



**Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District  
CHATTAHOOCHEE BASIN ADVISORY COUNCIL  
Meeting Summary  
October 20, 2011**

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District's Chattahoochee Basin Advisory Council met on Thursday, October 20, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. at the Georgia Association of Water Professionals headquarters building in Marietta, GA.

**Members Present**

Femi Adesanya	George Martin, Georgia Power Company
Hal Benner	Charles McKinney
William Braswell, West GA Board of Realtors	Doug Miell
Emily Buffington, Cox Enterprises	Bill Millkey
Denise Carleton, Reaping Nature	Michael Morton, City of Chattahoochee Hills
David Chastant	Fred Nixon
Teresa Crisp	Kevin Norton, Paulson Mitchell, Inc.
Steven Culp, Garney Construction	John Oliver, URS Corporation
Steven Foster	Randy Payne, Tyson Foods, Inc.
Donald Fry, Engineering Design Technologies	Angus Reed
Douglas Fulle, Oglethorpe Power Corp	Trish Reifenberger
Stephen Garton, UGA Extension Forsyth Co	Mark Scheinfeld
Jack Gleason, Friends of Caney Creek.org	Nathan Shields, Michael Baker Jr. Corporation
Jessica Guinn	Yomi Sholarin
Bob Harbort	Trudy Slaby Eissler
Laura Hartt, Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper	Mitzi Smith Moore
Patrick Heerd	Sanford Stoke, Western Summit Constructors, Inc.
Travis Henry, Douglas Co Farm Bureau	Charles Surasky, Smith Currie & Hancock, LLP
Matthew Houser, UPCCA	George Taylor, Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Kenneth Kagy, Gwinnett County	Dan Thalimer
Celia Klardie, City of Sandy Springs	Billy Turner, Columbus Water Works
James Klinkenberg	Wayne Waldrip, Keep Smyrna Beautiful
Thomas Kohler, Carrol Co Water Authority	Butch Watson, Croy Engineering, LLC
Charles Laughinghouse	Kenneth Wood, Planners and Engineers Collaborate
John Lawrence	

**Members Not Present**

Eric Olson, BAC Chair	Colin Holden
Laura Aikens	Warren Howe
Cassandra Barber	Phillip Hutfilz

Peter Berk  
Patty Berkovitz, Watershed Alliance of Sandy Springs  
Chad Braswell  
Robert Bunker  
D. Scott Cole  
Daryl Cook, Watts & Browning  
James Crowder  
Roland de Liniere  
Edward DeHart, Jr.  
Lee Duncan  
Samantha Dunn, Gwinnett Braves  
Michael Echols  
Joseph Epherson  
Debra Ewing, D. Clark Harris, Inc.  
Kevin Garmon  
Scott Halperin  
James Hawkins

Keith Laguaite  
Richard Lisska  
Jo Ann Macrina, City of Atlanta  
Tavia McCuean, Forestar Group  
Charles McMullen, III  
Gil Puffer, Atkins  
K. Scott Robertson, SEC  
Wes Rogers, DeKalb Co DWM  
Theodore Ruff  
Frankie Thompson  
Bryan Tolar, GA Agribusiness Council  
Richard Wells, Georgia Power Company  
Joseph Wilson  
Mark Wolff  
Larry Wood, City of Villa Rica  
Van Yon

#### **District Staff**

Matt Harper, Senior Principal Planner  
Sarah Simmons, Senior Program Specialist  
Steve Haubner, Principal Planner

#### **Board Representatives Present**

Judy Skeel, Cobb County Designee

#### **Non-Members Present**

Kimberly Parmer, City of Atlanta DWM  
Jim Boff

#### **Welcome and Introductions**

Ms. Sarah Simmons introduced Cobb County Board Designee, Judy Skeel who welcomed the group to Cobb County and officially convened the meeting on behalf of the Governing Board. Ms. Simmons started group introductions and afterward began the meeting. The first item on the agenda, Tri-State Water Conflict Update, was moved to end of the meeting.

#### **District Overview**

Ms. Sarah Simmons gave an overview of the District. She explained why the District was created, described the three plans and the process of plan implementation and enforcement. She also gave a brief overview of the District budget process.

#### **Election of BAC Chair**

Ms. Sarah Simmons informed the group that she sent an email in September asking for nominations for BAC chair. Ms. Simmons received two nominations, Mr. Charles McKinney and Mr. Wayne Waldrip. Ms. Simmons announced that she would accept additional nominations at that time. There were no other nominations. Ms. Simmons asked Mr. McKinney and Mr. Waldrip to give a brief statement to the group. Afterward, Ms. Simmons distributed ballots to all members of the Chattahoochee BAC and asked they vote by marking their choice for Chattahoochee BAC chair.

BAC members had the following questions and comments:

- Both of these candidates are well qualified and should serve as co-chairs. BAC Operating Procedures state that one chairperson shall serve the BAC and each BAC can vote to elect a vice chair, should the need for a vice chair arise.

Mr. Matt Harper asked for a motion regarding the need of a vice chair for the Chattahoochee BAC. A motion was made and seconded as to the need for a vice chair and it was agreed that the winner of the election would serve as chair and the runner up would serve as vice chair.

After the ballots were tallied, Mr. Harper announced that the election results yielded a tie. Upon bringing this issue to both candidates and informing them that a runoff election could be held, Mr. Waldrip graciously yielded the chair position to Mr. McKinney. Mr. Harper brought the results of the election to the group, and announced Mr. Charles McKinney as the new Chattahoochee BAC Chair and Mr. Wayne Waldrip as Chattahoochee BAC Vice Chair.

### **Drought Update**

Mr. Matt Harper gave an update on the current drought conditions in the state and highlighted drought conditions for the Chattahoochee basin, specifically. Drought conditions have progressed in the metro area during the late summer and early fall months, and most of Georgia is still experiencing extreme drought conditions. The U.S. Army Corps predicts the lake level for Lake Allatoona to remain in line with yearly averages, but the Corps predicts Lake Lanier to drop in the coming weeks.

BAC members had the following questions and comments:

- The state should be doing more about drought issues.
- Making people aware of the importance of leak detection is critical. Water leaks are a matter of public education.
- Reservoir levels shouldn't take into account river flow and base flows.

### **Tri-State Water Conflict Update**

Mr. Steve Haubner gave an update of the Tri-State Water Conflict and a summary on the 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals Decision. Mr. Haubner explained that the appeal to the full 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals to rehear the case in September was denied. He outlined the possible next steps. Alabama has 90 days from September 16 to appeal to U.S. Supreme Court.

### **Watershed Management Plan Overview**

Mr. Steve Haubner gave an overview of the Watershed Management Plan, highlighted some of the key regional issues with stormwater management and provided an in-depth explanation of each of the model ordinances and their role in watershed protection.

### **Atlanta Fourth Ward Park Multi-Purpose Regional Stormwater Facility**

Ms. Kimberly Parmer with the City of Atlanta Department of Watershed Management gave a presentation on the Atlanta Fourth Ward Park Multi-Purpose Regional Stormwater Facility located in downtown Atlanta. She showed before and after images and explained the importance of the project to local watershed health. Additionally, this project improves quality of life for local residents as it serves both as a stormwater management facility and a recreational park.

BAC members had the following questions and comments:

- This project doesn't just look pretty; it is actually improving water quality.
- What are the maintenance costs of this facility?

**Other**

The 2012 meeting dates are listed on the agenda. The next meeting of the Chattahoochee BAC will be Thursday, January 19, 2012. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.