



**Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District
WATER SUPPLY AND WATER CONSERVATION
Technical Coordinating Committee Meeting Summary
June 17, 2009**

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District's Water Supply & Water Conservation Technical Coordinating Committees (WSWC TCC) met on Wednesday, June 17, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. in the Amphitheatre, on "C" level of the R. Charles Loudermilk Center for the Regional Community in Atlanta, Georgia.

Attendance

Corlette Banks, Fulton County
Chris Browning, Fulton County
Charles Corbin, Austell, Buford, Palmetto,
Union City, Hapeville
David Chastant, Sandy Springs
Bruce Coyle, Paulding County
Ernie Earn, Cobb County
Horace Gee, City of Gainesville
Steve Green, Douglasville-Douglas County WSA
Conrad Gelot, Gwinnett County
Donna Joe, Gwinnett County
Abdul Karim Khan, City of East Point
Michael Kauffman, City of Villa Rica
David Kubala, Cherokee County, WSA
Melinda Langston, City of Atlanta

Billy Lunsford, City of East Point
Jennifer McLaurin, Fulton County
Tonja Mincey, Henry County WSA
Terry Moy, Clayton County Water Authority
Kathy Nguyen, Cobb Water System
Steve Payne, Town of Braselton
Jim Poff, Clayton County Water Authority
Jerri Russell, City of Atlanta
Ray Russell, Fayette County Water System
Kelen Shostak, City of Woodstock
Jack Tanner, City of McDonough
Emily Wingo, Georgia EPD
Richard Randolph, City of East Point
Keith Watkins, Clayton County

Maia Davis of the Metro Water District staff opened the meeting, initiated introductions and reviewed the meeting agenda with the group.

Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

Newly Adopted Plan and Training Needs Discussion

Maia gave an overview of the newly adopted Water Supply and Water Conservation Management Plan. Based on the newly adopted Plan, Maia asked the group what information and training is needed to assist them with implementation of the measures in the Plan. Water loss, conservation pricing, commercial water audits, cooling towers were all mentioned as possible topics. In general, the TCC seemed well informed of how to implement the measures in the Plan.

Draft 2009 Plan Implementation Survey

The newly adopted Plan includes a section on Metrics that specifies how to track progress of plan implementation, overall water use in the region and other topics of interest. Based on those metrics the Metro Water District revised the annual implementation survey to include the metrics and reviewed the new draft survey with the group.

Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District Technical Committee Meeting Notes

Page 2

June 17, 2009

Pat Stevens of the Metro Water District provided the group with some background. Traditionally the implementation survey has been sent out and collected from the water systems in the region to summarize implementation progress in the required annual report to the General Assembly. For a few years a separate implementation report was also published with every water provider's answers to every question. Pat suggested that we may need to begin publishing a separate regional status report that addresses all of the metrics in detail.

The group had a very thorough discussion of the draft implementation survey. Many TCC members were concerned about the time and staff it would take to collect and report the metrics on an annual basis and it was suggested that water providers keep track of how long it takes to complete the new, detailed survey this year. The group had several good suggestions on how to ask certain questions to get consistent, meaningful answers. One of the metrics in the Plan calls for the collection of water use data for each school. Some members expressed concern with the staff time it would take to compile school water use data.

State Water Conservation Implementation Plan (WCIP) Overview

The final version of the WCIP has been released and Maia reviewed it with the group, in particular, the aspects that affect water providers. The state will do a major update of the WCIP every 5 years and will accept comments quarterly to consider minor revisions. Next month the state will begin the process of potentially revising the DNR rulemaking process to reflect the WCIP. Several TCC members asked to be kept informed of that process and would like the State to update the group at an upcoming TCC meeting.

WaterSense for New Homes

Maia informed the group that the EPA WaterSense for New Homes revised draft specifications are out for public comment through July 7, 2009. This is a national program that will certify new homes as being water efficient. The program addresses indoor use, outdoor use and homeowner education. A public hearing Webinar will be held on June 22, 2009 for anyone that is interested. The group discussed how the initial draft included more language and encouragement of no irrigation, how there is still not language regarding native and drought tolerant plants and how the draft water budget tool seemed to approve any water budget. Maia asked that the group review the program and comment during the public comment period.

The Metro Water District previously convened a group of TCC members, Southface, homebuilders and irrigation associations to discuss a regional certification for new water efficient homes. New homes that were being EarthCraft certified could additionally seek a water efficient new home designation. At that time it was just announced that WaterSense was working on a similar national program and the group decided that we should track the development of the WaterSense certification and at a later date decide if a regional certification would still be appropriate. The possibility of still needing a more stringent certification in this region was discussed as well as the idea that all new homes in the region may need to become certified as a water efficient home. EPA Water Sense will release the final program prior to the end of 2009 and the Metro Water District will continue to track this and further discuss next steps with the TCC.

The meeting was adjourned.