

Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District GOVERNING BOARD Minutes June 9, 2021

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District Governing Board met on Wednesday, June 9, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. through an online web-conference.

Members Present

Mr. Glenn Page, Chairman
Ms. Katie Kirkpatrick, Vice Chair
Dr. Mark Berry, Secretary/Treasurer
Hon. Lisa Cupid
Hon. Ramona Jackson Jones
Hon. Cindy Jones Mills
Ms. Pamela Burnett
Mr. Brad Currey
Ms. Kit Dunlap
Mr. Birdel Jackson
Mr. Gerald Pouncey
Mr. Tim Thoms

City of Atlanta Designee: Ms. Mikita Browning Cherokee County Designee: David Kubala Clayton County Designee: Mr. Bernard Franks Fayette County Designee: Ms. Vanessa Tigert Gwinnett County Designee: Mr. Kevin Farrell Hall County Designee: Ms. Linda MacGregor Henry County Designee: Mr. Tony Carnell Paulding County Designee: Mr. Boyd Austin

Members Not Present

Hon. Steve TaylorHon. Robb PittsHon. Bob BlackburnHon. Oz Nesbitt

Hon. Michael Thurmond

Chairman Glenn Page called the meeting to order.

Public Comment Period

Mr. Bryan Tolar provided public comments related to an agenda item.

Approve Meeting Minutes

Chairman Page presented the March 3, 2021 meeting minutes for approval. No revisions were offered. Mr. Boyd Austin made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kevin Farrell and passed without opposition.

Chairman's Update

Schedule for 2021

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Chairman Page noted the next Board meeting will be held on September 8, 2021 and presented the remaining schedule of Board meeting dates for 2021.

Recognition of Board Members

Chairman Page recognized the following board members who will be rotating off the board as of June 30, 2021: Bartow County Commissioner Steve Taylor, Coweta County Chairman Bob Blackburn, Fayette County Chairman Lee Hearn, and Forsyth County Chairwoman Cindy Mills.

Executive Report

Basin Advisory Council Membership

Chairman Page announced that 89 applicants for Basin Advisory Council (BAC) membership were approved during the Executive Committee meeting.

2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

Treasurer Dr. Mark Berry provided an overview of the 2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

2021 Budget Revision

Treasurer Dr. Berry presented the 2021 Budget Revision for approval. Vice Chair Katie Kirkpatrick made a motion to approve the 2021 Budget Revision. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pam Burnett and passed without opposition.

2022 Budget and Work Program

Treasurer Dr. Berry presented the 2022 Budget and Work Program for approval. Mr. Gerald Pouncey made a motion to approve the 2022 Budget and Work Program. The motion was seconded by Mr. David Kubala and passed without opposition.

Staff Updates

Education Update

Ms. Sarah Skinner provided highlights from the 2021 High School Video Contest and the Georgia Public Broadcasting Live Exploration held on May 6, 2021.

Drought Tolerant Sod Planning

Ms. Celine Benoit presented the staff recommendations on Drought Tolerant Sod Planning for approval. Ms. Linda MacGregor made a motion to direct District staff to provide education to encourage the installation of a turfgrass with drought tolerant qualities such as TifTuf. The motion was seconded by Treasurer Dr. Berry. The motion passed with Mr. Tim Thoms voting in opposition.

2022 Water Resource Management Plan Update

Schedule and Coordination

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Mr. Danny Johnson provided a schedule update for the 2022 Water Resource Management Plan Update and highlighted ongoing coordination efforts with the neighboring regional water councils.

Action Item Development

Mr. Johnson presented an overview of water conservation and efficiency action item concepts that have been presented to the District's stakeholder groups and the upcoming schedule for consideration and further development.

The Water Tower: Global Innovation Hub @ Gwinnett

Ms. Melissa Meeker presented an overview of The Water Tower's proposed projects and engagement activities in the water community.

COVID-19 Relief Funding Opportunities for District Utilities

Mr. Andrew Morris presented an overview of the COVID-19 funding opportunities for water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure projects under the American Rescue Plan Act.

Water Supply Status / Litigation Update

Ms. Katherine Zitsch presented an overview of the recent Florida v. Georgia United States Supreme Court decision in favor of Georgia and gave special thanks to the long list of ARC and District staff who have provided support during the history of water wars litigation.

There being no further business, Chairman Page adjourned the meeting.