



**Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District
COOSA / ETOWAH BASIN ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting Summary
January 11, 2012**

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District's Coosa/Etawah Basin Advisory Council met on Wednesday, January 11, 2012 at 10:30 a.m. at Rose Creek Public Library in Woodstock, GA.

Members Present

David Braswell, WK Dickson
Bruce Coyle, Paulding County
Adam Dreyer
Robert Endress, Atkins
Nolton Johnson
David Kubala, Cherokee County WSA
Aylin Lewallen, Brown and Caldwell

Robert Morrison, LAPA
Carol Moson, GA Association of Realtors
Ed Mullinax, Cartersville Water Dept
Bettie Sleeth, Home Builders Assn of GA
Douglas Sowar, Paulding Co Farm Bureau
Joseph Vivona, A&J Computers
Kenneth Williams

Members Not Present

Doris Cook, BAC Chair
Leslie Adams
David Alaniz
Daniel Coffey
James Durham
Craig Ferguson, Brown and Caldwell
William Francis, GAWP
Richard Gray, Murray's Loch Preservation Group
William Grizzle, Cherokee Co Farm Bureau
Dart Kendall, GOWA
Rebecca Long

H. Luke Mayes, IV, Cobb Co Farm Bureau
Donald McClure
Keith McLaughlin
Kevin Medved
Sean Nicholl, Lake Allatoona Association
Thomas Shannon, Ewing Irrigation Products
Bobby Terrell
Chris Williams
Christina Williams, City of Cartersville
Martha Williams, Georgia Lakes Society

Metro Water District Staff Present

Matt Harper, Senior Principal Planner
Sarah Simmons, Senior Program Specialist
Corey Babb, Senior Planner

Non-Members Present

Kelen Shostak, City of Woodstock

Welcome and Introductions

Ms. Sarah Simmons introduced Cherokee County Board Designee, David Kubala who welcomed the group on behalf of the Metro Water District Governing Board and officially convened the meeting. Group introductions followed.

District's 2012 Legislative Agenda

Mr. Matt Harper gave an overview of each of the bills on the District's 2012 Legislative Agenda. He explained that these bills are still active in the Georgia General Assembly and that the District is tracking their progress at the capitol as they contain items/issues of particular interest for the District. BAC members had the following questions and comments:

- There are three or four bills dealing with interbasin transfer. Is it an EPA restriction to prevent water basin transfers? Georgia DNR adopted a rule last year to guide the permitting process and protect the donor and receiving basins.
- Do we know of any negative impact to development in these bills?
- Do any of these get significantly impacted by the tri-state water legislation?
- EPD should revise the Antidegradation Policy. New questions need to be asked of EPD.
- The issues involved with HB 153 are complex.
- The state passed the Water Stewardship Act a couple of years ago. All water systems serving 3,300 people or more will have to do their own water audit through AWWA.

2011 Implementation Review and Annual Report

Ms. Sarah Simmons gave an overview of the Metro Water District's 2011 Plan Implementation Review and the 2011 Activities and Progress Report. She explained the two reports and highlighted information from the Plan Implementation Review. There were no questions and comments.

Wastewater Management Plan Overview

Mr. Corey Babb gave an overview of the Wastewater Management Plan, highlighted some of the key regional issues with wastewater management and discussed the measures of the plan of particular importance to local wastewater utilities as identified by the 2011 Plan Implementation Review.

BAC members had the following questions and comments:

- Any thought on nutrient management?
- Education is the first step to keeping grease out of the pipes.
- You need to be careful about putting more costs on the developers because they will pass it to the homeowner. There has been good participation so far, but be careful to minimize mandatory costs.
- The biggest change to water conservation legislation is plumbing codes.
- Soon, 1.28 gallon flush toilets will be the only kind you can buy in Georgia.
- In the near future it will not be as hard to find people who are conservation minded. Instead of having to make these measures mandatory, the consumer will simply ask for it.
- Part of the education process needs to include a lesson on where the money comes from. We have to help people balance requests.
- EPA has integrated wastewater and stormwater system management. Will the District do anything like this?
- Has the District taken a look at streamlining some of the requirements/processes?
- The Corps has new culvert requirements that may affect best management practices.

Other

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 11, 2012. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.