



**Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District
Chattahoochee Basin Advisory Council
MEETING SUMMARY
July 17, 2008**

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District's Chattahoochee Basin Advisory Council met on Thursday, July 17, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. at the Vinings Public Library in Atlanta, Georgia.

Members Present

Babafemi Adesanya
Bob Bunker
Lee Duncan
Laura Hartt
Steve Williams

John Lawrence, Chair
Jason O'Rourke
Bryan Tolar
Shana Udvardy, Vice Chair
Nancy Wylie

Welcome and Introductions

Joy Hinkle of the Metro Water District staff welcomed the Council and initiated introductions. Council members introduced themselves and shared their particular personal or professional interest in the basin.

Preliminary Draft Watershed Management Plan

Steve Haubner of the Metro Water District staff gave an overview of the preliminary draft of the Watershed Management Plan. He explained the purpose of the meeting was to be an informal question and answer session about the preliminary draft plan and encouraged Council members to speak up about topics and sections where more information was needed. Council members provided the following questions and comments:

- Will there be a checklist of plan requirements?
- Need single executive summary for all three plans to give to elected officials to explain the organization and budgeting process of the Water District.
- In Figure 3-1: "Regulations" are actually "Statutes." Include legend of different types of boxes.
- Define land use categories in a foot note. Break out wetlands category to differentiate between "wetlands" and "lakes." Wouldn't we expect an increase in "Water/Wetlands" by 2030 due to constructed wetlands?

- Include action item for sedimentation.
- Require % funding for education.
- Require governments to implement at least one measure from each optional category.
- Include an “objective” statement for the Optional measures.
- Need stronger emphasis on greenspace planning.
- Focus on incentives in greener approaches to growth (6.b3)
- What is the next step in coordination of floodplain mapping requirements?
- “State Recommendations” should say “State Considerations.”
- More attention needed on the fertilizer issue and stream buffer protections at the state level.

Other Business

Council members discussed the role of the BAC in the overall planning process, particularly addressing the role of the BAC Chair in commenting at Governing Board meetings. Comments included:

- BAC chair needs to address the Board at every Governing Board meetings.
- Basin issues might be over the Board’s head.
- BAC members should address concerns to staff and consultants, not the Board.
- Maybe the place to start is at the TCC level.
- Recommendations often don’t leave the BAC meeting. Need to meet with Board members prior to Governing Board meetings to be heard. Should BAC members contact individual Board members?
- BAC Chair should have an official seat on the Board. Citizen members on the Board should also be allowed to have a designee like the elected officials.
- Need to take advantage of all opportunities to have citizen voices heard.
- Staff presentations to the Governing Board should include BAC comments.
- Email BAC meeting summaries so Chairs have comments available on specific basin issues.
- Need consensus decision from the Chattahoochee BAC prior to August 7 Board meeting on how the Council will comment on the plans.

Next Meetings

Matt Harper of the Metro Water District staff explained the expected timeline for the remainder of the plan update process. He announced there would be a joint meeting of all six Basin Advisory Councils on Tuesday, July 29, 2008 to review the preliminary drafts of the Long-term Wastewater Management Plan and the Water Supply and Water Conservation Management Plan. He encouraged Council members to look for email reminders and to check the website for meeting and plan update information.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.