



Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District

40 Courtland Street NE | Atlanta, Georgia 30303

BOARD MEETING AGENDA

December 7, 2016 – 10:00 a.m.

Allen S. Hardin Amphitheater

R. Charles Loudermilk Center for the Regional Community

Level “C”- 40 Courtland Street, NE Atlanta, Georgia

- I. Public Comment Period****
- II. Approve Meeting Minutes (*Action Item*)**
- III. Chairman’s Report**
 - *Drought Update*
 - *2017 District Calendars*
 - *BAC Chair Election Results*
 - *Essay Contest Winners and Reception*
 - *Schedule for 2017*
 - *Board Member Recognition*
- IV. Executive Committee Report**
 - *2016 Year End Budget and 2017 Budget Revision (*Action Item*)*
 - *BAC Operating Procedures*
- V. Post-Construction Stormwater Model Ordinance and MS4 Updates**
Chris Faulkner – Metro Water District
- VI. 2017 Water Resources Plan Update Status**
Danny Johnson – Metro Water District
- VII. Green Communities Partnership Opportunities**
Crystal Jackson – Atlanta Regional Commission
- VIII. Executive Session – Litigation**
- IX. Adjourn**

**A 10-minute period for public comments is designated as needed at each Governing Board meeting during a time deemed appropriate by the Chairman. Each speaker must sign-up at least two (2) days prior to the meeting start time. The 10 minute period will be divided by the number of people wishing to address the Board. No single speaker shall have more than five (5) minutes to address the Board. Comments should also be provided in writing, with supporting material. The Chairman reserves the right to limit or extend the speaking time or total number of speakers at any meeting.



Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District
GOVERNING BOARD
Minutes
August 24, 2016

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District Governing Board met on Wednesday, August 24, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in the Allen S. Hardin Amphitheater at the R. Charles Loudermilk Center for Regional Community in Atlanta, Georgia.

Members Present

Hon. Boyd Austin, Chairman
Ms. Katie Kirkpatrick, Vice Chair
Mr. Birdel Jackson, Treasurer
Hon Buzz Ahrens
Hon. Tim Lee
Dr. Mark Berry
Ms. Pamela Burnett
Mr. Brad Currey
Ms. Kit Dunlap
Mr. Tim Thoms

Mr. Steven Woodruff
City of Atlanta Designee: Kishia Powell
DeKalb County Designee: Margaret Tanner
Douglas County Designee: Mr. Gil Shearouse
Forsyth County Designee: Jon Heard
Fulton County Designee: Nick Ammons
Hall County Designee: Ken Rearden
Henry County Designee: Tony Carnell
Rockdale County Designee: Dwight Wicks

Members Not Present

Hon. Edward Johnson
Hon. Charlotte Nash
Hon. Larry Owens
Hon. Mathew Santini

Hon. Jeff Turner
Mr. Chuck Huling
Mr. Gerald Pouncey

Chairman Boyd Austin called the meeting to order.

Approve Meeting Minutes

Chairman Austin called for a motion to approve the minutes. A motion to approve the June 1, 2016 meeting minutes was made by Ms. Kit Dunlap, seconded by Mr. Brad Currey and passed without opposition.

Drought/Lake Level/Water Litigation Update

Katherine Zitsch gave a brief overview of drought conditions across the metro region. Currently, half of the District is in “Severe” and half in “Extreme” drought conditions according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. The elevation of Lake Lanier is approximately 1066, or five feet below full pool of 1071.

The Florida v. Georgia Supreme Court trial before the special master has been scheduled for October 31, 2016 in Portland, Maine. The trial is expected to last six to eight weeks.

There are two cases pending in the Alabama/Coosa/Tallapoosa basin. The first case is the Georgia/Cobb-Marrietta/ARC v. USACE lawsuit in the Northern District of Georgia. The case is currently awaiting a decision on summary judgement filed by the three Georgia parties. The second case is Alabama/Alabama Power v. USACE in Washington D.C. This trial will remain in Washington D.C. and separate from the Georgia lawsuit.

In Congress, the latest draft of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) bill rolled back the clause from the 2013 bill that was harmful to Georgia's water access. The final bill is expected to pass in September 2016.

2017 Calendar Photo Contest Deadline

Chairman Austin noted that the third annual Water Reflections Calendar Photo Contest is currently open for photo submissions with a deadline of September 9th. The contest promotes an awareness of the need to protect our shared water resources. Amateur and professional photographers over 18 years of age are asked to submit photos taken within the 15 county region that capture the beauty, heritage, activities and character of metro Atlanta's water resources. Winning photographs will receive a cash prize and will be included in the 2017 Water Reflections Calendar. The Grand Prize photo will be featured on the cover of the calendar.

Water Sense Sales Tax Holiday

Chairman Austin noted that Friday, September 30th to Sunday, October 2nd is a sales tax holiday for WaterSense and ENERGY STAR labeled products. All WaterSense and ENERGY STAR labeled products with a sales price of \$1,500 or less purchased for non-commercial home or personal use will be Georgia state and local sales tax-free. The current sales tax holiday received a one year extension for this year only so new legislation will be needed in the 2017 session. Chairman Austin added that it is unclear as to who will carry this legislation but to keep an eye out. Chairman Austin also urged board members to consider supporting the legislation if it makes sense for your jurisdiction.

2016 Middle School Essay Contest

Chairman Austin announced the 2016 Middle School Essay Contest. This Year's Topic is "Why is water conservation important to you and our region?" The deadline for submission is Friday, October 21, 2016. An awards reception will be held in the State Capital on December 14, 2016.

Storm the Watershed Trail Run

Chairman Austin announced that on October 22nd, the District will host its first "Storm the Watershed" Trail Run in Henry County to help raise awareness for pollution prevention. Storm the Watershed is a 15K/5K trail run along the beautiful Long Branch Reservoir at the Cubihatcha Outdoor Education Center in Locust Grove, GA presented by Henry County Water Authority. Barbecue lunch is included with registration.

Schedule for 2016 and 2017

Chairman Austin noted the scheduled dates for District Board Meetings in 2016 and 2017 as follows:

- December 7, 2016
- February 22, 2017
- June 7, 2017
- August 23, 2017
- December 6, 2017

2017 Water Management Plan Update Status

Mr. Danny Johnson provided an overview of the Plan Update progress and updated timeline. District staff along with a handful of board members attended the Eastern Georgia Joint Regional Water Council and Western Georgia Joint Regional Water Council meetings over the summer. Georgia EPD presented information on the Agriculture Water Use Forecasts as well as the statewide Surface Water Availability Assessment which identified gaps and statistical assessments of the Corps of Engineers reservoirs. Mr. Johnson noted that the agricultural forecast for the District counties had been placed at each of the board member's chairs when they arrived.

The draft Plan Update Sections 1 through 4 are currently under review by the Technical Coordinating Committee, the Basin Advisory Councils and Georgia EPD. The remaining sections of the plan are currently in development. The Governing Board Working Group will meet next week to discuss final action item recommendations. The state is considering an extension of the District's Plan Update and Regional Water Council Plan Updates into June of 2017.

EPD Surface Water Quality Resource Assessment Update

Dr. Elizabeth Booth, with Georgia EPD, provided an overview of the latest statewide Water Quality Resource Assessment. Dr. Booth discussed plans to institute ammonia limits on future NPDES permits for wastewater treatment facilities due to water quality issues downstream related to endangered mussels. She also noted that some dischargers are starting to push the limits of dissolved oxygen as facilities expand. Additionally, new and renewed NPDES permits will likely be required to report nitrogen concentrations.

The Lake Lanier water quality model shows that load reductions are needed from multiple point source dischargers upstream of the District as well as reductions from non-point sources from urban and agriculture loading. The Lake Lanier Stakeholders Group helped identify potential load reductions to help meet water quality limits within the lake. While phosphorus limits for dischargers are tight, dischargers could reduce or borrow loading credits from urban and agricultural loading.

The following questions were asked:

Q: Does the model take into account seasonal variations in ammonia?

A: Yes

Q: How well does the TMDL model coordinate with municipal permits?

A: The state cannot issue NPDES permits that don't meet water quality limits.

Q: Has anyone looked at Industrial/Municipal credit trading?

A: Not that I know of but it could be considered.

Non-Point Source Strategy

Mr. Chris Faulkner noted that he would be presenting to the Governing Board Working Group next week about the District's development of a Non-Point Source Strategy document. The document would identify how best to and with whom do jurisdictions need to partner with to coordinate a comprehensive stakeholder effort to reduce non-point source pollution in the future.

One board member commented that the task moving forward is how to address the fact that a large portion of the pollutant load in surface waters is coming from non-point sources and not from municipal wastewater dischargers. The state directly regulates pollutant loading through point source discharge permits but has less control over non-point sources, therefore we must think about who bears the cost of non-point source reductions as it will be a tough and expensive effort.

Local Response to International Issues – Zika Stormwater Initiatives

Mr. Chris Kumnick presented the efforts being made at the Georgia Department of Public Health to educate and mitigate the spread of the Zika virus spread by mosquitos. Mr. Kumnick discussed the human health implications, how the virus is transmitted and what people can do to mitigate the spread of mosquitos and the viruses they may carry. Best practices for reducing mosquitos include getting rid of items in the yard that you don't need as well as tipping and tossing items that hold rainwater. The state recommends using mosquito repellent with deet that includes an EPA Registered Repellent label, mosquito netting for children younger than two months of age, and using condoms following any travel to countries where Zika has a presence. Only 20 percent of people who carry the virus present symptoms.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District

40 Courtland Street NE | Atlanta, Georgia 30303

MEMORANDUM

Date: November 30, 2016
To: Executive Committee
From: Birdel Jackson, Finance Committee Chair
RE: Proposed 2016 and 2017 Budget Revisions

2016 Year End Budget Revision

The attached 2016 year end budget revision is being proposed as a revision to the budget adopted on June 1, 2016. This proposed revision incorporates adjustments for actual experience and projected expenditures for the remainder of the year.

Miscellaneous Fees were revised to reflect the reduction in income from transferring the Water Drop Dash 5K Race application fees to the Chattahoochee Nature Center who now manages the race.

The District continued work on the Water Resource Management Plan Update contract in 2016. As work on this project extends into 2017, \$70,000 in contingency funds, originally allocated in 2016, have been moved into the 2017 budget. Additionally, \$80,000 of the \$100,000 allocated for the 2016 work on the Drought Management Technical Assistance contract for a Reservoir Stage Model have been reallocated into the 2017 budget to account for the amount of work balance expected between the two years.

The Public Awareness / Education budget has been increased to \$40,000 to account for projected expenditures for 2016.

2017 Budget Revision

In response to the 2016 Year End Budget Revision, we have also proposed the attached revision to the June 1, 2016 adopted 2017 budget to update the estimated Beginning Fund Balance, Miscellaneous Fees, Contracts, Overhead and Miscellaneous Operating.

Metro Water District Finance Committee

November 21, 2016

Page 2

The estimated Beginning Fund Balance has been modified to \$714,309 to reflect the estimated 2016 Year End Budget Revision.

Miscellaneous Fees were revised to reflect the reduction in income from transferring the Water Drop Dash 5K Race application fees to the Chattahoochee Nature Center who now manages the race. Additional income is anticipated from the 2017 Storm the Watershed 5K/15K Trail Run.

The 2017 Contract line was increased to reflect the transfer of the Plan Update contract contingency funds as well as funds reallocated to 2017 from the 2016 contract for Drought Management Technical Assistance as described above.

The Atlanta Regional Commission anticipates an increase in Overhead for 2017 which is reflected in the revised budget.

The line item for Miscellaneous Operating was increased to account for expenses related to the 2017 Storm the Watershed 5K/15K.

Note that in June 2011 the Board adopted the following financial policy: the District will establish and strive to maintain a minimum fund balance of \$300,000 for operating contingencies.

The Finance Committee approved the attached 2016 year end budget revision via conference call on Monday, November 21, at 10:00 a.m.

2016 Budget Revision

Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District

	<u>2016</u> Approved June 16, 2015	<u>2016</u> Approved June 1, 2016	<u>2016</u> DRAFT YEAR END REVISION
Beginning Fund Balance (Estimated)	602,570	1,000,229	1,000,229
Revenues			
Direct State Funding	750,000	250,000	250,000
Local Dues (2010 Census at \$0.16 per capita)	773,239	773,239	773,239
Interest Income	2,000	2,000	2,000
Misc. Fees	60,000	60,000	40,000
Total Revenues	1,585,239	1,085,239	1,065,239
Expenses by Type			
Chairman's Allowance	3,000	3,000	1,000
District Planning Function			
Salaries	433,434.00	440,342	440,342
Fringe Benefits	234,054.36	237,785	237,785
Contracts	635,000.00	448,000	258,000
Overhead	273,670.23	278,032	278,032
Miscellaneous Operating	96,000.00	96,000	96,000
Public Awareness / Education	150,000.00	35,000	40,000
Total Expenses	1,825,159	1,538,159	1,351,159
Projected Ending Fund Balance	362,650	547,309	714,309

2016 NOTES

*The District will strive to maintain a minimum fund balance of \$300,000 for operating contingencies.

Contracts: Includes the three Water Resource Management Plan Updates, drought management technical assistance, water quality modeling, and other contracts

Misc. Operating: This category includes operating supplies, publications, printing and photocopying, meeting expenses, postage, contractual operating services such as audit, seminar trainers and other misc.

2017 Budget Revision

Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2017</u>
	Adopted 6-1-2016	DRAFT - December 2016 Revision
Beginning Fund Balance (Estimated)	547,309	714,309
 Revenues		
Direct State Funding	250,000	250,000
Local Dues (2010 Census at \$0.20 per capita)	966,549	966,549
Interest Income	2,000	2,000
Misc. Fees	60,000	45,000
Total Revenues	1,278,549	1,263,549
 Expenses by Type		
Chairman's Allowance	3,000	3,000
District Planning Function		
Salaries	476,777	476,777
Fringe Benefits	257,460	257,460
Contracts	310,000	425,000
Overhead	301,037	326,735
Miscellaneous Operating	75,000	85,000
Public Awareness / Education	100,000	100,000
Total Expenses	1,523,274	1,673,972
Projected Ending Fund Balance	302,584	303,886

2016 NOTES

*The District will strive to maintain a minimum fund balance of \$300,000 for operating contingencies.

Contracts: finalization of District plan update, septic/water quality study, drought management technical assistance, water quality modeling, and other

Misc. Operating: This category includes operating supplies, publications, printing and photocopying, meeting expenses, postage, contractual operating services such as audit, seminar trainers and other misc.



Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District Basin Advisory Council Operating Procedures

The Basin Advisory Councils are mandated in the Official Code of Georgia Annotated 12-5-581, the code states “The board shall create separate advisory councils for the Chattahoochee, Etowah, Flint, Oconee, and Ocmulgee river basins and the Lake Lanier Basin.” The OCGA goes on to provide the minimum requirements for the duties of the BACs.

Purpose

The Basin Advisory Councils (BACs) offer diverse perspectives in the form of local, basin-specific recommendations in the development of the Metro Water District’s integrated plan, which guides water resources management in the 15-county metro Atlanta region. The plan is created through a process that involves the participation of the District Governing Board, the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC), the BACs, and District staff, which each have a distinct function.

Specifically, in following the Official Code of Georgia Annotated 12-5-581 the duties of the BACs are as follows:

- 1) Advise the Metro Water District in the development and implementation of policy,
- 2) Provide input to the Metro Water District concerning the development of minimum elements and standards for Metro Water District plans relating to its specific river basin,
- 3) Provide input on the content of Metro Water District plans as such plans are developed, and
- 4) Prepare reports and recommendations for consideration by the Metro Water District in formulating any plan or taking any other action.

Membership

The District strives to ensure that each BAC is composed of a diverse membership to ensure that a variety of perspectives are represented, including attention to race, ethnicity, age, gender, and geography when there is underrepresentation in the membership. The District will reach out to citizens and also individuals associated with neighborhood, homeowner, civic, academic, environmental, private, non-profit, urban agricultural, and water resource organizations/groups at least every two years during an official membership drive, or when in need of new members.

Each BAC shall be comprised of a minimum of 20 individuals.

BAC membership applications will be accepted year-round. District staff will perform an annual review of all applications, as well as current BAC membership lists and meeting attendance

records to determine if new BAC members are needed to fulfill the requirements of BAC membership. District staff will recommend new BAC members to the Executive Committee of the Board, which will review and approve new members at specific points throughout the year. BAC members shall serve two-year terms, and members may be reappointed for successive terms.

Chairperson

Each BAC will elect a chairperson for a two year term. If a BAC does not elect a chairperson then the Governing Board chairperson may appoint one. All BAC members are eligible to stand for election. District staff is responsible for overseeing elections.

Duties of the chairperson include:

- Working closely with District staff to assist in forming agendas, ensuring a diverse and engaged membership and staying knowledgeable of Metro Water District activities and the BAC members' views and interests.
- Each chairperson is entitled, but not required, to attend the Governing Board meetings and comment on the development and implementation of policy and upon the content of plans, only as such policy and plans relate to the basin represented by the chairperson.
 - If a chairperson has input from the BAC to share at the meeting, District staff shall be notified two days in advance of the meeting to appropriately allot time.
 - Written comments can be provided in place of commenting in person.

Other Committees and Officers

In addition to a chairperson, a committee(s) may be formed based on the needs of the BACs. This committee may assist the chairperson and District staff with preparation of the meeting agenda, securing meeting venues, BAC membership, preparing of reports and recommendations to District staff and education of the BAC members. A council must agree by vote whether additional officer positions, other than chairperson, are needed and then elect any additional officers.

Meetings

Meetings should be facilitated in such a way as to help create an environment of cooperation, objectivity, and an open dialogue of ideas and discussion. The meeting facilitation should engender collaboration between BAC members and District staff, solicit participation of all BAC members, and help all parties step back from personal interests, and approach issues through a Basin-wide lens. District staff will be responsible for ensuring relevant meeting content and providing ongoing education on relevant topics to increase the ability of the BAC members to participate meaningfully in their duties. Regular meeting attendance is encouraged for all BAC members.

Responsibility for convening BAC meetings has been delegated from the Governing Board

chairperson to District staff. District staff will provide administrative support to the BACs, and will give notice at least 30 days in advance of regularly scheduled BAC meetings. At least four BAC meetings will be held per year. Special meetings may be held when called by the Governing Board chairperson, the BAC chairperson, District staff or by ten or more members of the BAC, provided, however, that not less than one week notice is given. All meetings are free and open to the public. BAC members should inform District staff if they are sending a proxy to represent them at a meeting they are unable to attend.

Voting

A quorum (50% plus one) of the BAC membership is required for a vote. No vacancy on the BAC shall impair the right of the quorum of the remaining members to exercise all rights and perform all duties.

In voting, each member of the BAC participating in a meeting shall have one vote and there shall be no voting by proxy. A majority vote of the members participating in a meeting for which there is a quorum shall be required to adopt or reject an action.

Absentee ballots are only allowed for election of BAC chairperson.

Meeting Summaries

A record shall be kept of all actions of each Basin Advisory Council meeting. Meeting summaries should include a list of all BAC members present and not present, and indicate each BAC member's affiliation, if applicable. These meeting summaries should reflect both the majority and minority opinions of the BAC. Meeting summaries will be made available to Governing Board members.

Amendments

These operating procedures may be amended from time to time by the Executive Committee or Governing Board.

RESOLUTION

All previous Basin Advisory Council policies and operating procedures are repealed and replaced with these Basin Advisory Council Operating Procedures.

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District's Basin Advisory Council Operating Procedures were adopted by a requisite majority of the Executive Committee at the meeting held on the ___ day of _____, 2016.

So certified, this ___ day of _____, 2016.

Attest:

BIRDEL JACKSON, III
Secretary-Treasurer
Metropolitan North Georgia
Water Planning District

BOYD AUSTIN
Chair
Metropolitan North Georgia
Water Planning District