



**Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District
GOVERNING BOARD
Minutes
December 11, 2024**

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District Governing Board met on Wednesday, December 11, 2024, 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

Hon. Nicole Love Hendrickson, Vice Chair
Dr. Mark Berry, Secretary/Treasurer
Ms. Pamela Burnett
Mr. Albert Edwards
Dr. Ben Jordan
Mr. Gerald Pouncey
Mr. Darrell Rochester

City of Atlanta Designee: Mr. Al Wiggins
Cherokee County Designee: Ms. Jennifer Arp
Clayton County Designee: Mr. Bernard Franks
Cobb County Designee: Ms. Judy Jones
Coweta County Designee: Mr. Jay Boren
Douglas County Designee: Mr. Gil Shearouse
Fayette County Designee: Ms. Vanessa Tigert
Forsyth County Designee: Mr. Scott Adams
Fulton County Designee: Mr. Nick Ammons
Hall County Designee: Ms. Linda MacGregor
Henry County Designee: Mr. Tony Carnell
Rockdale County Designee: Mr. Kimbry Peek

Members Not Present

Mr. Glenn Page, Chairman
Hon. Steve Taylor
Hon. Michael Thurmond
Hon. James Kelly

Ms. Sara Ray
Mr. Dave Williams
Mr. Tim Thoms

The following actions were taken at the December 11, 2024, Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District Governing Board meeting:

- The Board heard public comments.
- The Board voted to approve the September 11, 2024, Board meeting minutes.
- The Board recognized a former board member for his years of service.
- The Board reviewed the 2025 Legislative Policy Committee membership.
- The Board reviewed the 2025 meeting schedule.
- The Board voted to approve the 2025 Finance Committee Membership.
- The Board voted to approve the 2024 Year End Budget Revisions.

- The Board voted to approve the 2025 Budget Revisions.
- The Board voted to approve 19 members for Basin Advisory Council membership.
- The Board heard a report on the recent education and outreach activities of the District.
- The Board heard a report on sanitary sewer overflow trends and the WIPPES Act.
- The Board heard a report on Data Centers.
- The Board heard a report on the 2028 Water Resources Management Plan update.
- The Board heard a report on the region's water supply, litigation status, and congressional activities.
- The Board heard a report from Georgia's State Climatologist.

Vice Chair Nicole Love Hendrickson called the meeting to order.

Public Comment Period

Dr. Chris Manganiello, representing the Chattahoochee Riverkeeper, provided public comments related to Data Centers in the region.

Approve Meeting Minutes

Vice Chair Hendrickson presented the September 11, 2024, meeting minutes for approval. No revisions were offered. Ms. Jennifer Arp made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tony Carnell and passed without opposition.

Chairman's Update

Recognitions

Vice Chair Hendrickson recognized former board designee for Cherokee County, Mr. David Kubala, for his service to the District Board and his role as a TCC and BAC member since the origination of the District in 2001.

Legislative Policy Committee Membership

Vice Chair Hendrickson presented the recommended slate of Legislative Policy Committee members for 2025. The recommendation does not require the formal vote of the board.

Future Meeting Dates

Vice Chair Hendrickson presented the Board meeting schedule for 2025.

Executive Report

2025 Finance Committee Membership

Vice Chair Hendrickson presented the proposed slate of Finance Committee members for 2025. Per the District Bylaws, the Board must approve the Finance Committee membership each year. Ms. Arp made a motion to approve membership. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tony Carnell and passed without opposition.

2024 Year End Budget Revision

Treasurer Dr. Mark Berry presented the 2024 Year End Budget Revision. The Finance Committee met on November 21, 2024, to consider and approve the 2024 Year End Budget revision which moved to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee approved the budget revision, which moved to the Board for approval. Mr. Gil Shearouse made a motion to approve the 2024 Year End Budget Revision. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ben Jordon and passed without opposition.

2025 Budget Revision

Dr. Mark Berry presented the 2025 Budget Revision. The Finance Committee met on November 21, 2024, to consider and approve the 2025 Budget Revision which moved to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee approved the budget revision, which moved to the Board for approval. Mr. Scott Adams made a motion to approve the 2025 Budget Revision. The motion was seconded by Mr. Albert Edwards and passed without opposition.

BAC New Member Approval

Vice Chair Hendrickson presented 19 applications for Basin Advisory Council membership. The Executive Committee voted to approve the members. The Executive Committee is responsible for approving new BAC members, therefore there is no required action of the Board.

Staff Updates

Education and Outreach

Ms. Justine Schwartz provided an overview of ongoing education activities and events including the announcement that the District was awarded the 2024 WaterSense Sustained Excellence Award. She also announced the winners of the 2024 Water Reflections Calendar Contest. The 2024 Middle School Essay Contest was a success with over 800 essays submitted on a variety of topics such as “Importance of Water to our Region,” “Compare and Contrast Water Careers,” and “The Importance of Water to Recreational Activities.” Winners will be announced at a reception at the State Capitol on December 17, 2024.

Sanitary Sewer Overflow Trends / WIPPES Act

Mr. Rob Sherrod presented research on sanitary sewer overflow trends in metro Atlanta, as well as proposed congressional legislation that would change the labeling of wipes marketed as “flushable” called the “WIPPES Act.” Mr. Sherrod encouraged anyone interested in moving this legislation forward to reach out to their elected officials.

Data Centers Update

Ms. Celine Benoit provided an update on data center trends in the region and feedback received from the Atlanta Regional Commission Governing Board.

2028 Plan Update

Mr. Danny Johnson provided highlights of the District’s planning activities related to the next 5-year update to the Water Resources Management Plan due in 2028.

Water Supply Status – Litigation Update

Ms. Shellby Miller presented an overview of rainfall and lake levels across the District. Mr. Johnson presented an update on the Water Resources Development Act of 2024 and litigation within the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River basin and the Alabama-Coosa-Tallapoosa River basin.

State Climatologist Report

Dr. Bill Murphy with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division presented the 2024 climate recap and seasonal outlook.

There being no further business, Vice Chair Hendrickson adjourned the meeting.