



**Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District
OCMULGEE BASIN ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting Summary
April 20, 2012**

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District's Ocmulgee Basin Advisory Council met on Friday, April 20, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at the Tussahaw Water Treatment Facility in Jackson, GA.

Members Present

Larry Allen, Henry Co Farm Bureau
Bob Carpenter, IAPMO
Tonja Halton-Mincey, Henry Co WSA
Tom Harrison
Roger Hatch, Rockdale/DeKalb Farm Bureau
Jenny Hoffner, American Rivers
Angel Jones, DeKalb Co Roads Drainage
Faye Lyons-Gary, DeKalb Co LWV

Jay Marlow
Vikki McReynolds, GUCA
Paul Morgan, Rainharvest Co. Inc.
Elaine Nash, Rockdale Co WSA
Russell Toning, GSWCC
Anthony Wiggins, CERM
Steve Williams, Water Management Inc

Members Not Present

Michael Walker, BAC Chair
Jimmy Carter, Jr., HCWA and Henry Co Farm Bur.
Jennifer Christman, ADS
Todd Cosby, Rockdale Co Stormwater
Richard Edinger, Jr.
Wayne Haynie, Jacobs

Chee Hill, Dewberry & Davis
Shirley House
Wanda Saed
Chris Yancey, City of Loganville

Metro Water District Staff Present

Matt Harper, Senior Principal Planner
Neela Ram, Senior Planner

Sarah Simmons, Senior Program Specialist
Kostoula Vallianos, Education Specialist

Board Representative Present

Lee Pope, Rockdale Co Alternate

Non-Members Present

Chip Hatcher, Rockdale WSA

Welcome and Introductions

Rockdale County Board Alternate, Lee Pope welcomed the group on behalf of the Metro Water District Board and officially convened the meeting. Mr. Pope initiated group introductions.

BAC Membership Survey Results

In February 2012 a membership survey was sent to all current Basin Advisory Council members to determine how to increase attendance and improve the overall experience for the members. Ms. Simmons presented the highlights of the survey including suggestions from members to make the meetings more interesting and effective. Ms. Simmons thanked those members who took the survey. The input received was very helpful in preparing today's meeting and will be used in the planning of future meetings.

Water Supply and Water Conservation Management Plan Overview

Ms. Neela Ram gave an overview of the District's Water Supply and Water Conservation Management Plan. She discussed the elements of the plan, the important issues in planning for water supply and the schedule for implementing the plan. Additionally, Ms. Ram highlighted the progress made by local governments in implementing water conservation measures. She also discussed the District's education campaigns which educate residents on water conservation (www.mydropcounts.org) and reducing stormwater pollution (www.cleanwatercampaign.com).

Members had the following questions and comments:

- What effect do lawn fertilizers have on our water supply?
- Where does the money come from to build and maintain reservoirs?
- Sedimentation should be anticipated when planning a reservoir
- Local governments do monitor for sediment but they are not told what to do with the information. There is a disconnect in what to do and how and when to get assistance with sedimentation issues.
- Local governments need to plan ahead and put dam maintenance money into reserve funds.
- We have to get the word out about conservation.
- It is good to talk about water conservation but we need to also talk about conservation of the natural environment to protect water quality.
- Another issue is that we have people on zoning boards and commissions who may not be aware of all the water issues.
- The District's list of water conservation measure is not as aggressive as it could be.
- The Metro Water District is doing a great job with the resources they have. Local governments need people to enforce themselves.

Household Water Use Assessment Brochure

Ms. Ram explained that the District would be changing and updating elements of the Household Water Use Assessment brochure. She asked the group to take the brochure home and use it to assess their own water use. The group was asked to provide comments on the brochure's ease of use.

Members had the following questions and comments:

- How is this brochure distributed?

- There is a lock on my meter and I cannot see it to take the water assessment. Local governments are changing out some meters for automated meter reading technology to make it easier to collect information.

Other

At a member's request, Mr. Harper gave a brief update on the District's legislative agenda. Members had the following questions and comments:

- Did any of the bills involving interbasin transfers pass? None passed.

Ms. Simmons provided a meeting wrap up and informed the group on where to meet for the tour following the meeting. The next meeting will be on Friday, July 20, 2012 and will be a joint meeting of all the Basin Advisory Councils. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

The meeting was followed by a tour of Tussahaw Water Treatment Facility led by Eric Osborne, Water Productions Manager.