



**Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District  
CHATTAHOOCHEE BASIN ADVISORY COUNCIL  
Meeting Summary  
January 21, 2010**

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District's Chattahoochee Basin Advisory Council met on Thursday, January 21, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. at the Chattahoochee Nature Center in Roswell, Georgia.

**Members Present**

Femi Adesanya  
Ginger Blackstone, GA Dept. of Labor  
William Braswell, West GA Board of Realtors  
Lee Duncan  
Steve Foster  
Jill Glascock  
Patrick Heerd  
Kenneth Kagy, Gwinnett County  
Jo Ann Macrina, Dekalb County  
Doug Miell  
Becky Mixon, Cobb County-Marietta  
Water Authority Alternate (for Glenn Page)  
John Oliver, URS Corporation  
James Patterson, Columbus Water Works  
K. Scott Robertson, Sweetwater Environmental  
George Taylor Jr., Oglethorpe Power Corp.  
Billy Turner  
Larry Wood, City of Villa Rica

Keith Bentley, Keep Smyrna Beautiful  
Rick Blackwell, Let's Go Fishing USA  
Jared Daley  
Katherine Feeman, Big Trees Forest Preserve  
Douglas Fulle, Oglethorpe Power Corporation  
Laura Hartt, Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper  
Warren Howe  
John Lawrence, BAC Chair  
James Martell  
William Millkey  
Michael Morton  
Kevin Norton, Paulson Mitchell, Inc.  
Eric Olson  
Catherine Pruitt, Stevenson & Palmer Eng.  
Wes Rogers  
Bryan Tolar, GA Agribusiness Council  
Wayne Waldrip, Keep Smyrna Beautiful

**Members Not Present**

Patty Berkovitz, Watershed Al. of Sandy Springs  
Alan Bowling, Cobb S&WC District  
Ellis Cadenhead, Coweta W&S Authority  
Daryl Cook, Watts & Browning Enter's Inc.  
Matthew Floyd  
Travis Eugene Henry, Douglas Farm Bureau  
Gene Kelly  
James Kurtz, NAMAR- Real Estate  
George Martin, Georgia Power

Harry Boone  
Bob Bunker, RM Bunker Associates LLC  
Howard Carson Jr., Carson Developments, Inc.  
Steven Culp, Veolia Water NA Harry Boone  
Martin George  
Mike Kauffmann, City of Villa Rica  
Edward Klaas, II, Southern Sprinkler Systems  
F. Keith Lagaite  
Tavia McCuean, Forestar Group

Charles McMullen III  
Larry Phillips  
Yomi Sholarin, Comm. Board of Realtors  
Bob Sutton, Lake Allatoona Preservation Auth.  
Bruce Widener, GA Onsite WW Assoc.  
Albert M. Wilson III  
Mary Kay Woodworth

Jason O'Rourke, Council for Quality Growth  
Dan Reeves, Hunter Industries  
Martin Smith  
Butch Watson III, Croy Engineering  
Stacey Williams, Ken Harris and Asso. Realty  
Kenneth Wood, Planners and Engineers Coll.

**Non Chattahoochee BAC Members Present**

Kathy Nguyen, Cobb County Water Authority  
Ingna Jones, Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper  
Mark Wolff

**Metro Water District Staff Present**

Matt Harper, Senior Principal Planner  
Heather Moody, Senior Program Specialist  
Corey Babb, Senior Environmental Planner  
Abby Owens, Senior Environmental Planner  
Pat Stevens, Division Chief

**Welcome and Introductions**

Chattahoochee BAC Chair John Lawrence introduced Mr. Chris Browning, Fulton County Board Designee, who began the meeting by welcoming the group on behalf of the Metro Water District Board.

**Grease Management Public Education**

Corey Babb of the Metro Water District presented ideas for a new public education initiative about the harmful impacts of fats, oils and grease (FOG) on local sewer systems and asked the BAC members for their suggestions.

BAC members shared the following ideas and suggestions:

- Home Owners Associations could be a good resource. The Metro Water District should draft language for their websites.
- Local and neighborhood papers are another good way to get the word out.
- Alternate disposal methods for grease should be included.
- What about biodiesel? If biodiesel producers would accept it, include information about where people can drop off their grease.
- Create simple bill inserts with pictures and bullet points. These should be coordinated with a media campaign.
- Include grease disposal information with apartment leasing agreements.
- Include information on government websites, NGO websites and email newsletters.
- Could local governments provide residents with a grease container and collect it? Then could they potentially use the grease to generate power. It could be a revenue stream for local governments.

- Provide a drop off location at local utilities and apartment complexes.
- Even standard recycling rates are low. The key is to make it easy for the public to comply.
- Collect facts and figures on the amount of grease a typical family produces.
- Spread the message through education of school children. They have a big influence on their parent's behavior.
- Quantify the amount spent on grease maintenance and grease caused spills.
- Explain the impacts of grease related problems. Not just the monetary costs but also interruptions in service and environmental impacts.

### **Discussion of Potential New Water Conservation Measures**

Abby Owens of the Metro Water District lead a discussion on potential new water conservation measures that are being considered in addition to those already included in the Water Supply and Water Conservation Management Plan. He explained that this is a proactive step in response to Judge Magnuson's ruling regarding Lake Lanier and the 2012 deadline.

BAC members shared the following ideas and suggestions:

- Would the rebate for hot water on demand systems be a one-time purchase rebate or a monthly bill credit? This should be clarified.
- The listed items are not ordered based on cost or water savings. Including that information would make the items easier to evaluate.
- What is the purpose of metering a fire line?
- The City of Savannah charges for fire protection.
- Some jurisdictions do meter fire lines and charge for water used.
- The fire meter would be a full sized meter that would actually record water usage through the fire line.
- Fulton County does this and only charges for the meter.
- Potential for fire line water theft is high.
- Consider using reuse water for power generation cooling towers.
- Incentive based solutions will be most successful.
- Why not offer incentives for grey-water reuse and rainwater capture?
- Ten percent real water loss seems too high.
- Reducing water loss is very expensive. It requires replacing old infrastructure.
- Meters continue to become less accurate over time.

BAC members were asked to email additional feedback on FOG public education and additional water conservation measures to Heather Moody by January 29<sup>th</sup>.

### **2009 Annual Report & Implementation Report**

Heather Moody of the Metro Water District reviewed the 2009 Annual Report and the 2009 Plan Implementation Review. She described the two documents and how they interrelate and showed members where to locate information.

**Joint Water Council Meetings / State Resource Assessment Update**

Matt Harper of the Metro Water District provided an overview of the upcoming Joint Water Council meetings and State Resource Assessments. Mr. Harper informed the group that the resource assessments will be the basis for the state water planning process moving forward and will guide permitting decisions in the future. He explained that the state is conducting three different resource assessments for each river basin in the state; a surface water quality assessment, a surface water quantity assessment and a groundwater availability assessment. He told the group that the resource assessments will affect the Metro Water District and that staff will follow the process.

Mr. Harper explained that GA EPD is planning two rounds of Joint Water Planning Council meetings; one in January to present the assessments based on current use and another round later this spring to discuss the assessments based on future use. GA EPD will release a formal report in February for the current resource assessments followed by a public comment period. He told the group that staff will forward the resource assessment documents to the BAC members when they become available.

**Metro Water District's 2010 Legislative Agenda**

Matt Harper of the Metro Water District reviewed the 2010 Metro Water District Legislative Agenda. The BAC members were provided with a copy of the 2010 Legislative Agenda adopted by the Metro Water District Board on December 3, 2009.

The next meeting will be held on April 15, 2010. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

**Facility Tour**

Lynn McIntyre of the Chattahoochee Nature Center spoke to the BAC members about the Center's facilities, programming and conservation efforts. She described features of their newly constructed green building and invited the group to tour CNC's new educational exhibits.