b>  | Withlacochee water trail brochures |
| <b>3000.00</b> | Riverkeeper Salary (July -Sep)     |
| <b>500.00</b>  | Legal (FERC)                       |
| <b>1614.00</b> | Insurance (Liability and D/O)1     |

Completed Commitments this quarter: See Complete Financial Report

Expenditures: See Quick Books Report for details

3. President Report **Updated 2020-07-09.**

- a. Welcome, new President and Treasurer!
- b. When appointing officers or committee chairs, candidate first needs to agree that if they decide not to do it anymore, part of their duty is to help find a replacement.
- c. Bi-weekly mid-week zoom meetings of Executive Committee with open committee attendance seem useful.
- d. What do members get for different membership levels? See separate writeup on [Sponsors and Members](#).
- e. See [Finance Committee Report](#) about Budget Vision.

4. Acting ED Report (business) **Updated 2020-07-09**

- a. WWALS applied for and received a PPP Loan for 2083.00. Next step is to apply for forgiveness.
- b. I'd like to work on the survey but simply don't have the inclination. I could use help.
- c. We need to print the water trail brochures - we are getting close to being finished. Looks like we will have money.
- d. Festival Booth is out of commission indefinitely.
- e. We need to have Outings scheduled in advance so they can be announced in the newsletter and South Georgia Connections PLEASE.
- f. Vote: None

5. Suwannee Riverkeeper Report (advocacy) **Updated 2020-07-09.**

- a. Need Bill of Rights for Nature meeting. Maybe via zoom? [wwals.net/2019/10/10/a-bill-of-rights-for-nature/](http://wwals.net/2019/10/10/a-bill-of-rights-for-nature/)
- b. Most advocacy is in the May, June, and July *Tannin Times* WWALS monthly newsletters.
- c. *E. coli* in the Withlacochee River. <http://wwals.net/issues/testing/> See mostly [Testing Committee Report](#).
  - i. GA-EPD drafted Enforcement Order on Valdosta with record \$122,000 fine and numerous requirements. <http://wwals.net/?p=52429> Sent comment to GA-EPD during comment period.
  - ii. Sent Valdosta offer of collaboration on eco-tourism marketing project to track waterway contamination.
- d. Outreach:
  - i. Another testing Op-ed in Gainesville Sun. <http://wwals.net/?p=52881>
  - ii. Collaborated on Waterkeepers Florida op-ed. <http://wwals.net/?p=52936>
  - iii. Valdosta Daily Times. <http://wwals.net/?p=52907>

- iv. Suwannee Riverkeeper was on the radio four times, on three different shows; see [PR Committee Report](#).
- v. Didn't get Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program grant for Troupville River Camp at Little River Confluence with Withlacoochee River, but are well-positioned to apply again this year if can find match funds; see also [Grants Committee Report](#). <http://wwals.net/pictures/2019-10-31--wwals-gosp-troupville-river-camp/>
- e. Sabal Trail request for deadline extension for Phase II
  - i. FERC rubberstamped Phase II on Earth Day, despite comment period still being open. <http://wwals.net/?p=52265>
  - ii. FERC [declared comment period moot](#) because of its own rubberstamp.
  - iii. Sierra Club moved for stay and rehearing.
  - iv. FERC surprisingly [granted Sierra Club's request for rehearing](#).
  - v. WWALS Issues Committee working up WWALS brief.
- f. A win: GA HB 545 which would have made NC-style hog CAFOs easier in Georgia, did not pass. <http://wwals.net/?p=53002>
- g. Georgia meetings::
  - i. Georgia Water Coalition legislative team weekly telecons and HB 545 telecons.
  - ii. SGRC zoom meeting about evaluating waterways for impaired status.
  - iii. Numerous Okefenokee Protection Alliance telecons.
- h. Proposed titanium mine near Okefenokee Swamp. <http://wwals.net/issues/titanium-mining/>
  - i. Attended USACE "virtual public meeting" and sent a third comment letter to USACE against mine.
  - ii. Assisted the loose alliance supporting the Okefenokee Swamp and opposing anything that would harm it.
  - iii. Okefenokee Protection Alliance (OPA) is finally announcing its existence. [protectokefenokee.org](http://protectokefenokee.org)
- i. Proposed trio of toll roads, including Suncoast Connector to cross the Suwannee River heading to Thomasville, GA.
  - i. Spoke in first M-CORES Task Force webinar. <http://wwals.net/?p=52307> Boycotted rest, with NRTR.
  - ii. Again asked (along with NRTR this time) FL Gov. DeSantis to veto toll roads funds. <http://wwals.net/?p=52865>
  - iii. Ongoing series of video posts from February 11, 2020, Madison, FL, speakers. <http://wwals.net/?p=52051>
- j. Weekly telecons with Waterkeepers Florida (WKFL); various votes to support their activities.
- k. Attended zoom meetings of Gulf and South Atlantic Waterkeepers.
- l. Signed (after review by WWALS board) various letters about federal and state (GA, FL) issues.
- m. See also [Watershed Issues Committee Report](#).

## 6. Committee Reports

- a. Each Committee chair please send report to board list (or insert directly into this agenda) by the first day of the month of the board meeting, or at the latest one week before the board meeting..
- b. Include: a main report (previous events or outings, recent additions to the committee, other things already voted on by the etc.), plus these types of items for the main agenda above as committee sub-items:
  - i. Items needing discussion by the Board.
  - ii. Items needing a vote by the Board.

## 7. Advisory Committee Report: Chair Ambassador Dave Hetzel. Updated 2020-04-18.

- a. Need more committee members.
- b. See invitation letter the Committee is sending to potential new Advisors. <http://wwals.net/?p=49367>  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hwGGJ036vAgmJ6D-MJ1MR4R3QwosOeXdhD5DjY4bLWo/edit?usp=sharing>

8. Nominating Committee Report Updated 2020-07-09.

The WWALS Board at its Quarterly Board Meeting 14 July 2019 in Valdosta, Georgia, appointed a standing Nominating Committee to recommend board members, officers, etc., consisting of the following current WWALS board members: Tom H. Johnson Jr., Chair, Dave Hetzel, Bret Wagenhorst, John S. Quarterman, and Laura D’Alisera.

In a teleconference Sunday, July 5, 2020, after extensive discussion, the nominating Committee unanimously approved the below slates of board members and officers and other recommendations.

**Recommendations to the WWALS Membership 12 July 2020 Annual Meeting**

*Please also note the WWALS Committee Participation Policy, Policy # 2016-10-12:*  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1liJ6efQFSeF8QWMCw3rxKqggQV1TzPdHMF16FFLOaq0/edit>

*The Nominating Committee recommends for board members:*

- Bret Wagenhorst (rejoining board after one year hiatus as per ByLaws)
- Trudy Cole (new)

**Recommendations to the WWALS for the 12 July 2020 Quarterly Board Meeting**

*The Nominating Committee recommends for officers:*

- President: Tom H. Johnson Jr.
- Senior Vice President: Tom Potter
- Secretary: Garry Gentry
- Treasurer: Shelby Miller
- WWALS Ambassador: Dave Hetzel

*Recommendation for appointment of an Executive Director:*

WWALS has not formalized the Executive Director position. The Nominating Committee recommends the establishment of the position, and to appoint **Gretchen Quarterman**, who has served as Acting Executive Director for years.

*Recommendations for Committee Chairs:*

WWALS has not previously needed a Personnel Committee. With the advent of additional funds to increase the scope of work through the WWALS’ mission, a Personnel Committee is recommended to be established in anticipation of additional staffing.

The Nominating Committee recommends the following Board members to serve on the Personnel Committee:

- Shelby Miller, Personnel Committee Chair
- Tom Potter
- Laura D’Alisera

*The Nominating Committee recommends for Advisory Committee, per WWALS ByLaws, Article V, Section 7:*

None to suggest at this time.

*The Nominating Committee recommends to reaffirm the Nominating Committee with the following members:*

*Tom H. Johnson, Jr., Chair, Laura D’Alisera, John S. Quarterman.*

|   |
|---|
| <p>Policy Purpose:</p> <p>To ensure that all committee members are WWALS members and that all Board Members are familiar with WWALS committee structures and procedures.</p>  |
| <p>Policy Details:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All members of WWALS committees must be WWALS members.</li> <li>2. WWALS Committee Chairs are not required to be board members, however they must sign the WWALS Gift Disclosure, WWALS Conflict of Interest Disclosure and WWALS Employee Whistleblower Policies. Additionally, they must also abide by the WWALS Insurance / Driver’s License Policy # 2015-07-05</li> <li>3. To be considered for WWALS Board membership, a person must first be a member of and regularly participate on a WWALS committee.</li> </ol> |

9. Membership Committee Report: Chair Gretchen Quarterman [Updated 2020-07-096](#)

- a. Our renewals are better but not as good as I would like. We need people becoming regular donors and inviting their friends to do the same. Need some more ideas on how to encourage people to renew and upgrade. I can't be the only one asking people to renew. **We need monthly donors.** We currently have five.

| Month | Year | New | Renew | Comp | Month Total | Running Year Total |
|-------|------|-----|-------|------|-------------|--------------------|
|       | 2015 |     |       |      |             | 90                 |
|       | 2016 |     |       |      |             | 119                |
|       | 2017 |     |       |      |             | 148                |
|       | 2018 |     |       |      |             | 163                |
|       |      |     |       |      |             |                    |
| 7     | 2019 | 5   | 8     |      | 13          | 91                 |
| 8     | 2019 | 8   | 7     | 12   | 27          | 118                |
| 9     | 2019 | 6   | 3     |      | 9           | 127                |
| 10    | 2019 | 2   | 5     |      | 7           | 134                |
| 11    | 2019 | 7   | 7     |      | 14          | 148                |
| 12    | 2019 | 15  | 22    |      | 37          | 186                |
|       |      |     |       |      |             |                    |
| 1     | 2020 | 8   | 14    |      | 22          | 22                 |
| 2     | 2020 | 2   | 10    |      | 12          | 34                 |
| 3     | 2020 | 3   | 7     |      | 10          | 44                 |
| 4     | 2020 | 7   | 9     |      | 16          | 60                 |
| 5     | 2020 | 14  | 7     |      | 21          | 81                 |
| 6     | 2020 | 8   | 3     |      | 11          | 92                 |
|       |      |     |       |      |             |                    |

- b. Discussion: Every one invite your friends to join/ donate
- c. Vote:

10. Finance Committee Report: Chair Gretchen Quarterman [Updated 2019-07-09](#)

- a. See [Statement of Activity](#), [Statement of Financial Position](#), and [Budget vs Actual Overview](#),

## 11. Grant-writing Committee Report: Chair Gretchen Quarterman Updated 2020-07-09

- a. **We need to find and apply for grants because we need money.**
- b. <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/wwals-grants> If you want to join, just say so.
- c. GA-EPD Seed Grant that SGRC got: **Expecting water quality testing funds for WWALS**
- d. **Awaiting DNR signature on agreement for \$7,400** grant from Georgia Educational Recreational Trails Program (RTP) for water trail signs and brochures (WWALS cash match is \$1,850 of which we have \$725).  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/11x4JqLBx-hLPyLWowX3F1pqNGqkY52gpgmvxphbwdal/edit?usp=sharing>
- e. **Did get \$8,000** southwest district Georgia Power Foundation grant “for augmented water quality testing” with zero cash match, just requirement: “Please make certain all recognition or publicity concerning this pledge acknowledges Georgia Power Foundation, Inc.”
- f. Did *not* get larger Georgia Power Water Fund grant to fund water quality testing.
- g. Due to Dr. Tom Potter being featured in an issue of *Subaru Drive* magazine,  
<https://subarudrive.com/articles/2019-community-champions> Blogged here: <http://wwals.net/?p=52816>
  - i. Dr. Tom Potter has asked Macon Subaru about Water Trails brochures.  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1c2s-k2NXVGg-5\\_Bz8Nr\\_w8S2xd4wdR0wHvAuMYvwU08/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1c2s-k2NXVGg-5_Bz8Nr_w8S2xd4wdR0wHvAuMYvwU08/edit?usp=sharing)
  - ii. SuwanneeRiverkeeper John S. Quarterman has asked O’Steen Subaru of Valdosta about the Songwriting Contest. <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1i0bhLpi12a7MLgu8JSqA-E5iWiGQihVHfUODTjCx0/edit?usp=sharing>
- h. Applied to North Face Explore Fund for swimming and paddle training program.  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1G8JIAJwRho-JNWf1xeKLnA9EERrifb-G\\_MqwLdDj\\_zQ/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1G8JIAJwRho-JNWf1xeKLnA9EERrifb-G_MqwLdDj_zQ/edit?usp=sharing) Budget:  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Rf3i5qxZm7r8EHMTS2428L\\_fWm1FAAo/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Rf3i5qxZm7r8EHMTS2428L_fWm1FAAo/view?usp=sharing)  
North Face response to inquiry of 2020-06-24: “All applications submitted by our April 8, 2020 deadline will remain in the system and eligible for review at a later date. Our intention is to complete the grant cycle once some of the urgent needs of our community are met.”
  - i. GA-EPD 319 (EPA Healthy Watersheds Initiative) grant proposal: **will apply in 2021**
- j.** Did *not* get Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program (GOSP) grant [for Trouville River Camp](http://wwals.net/pictures/2019-10-31--wwals-gosp-trouville-river-camp/);  
<http://wwals.net/pictures/2019-10-31--wwals-gosp-trouville-river-camp/> Numerous partners ready to apply again this year, if we can get the cash match organized.
- k. Items needing a vote by the Board: none.

## 12. Events Committee Report: Chair Eileen Box Updated 2020-04-18 by gretchen

- a. Booth is out of commission
- b. Trying some on-line quizzes and community outreach.
- c. Need someone to lead proposed event, Natural History of the Suwannee River Basin
- d. Or do another version of Water, Forestry, and Agriculture

## 13. Songwriting Committee Report: Chair, Tom H. Johnson, Jr. Updated 2020-07-10.

Preparations for the 2020 Songwriting Contest are well underway. And as with everything else that is group related, the Coronavirus pandemic has affected plans, and will continue to affect decisions until the end of the contest.

Submissions are coming in at the same rate as 2019, and again, like last year, the deadline has been extended.

Location: In what most or all of the committee members consider to be a venue breakthrough, JSQ learned that the Turner Center Art Park the The Turner Center for the Arts in Valdosta was available for the songwriting contest. Turner Center staff have been most helpful. The Art Park was made to accommodate events like this. Social distancing is easily possible.

Virus: Pre-eminent in planning, since March, has been consideration of the pandemic. At this point, the large Art Park is amply spacious enough to allow for ten foot social distancing between family groups. However, if infection rates continue to rise, the contest can continue, but on-line, with judges and contestants only at the physical location.

Sponsors: the number of major sponsors is lower than this point in 2019. However, The Georgia Beer Company has signed on to be the lead. For a single event, it is likely the Songwriting Contest is one of the best promoted activities this group

does, producing a huge amount of goodwill for WWALS Watershed Coalition and Suwannee Riverkeeper. This year, with the virus economic slowdown, help in locating more sponsorships is needed from board and committee members. One thing is sure, while on-going plans may continue to change as needed for the 2020 event due to the virus, the discovery of The Turner Center Art Park is significant and will be a plus for future Songwriting Contests.

Respectfully Submitted, Tom H. Johnson, Jr., Chair, Songwriting Committee.

14. Outings Committee Report; Bobby McKenzie; Updated 2020-07-11.

With Social Distancing changing the way we do outings for the foreseeable future, we have focused on out and back paddles and introduced a series of bike and paddles to avoid the need for shuttles. The full moon paddles have been very popular with June's paddle having 33 participants. Banks Lake Outdoors offering their free rentals for our Full Moon Paddles has been great! We are moving forward on getting ready for the Boomerang, we should be locking in the food truck vendor "T's Treats" around 15 July. Moody AFB Outdoor Rec has reached out and wants to join our outings. They are trying to make the Sept Full Moon Paddle its first with us. Also we came to agreement as approved by the WWALS Board on the pre-purchase of tickets but Moody is waiting on funding approval. We haven't done a cleanup in a while, we will be looking into adding one perhaps Pafford's Landing? Also we would like to try the Winter Solstice Light Parade again this year. Banks Lake is in the middle of long awaited pier remodel: this along with more time to plan may help increase decorated boats.

- a. WWALS Boomerang Sat 24 Oct 2020--Bobby McKenzie
- b. Build relations with Moody AFB Outdoor Recreation- Bobby McKenzie
- c. Virtual Paddle Race--TBD-- waiting response on insurance/liability - Bobby McKenzie
- d. Winter Solstice Light Parade --Shelby Miller?
- e. Future Clean up (Paffords Landing?)
- f. [Outings Checklist](#).
- g. For previous and upcoming outings, see: <http://wwals.net/events-2/outings-events/>

15. PR Committee Report: Chair John S. Quarterman Updated 2020-07-09.

- a. Another testing Op-ed in Gainesville Sun. <http://wwals.net/?p=52881>
- b. Press releases about Songwriting Contest judges and outdoor venue, about Okefenokee titanium mine, about Valdosta Consent Order: <http://wwals.net/about/news/press-releases/>
- c. Songwriting got picked up by [VDT](#), [Moultrie Observer](#), and [Valdosta Today](#).
- d. VDT [op-ed on titanium mine](#).
- e. Consent Order PR picked up by [Georgia Recorder](#) and [The Patch](#).
- f. Much social media. Probably other coverage; behind on cataloging; could use help. <http://wwals.net/about/news/>
- g. Radio. Suwannee Riverkeeper was on:
  - i. Brian Blount show from Blackshear, GA, about [titanium mine](#) and [Songwriting Contest](#).
  - ii. [Steve Nichols show](#) from Valdosta about Songwriting, fishing, water quality, coal ash, titanium mine, outings.
  - iii. [Scott James show](#) from Valdosta about Songwriting, water quality, etc..
- h. Too many posts about E. coli to count. See <http://wwals.net/issues/testing/#results>
- i. Livestreamed virtual Earth Day Cleanup at Knights Ferry Boat Ramp on the Withlacoochee River on 2020-04-18, <http://wwals.net/?p=52236> with both Georgia Power and Valdosta wanting to participate after stayhome period.
- j. Numerous blog posts about titanium mine. Got WKFL to send letters. <http://wwals.net/issues/titanium-mining/>
- k. Continuing to distribute WWALS sheet through SGA Connect at Moody AFB in their monthly and quarterly distributions to new people moving into the area, per lead from Garry Gentry. [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1TjkMbCFk6gWSs\\_fx9xaiStaAKMsiddUlvpVqGcOHL\\_C0/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1TjkMbCFk6gWSs_fx9xaiStaAKMsiddUlvpVqGcOHL_C0/edit?usp=sharing)
- l. Selling notecards, stickers, hats, and memberships, for donations in new online store. <http://wwals.net/?p=52018>
- m. Did three issues of *Tannin Times* newsletter, which also contains some other PR.
- n. Need to start work on newsletter earlier and need input from committees.
- o. Numerous announcements of events and writeups, some including video, on WWALS blog, distributed via facebook, InstaGram, and twitter, and sometimes via email to relevant parties.
- p. Need more people sharing (facebook, twitter, Instagram), distributing flyers, contacting reporters, etc.

16. Watershed Issues Committee Report: Chair John S. Quarterman Updated 2020-07-09

- a. Op-eds and news stories: Gainesville Sun. <http://wwals.net/?p=52881>, Valdosta Daily Times. <http://wwals.net/?p=52907>
- b. For Sabal Trail pipeline, Florida toll roads, and Georgia and Florida legislatures, see [Suwannee Riverkeeper Report](#).
- c. For Valdosta Consent Order, see [Suwannee Riverkeeper Report](#) and [Testing Committee Report](#).
- d. Filed in [FERC Docket EL20-42 against](#) FERC takeover of solar net metering proposed by New England Ratepayers Association (NERA). Thanks Maxine Connor. States and D.C. continue to weigh in.
- e. LNG export lawsuit fundraising stalled, and still need new expert witness.
  - i. PHMSA published final rule for LNG by railcar despite opposition by WWALS (thanks Cecile Scofield) and many others.
  - ii. Strom, Inc., April report showed up at DOE FE the day after Cecile Scofield requested it. Strom is aiming at China as principal market, even while northeast Asia LNG prices are lower than the decade low of January 2020. [https://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2020/06/f75/Strom\\_SAR\\_April\\_2020.pdf](https://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2020/06/f75/Strom_SAR_April_2020.pdf)
  - iii. Several Issues Committee members continue getting information out of agencies and industry, etc.
  - iv. Citrus County Commission has letter to FL Gov. about LNG on agenda.

17. Testing Committee Report: Chair Suzy Hall Updated 2020-07-09.

Organize regular, frequent water quality monitoring, beginning upstream and down of the main problem areas (Valdosta, Tifton, Quitman, Pilgrim's Pride) and expanding to upstream and down of the other known point sources of pollution, plus every landing, spring, and swimming hole.

- a. News:
  - i. Another testing Op-ed in Gainesville Sun. <http://wwals.net/?p=52881>
  - ii. Story in Valdosta Daily Times. <http://wwals.net/?p=52907>
- b. Got \$8,000 grant from Georgia Power Foundation; see [Grants Committee Report](#).
- c. Several new testers: Renee Kirkland <http://wwals.net/?p=52658>, Michael and Jacob Bachrach, and Loretta Tennant. <http://wwals.net/?p=52975>
- d. Sign up for testing using [WWALS google form](#).
- e. Composite spreadsheet of Georgia and Florida results, including WWALS testing: <http://wwals.net/issues/testing/>
- f. Have scheduled GA Adopt A Stream Trainings for 2020 (Feb/May/Sept). May postponed due to pandemic; AAS has figured how to virtualize training.
- g. Need to schedule another Florida training.
- h. At each training, get people to say beforehand when and where they will test.
- i. Water Reporter still doesn't let members join Suwannee Riverkeeper group; no ETA for when that will be fixed.
- j. Swim Guide set up and being updated by WWALS: <https://www.theswimguide.org/search/?q=withlacochee>.
- k. Need to draw up written plan to satisfy volunteers and donors.
- l. Need to recruit students and teachers to assist.
- m. *E. coli* in the Withlacochee River, Little River, Okapilco Creek, Alapaha River. <http://wwals.net/issues/testing/>
  - i. Valdosta says in Consent Order that it is doing DNA testing; nobody has seen it yet.
  - ii. FDEP is doing human marker (e.g. sucralose) and DNA tests monthly.
  - iii. From all this we know it's not just Valdosta, it's mostly agriculture, and it's happening far more than anybody knew. We are talking to some of the most likely sources.
  - iv. WWALS has proposed to Valdosta a GIS mapping project to correlate rainfall and testing data to find sources.
  - v. We are still extracting some documents from Valdosta via open records requests.
  - vi. Maybe WWALS no longer needs to discover and post Valdosta Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) spills. <http://wwals.net/?p=52140>
  - vii. Because Valdosta has started posting those themselves. <http://wwals.net/?p=52825>
  - viii. Valdosta Mayor Scott James is being cooperative about eco-tourism marketing. <http://wwals.net/?p=52982>
  - ix. Some Valdosta data is in [GOMAS, the Georgia Environmental Monitoring and Assessment System](#) <http://wwals.net/?p=49301>

18. Science Committee Report: Chair Tom Potter Updated 2020-07-12  
See separate document.

19. Trails Committee Report: Chair Dan Phillips Updated 2020-07-09.

- a. Georgia River Network says Established for ARWT and WLRWT, but still no update on their map or lists of water trails. <https://garivers.org/established-trails/>
- b. ARWT and WLRWT Brochures ready to print, with minor tweaks (updated WWALS logo, GA-DNR logo).
- c. GDOT raised price of road signs, but WWALS can get GDOT metal signposts for better rate than elsewhere.
- d. GA-DNR Grant incoming for brochures and signs, with work to be completed by end of September 2020; see [Grants Committee Report](#).
- e. Withlacoochee and Little River Water Trail (WLRWT)
  - i. Actually is on GRN's list of Established Water Trails (but still not on the map).
  - ii. Dan Phillips planted new Knights Ferry Boat Ramp signs and post. <http://wwals.net/?p=52851>
  - iii. Lowndes County is making more than half of the WLRWT signs in Georgia.
  - iv. Troupville River Camp: see [Grants Committee](#).
  - v. Landowner removed firewood piled on Sugar Creek Landing; well sort of.
- f. Alapaha River Water Trail (ARWT)
  - i. Still not on GRN list or map of Established Water Trails.
  - ii. Naylor Boat Ramp on US 84 in Lowndes County finished after six years, but still not officially opened.
    1. Dan Phillips installed new signs and post at Naylor Boat Ramp. <http://wwals.net/?p=52790>
    2. Paddle outing at Naylor Boat Ramp after sign installation. <http://wwals.net/?p=52796>
  - iii. Talk of park next to Pafford's Landing on the Alapaha River.
- g. Talk to SRWMD or the state of Florida about designating WLRWT and ARWT as Florida water trails?
- h. GRN is adding Suwannee River in Georgia as a developing water trail because of a consortium already meeting about that: Suwannee Headwaters Project, <http://wwals.net/?p=49532>.