



**Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District
GOVERNING BOARD
Minutes
September 13, 2023**

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District Governing Board met on Wednesday, September 13, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. in the Harry West Board Room at the Atlanta Regional Commission office in Atlanta, Georgia and via Microsoft Teams.

Members Present

Mr. Glenn Page, Chairman
Hon. Nicole Love Hendrickson, Vice Chair
Hon. Harry Johnston
Hon. Dub Pearman
Ms. Pamela Burnett
Mr. Tim Thoms
City of Atlanta Designee: Ms. Mikita Browning

Bartow County Designee: Mr. Sidney Forsyth
Clayton County Designee: Mr. Bernard Franks
Cobb County Designee: Mr. Eric Olson
Douglas County Designee: Mr. Gil Shearouse
Hall County Designee: Ms. Linda MacGregor
Henry County Designee: Mr. Tony Carnell

Members Not Present

Dr. Mark Berry, Secretary/Treasurer
Hon. Mike Thurmond
Hon. Edward Johnson
Hon. Alfred John
Hon. Rob Pitts

Hon. James Kelly
Hon. Oz Nesbitt
Mr. Birdel Jackson
Ms. Katie Kirkpatrick
Mr. Gerald Pouncey

Chairman Glenn Page called the meeting to order.

Public Comment Period

No public comments were provided.

Approve Meeting Minutes

Chairman Page presented the May 12, 2023, meeting minutes for approval. No revisions were offered. Hon. Dub Pearman made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gil Shearouse and passed without opposition.

Chairman's Update

Reflections on the Retreat

Chairman Page reflected on the 2023 Governing Board Retreat held in Camilla, GA in May. During the retreat, Board members took a tour of UGA's C.M. Stripling Irrigation Research Center and learned about efficiency advancements in Georgia's agriculture industry. Board members were also able to experience a panel discussion with Mr. Robin Singletary, Mr. Gordon Rogers, Mr. Mark Masters, and Ms. Katherine Zitsch on the connections between urban and agricultural water management in the Flint River.

Schedule for 2023/2024

Chairman Page presented the meeting schedule for BACs, TCC, and the Board for the remainder of 2023 and the Board meeting schedule for 2024. The 2024 Governing Board Retreat will be held at Clayton County Water Authority's Shamrock Community Use Building on Thursday, June 6, 2024.

District Staffing Update

Chairman Page announced changes to District management staff. Ms. Katherine Zitsch was promoted to Atlanta Regional Commission's Deputy Chief Operating Officer and Senior Water Policy Advisor. Mr. Danny Johnson was promoted to Managing Director of ARC's Natural Resource Department and Director of the District. Sarah Skinner was promoted to Manager of the District.

Staff Updates

Education and Outreach

Ms. Sarah Skinner provided an overview of ongoing education activities and events including the announcement of the 2024 Water Drop Dash being held on March 16 at the Chattahoochee Nature Center and the 2023 Middle School Essay Contest. Ms. Skinner also gave an update of the Virtual Learning Journey project in partnership with GPB and invited the Board members to attend the second annual Imagine a Day Without Water event in partnership with Dad's Garage Improv Theatre.

Water Supply Status – Litigation Update

Ms. Katherine Zitsch presented an overview of rainfall and lake levels across the District. Ms. Zitsch also presented an update on litigation within the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River basin and the Alabama-Coosa-Tallapoosa River basin.

Website Redesign Walkthrough

Ms. Justine Schwartz presented the newly launched redesign of the District website, which underwent its last major redesign in 2014. Ms. Schwartz walked Board members through the high-level changes to content, new navigations, and pages of importance to the Board, including the new Board portal where members will find individualized profiles, committee information, and meeting details.

District Guidance on Embedding Stormwater Best Management Practices

Ms. Katherine Atteberry provided an overview of an optional guidance document prepared by District Staff addressing embedded stormwater best management practices and the outreach to local stormwater managers that has taken place since the Governing Board retreat in May. Since the retreat, Ms. Atteberry has worked with stakeholders and incorporated comments to update the optional guidance document. Mr. Tony Carnell made a motion to approve posting to the District website the Optional Guidance on Embedding Stormwater Best Management Practices. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shearouse and passed without opposition.

Aging Infrastructure – Repair and Replacement Planning

Mr. Danny Johnson and Ms. Katherine Atteberry provided an overview of repair and replacement planning for aging infrastructure. Board members engaged in discussion and agreed that education efforts and advocating for funding are critical.

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