



**Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District
FLINT BASIN ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting Summary
July 30, 2009**

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District's Flint Basin Advisory Council met on Thursday, July 30, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. at the South Fayette Water Treatment Plant in Fayetteville, GA.

Members Present

Vanessa Birrell, Fayette Co Board of Comm.
Bud Butcher, Coweta Co Farm Bureau
John Caldwell, Coweta WSA
Ernest Curtis
David Gerson, White Oaks Homeowners Assoc.
Ted Greene, Delta Environmental
Richard A. Greuel
Roger A. Greuel, Fayette County Farm Bureau
Todd Gullekson

Michael Harp, Georgia Farm Bureau
Dorothy Harris
Paul Jones, Georgia Farm Bureau
Richard Little
Brice Martin, Coweta Co Stormwater
Ted McCarter
Christine McGehee, SE River Forecast Ctr.
Edward Strong, Newnan Utilities
Tim Thoms, Georgia Green Industry Assoc.

Members Not Present

Don Easterbrook, City of Fayetteville
Dale Phenicie, Fayette County Chamber of Commerce
Brant Keller, City of Griffin

Welcome and Introductions

Citizen Board Member Mr. Jack Elkins welcomed the group on behalf of the Metro Water District Board and expressed appreciation for the volunteer commitment of the BAC members. He stated that the group has new faces, new thoughts, new ideas and new talents and encouraged members to strive to make the Flint River basin a better place to live, work and play, not just for today but into the 22nd century.

Matt Harper of the Metro Water District staff welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the new Flint BAC and initiated introductions. BAC members introduced themselves and shared their personal or professional interest in the basin.

BAC Operating Procedures

Matt Harper presented an overview of the Basin Advisory Council Operating Procedures. He stated that the BACs provide input in the development of the Metro Water District's comprehensive plans and policies that guide water resources management in the 15 county metro Atlanta region. He also outlined District staff roles, introducing Heather Moody and informing the group that she will manage the BAC process. Mr. Harper then explained that the first three meetings of the BAC would be part of an extended orientation and beginning in 2010, regular meetings will be held quarterly. Mr. Harper went on to describe attendance policies and encouraged consistent attendance for all members. Mr. Harper then provided details about the role of the BAC Chairperson. The BAC Chair will review BAC meeting agendas and meeting summaries and will serve a one year term. The Chair will also have the option to represent the BAC by attending Metro Water District Board meetings. Mr. Harper said that the Chair election would be held at the next meeting and that members could vote by absentee ballot if necessary. Interested candidates were asked to submit a statement of interest by August 19th. Finally, Mr. Harper outlined the BAC voting procedures. He explained that a quorum of 50 percent plus one is required to hold a vote. Also, if consensus on an issue is not reached, Mr. Harper confirmed that both the majority and minority opinions will be included in the meeting summary and the summary will be shared with the Governing Board.

ACF Ruling Update

Matt Harper provided a summary of the July 17th 2009 court ruling by Judge Magnuson regarding the ACF litigation. BAC members were asked to think about suggestions for other water supply options, political strategies or any other ideas concerning how best to deal with the court ruling and to bring those ideas to the next BAC meeting.

Review of the Water Supply and Water Conservation Plan

Maia Davis of the Metro Water District staff reviewed the newly adopted Water Supply and Water Conservation Management Plan. She showed the BAC where to find specific information and highlighted important facts and figures.

Ms. Davis explained that the Metro Water District addresses municipal water use. This includes anyone who buys their water from a municipal source, not just homeowners.

A brief discussion was held concerning plumbing retrofit requirements. One BAC member asked if in the future there will be certain plumbing requirements that must be fulfilled in order to sell your house. The plan requires water providers to find a way to encourage homeowners to replace old plumbing fixtures. Most jurisdictions fulfill this requirement through a toilet rebate program. Ms. Davis confirmed for the group that DeKalb County is currently the only county with a retrofit requirement and they require retrofitting of toilets as a stipulation for new water service. DeKalb County also offers a rebate to its water customers for retrofitting to low flow toilets.

One BAC member pointed out that the alternative water supply sources listed for consideration in the Plan are just within the District. Ms. Davis explained that we can only consider water sources within our 15-county area.

BAC members also had questions about how the Metro Water Plan would relate to the State Water Plan. Matt Harper explained that our plans are consistent with the State Water Plan. As additional guidance and information becomes available, the Metro Water District will take the necessary steps to coordinate with other State Water Planning Councils.

Facility Tour

Following the meeting, Ron Moffitt led the group on an informative tour of the South Fayette Water Treatment Plant. Our guide answered many questions from the BAC members and explained the various functions of the water treatment equipment. Participants learned about the water treatment process, from its origin at the reservoir all the way to its arrival in their homes or businesses.

Next Meeting

Matt Harper announced that the next Flint BAC meeting would take place on August 27th at 10:00am in Clayton County.