



**Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District
CHATTAHOOCHEE BASIN ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting Summary
January 21, 2014**

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District's Chattahoochee Basin Advisory Council met on Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. at the Georgia Association of Water Professionals Headquarters in Marietta, GA.

Members Present

Charles McKinney, BAC Chair	George Martin, Georgia Power
Isaac Asher	Bill Millkey
Corey Babb, DHA	John Oliver, URS Corporation
William Braswell, West GA Board of Realtors	Michelle Robbins, City of Sandy Springs
Teresa Crisp, Dewberry Engineers, Inc.	K. Scott Robertson, SEC
Steven Culp	Penny Round, Atlanta Apartment Assoc
Mark Esoda, GA Golf Course Superintendents Association	James Steele, Paulding Co Water System
Debra Ewing, D. Clark Harris, Inc.	Charles Surasky, Smith Currie & Hancock
Richard Farmer, Watershed Alliance of Sandy Springs	George Taylor, Oglethorpe Power Corp
Courtney Flores, Watershed Alliance of Sandy Springs	Dan Thalimer
Steven Foster	Hoyt Tuggle
Douglas Fulle, Oglethorpe Power Corp	Billy Turner, Columbus Water Works
Laura Hartt, Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper	Wayne Waldrip, Keep Smyrna Beautiful
James Hawkins	Butch Watson, Croy Engineering, LLC
Patrick Heerdt	Mary Kay Woodworth, GA Urban Ag Council
Colin Holden	Nancy Wylie, League of Women Voters
Kenneth Kagy, Gwinnett County	Van Yon, Atl Comm Board of Realtors

Members Not Present

Dannelle Alloway, City of Roswell Water Resources	Jo Ann Macrina, City of Atlanta DWM
Taylor Anderson	Frank Mann, Atlanta Commercial Board of Realtors
Hal Benner	Tavia McCuean, Forestar Group
Emily Buffington, Cox Enterprises	Doug Miell
Robert Bunker	Mitzi Moore
Marissa Chanin, Riverwood Properties, LLC	Michael Morton, Chattahoochee Hills
David Chastant	Kevin Norton, Paulson Mitchell, Inc.

D. Scott Cole
Roland de Liniere
David Forbes
Donald Fry, Engineering Design Technologies
Jimmy Garrison III, DPE, Inc.
Jack Gleason, Friends of Caney Creek.org
Warren Howe
Lynda Jenkins
Richard Lisska
Victoria Lister

Angus Reed
Amreeta Regmi
Trish Reifenberger
Sonya Rose
Ryan Rowberry
Yomi Sholarin
Sanford Stokes, Western Summit
John Tarpley
Frankie Thompson
Bryan Tolar, GA Agribusiness Council

Metro Water District/ARC Staff Present

Katherine Zitsch, Manager, ARC Natural Resources Division
Lora Amedu, Water Conservation
Andy Cornwell, District Staff
Chris Faulkner, Stormwater and Wastewater
Danny Johnson, District Manager
Neela Ram, Water Supply and Conservation
Liz Sanford, ARC Community Engagement
Sarah Skinner, BACs and Annual Reporting
Kostoula Vallianos, Education and Outreach

Others Present

Ron Peters, Gwinnett Dept. of Water Resources
Doug Baughman, CH2M Hill
Cherona Levy
Becky Mixon, Cobb Co-Marietta Water Auth.
Kathy Nguyen, Cobb County Water System
Anup Shah, Metro Atlanta Chamber
Dan Skalsky, URS
J.M. Warner

Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Ron Peters, Gwinnett County Board Designee, officially opened the meeting and welcomed the group on behalf of the District Governing Board. Mr. Peters thanked BAC members for attending the meeting and participating in the District planning process. Stakeholder input is critical to the success of the water resource management plans and Metro Water District staff and Board members appreciate BAC members' willingness to volunteer their time and effort.

2013 District Annual Report

Ms. Sarah Skinner presented an overview of the District's 2013 Annual Report. The focus of the annual report was water conservation. The centerfold infographic entitled, *Conversations in Conservation* describes many of the successes we have had in water conservation over the last year, as well as throughout the past decade. Over 8,000 leaks were detected and repaired in 2013 and over 91,000 old and inefficient toilets have been replaced since the Metro Water District's Toilet Rebate Program was created in 2008.

Roles and Responsibilities of the BAC

Ms. Katherine Zitsch, Manager of the Natural Resources Division of the Atlanta Regional Commission, provided a broad overview of the schedule of events through the two year planning period. The January BAC meetings would consist of visioning exercises. After all BACs had a chance to participate in the exercise, District staff will work with facilitator, Liz Sanford, to

develop a BAC vision statement. The statement would be shared and discussed at the meetings in April, during which the BACs would develop goals and objectives for the plan update. During the second and third quarters of 2014, District staff will prepare an RFP for the scope of work. The BAC will have a chance to review the scope of work within the RFP and provide feedback. In 2015, the consultants will begin working on draft documents, which will be brought to the BACs. At that point, the BACs will be managed a little differently. BAC meetings will continue on a regular quarterly basis; however special meetings will also be called, perhaps monthly, to review, discuss and comment on the details of the documents. All BAC members will be invited to attend the special review meetings, as well as regular meetings.

Overview of the District Plans and Planning Process

Mr. Danny Johnson gave an overview of the District organizational structure and a high level overview of each of the water resource management plans. The Water Supply and Water Conservation Management Plan includes 19 conservation measures and a schedule of planned facilities and expansions. The Wastewater Management Plan includes demand projections and wastewater capacity needs. It also requires that metro area utilities have a higher treatment level because of limited stream capacity. The plan also includes a schedule of planned facilities and expansions. The Watershed Management Plan includes a suite of model ordinances to improve watershed management on the local level. The ordinances do not have to be adopted on the local level as is, however local governments must have requirements and ordinances in place that are at least as strong. The plan also includes a schedule of ordinance implementation.

BAC members had the following questions and comments:

- How did the 15 counties become a part of the District?
- Are citizens involved in the local government audit process?
- Consider showing streams removed from the impaired list in future watershed management metrics.
- Plan ordinances are widely accepted across the District.
- The shaping of the ordinances takes place in the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC).
- Can staff prepare slides for the next meeting that show how metrics have increased/improved over the last year?

2016 Plan Update Visioning Exercise

Ms. Liz Sanford, ARC's new Community Engagement Manager, served as the facilitator for the visioning exercise. She presented an overview of the visioning activities, guidelines for the exercise, anticipated outcomes and next steps. Each BAC member would be asked to answer three questions, and answers to those questions would then be reviewed by the neighboring group. This is done to ensure anonymity and to encourage members to write comments without fear of judgment.

The exercise started with group formation. Each member counted off, one through six, and created six small groups throughout the room. A District staff member was assigned to each group to serve as a small group facilitator to help move the process along and answer questions,

when needed. Each BAC member was then given a notecard printed with, “Question (1): What is the District best at and where can we continue to excel?” After question one was answered, the small group facilitators taped each member’s answer to a large sheet of paper and passed it to the group to their right. Members were asked to highlight two answers from the previous group with which they agreed the most. This same process was done for questions (2): What are the capabilities we want to put in place to stretch our organization to meet the needs of stakeholders in the future; and (3): As we embark on the plans for the District, what do you think our top goals should be.

Meeting Wrap-up and Next Steps

After all answers were recorded and each group had a chance to choose two of the neighboring group’s answers from each question, Ms. Sanford asked that each small group facilitator give a synopsis of the favorite answers chosen. Ms. Sanford recorded these answers on a summary list. She thanked the group for providing honest answers and ensured that all answers from today would be recorded in a master spreadsheet. After all the BAC meetings are held for the quarter (Joint Flint and Ocmulgee meetings still to come), Ms. Sanford and District staff will compile all the answers and begin working on a broad/high level vision statement for the BAC. At the next meeting, BAC members will discuss the vision statement and begin working on goals and objectives for the plan update.

Other

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 22, 2014. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.