



**Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District
OCMULGEE BASIN ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting Summary
September 2, 2009**

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District's Ocmulgee Basin Advisory Council met on Wednesday, September 2, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at the Rockdale County Water Central Building in Conyers, GA

Members Present

Larry Allen	Scott Brumbelow, GA Utility Contractors
Jimmy Carter, Jr.	Scott Cole, Sr.
Bob Donaghue	Tom Harrison, H2O Reps
Wayne Haynie, Jordan, Jones & Goulding Inc.	Lawrence Kaiser
Mark Landers, U.S. Geological Survey	Martin McElhenny
Vikki McReynolds, BAC Chair	Paul Morgan
Petra Parker, Comm. Atlanta Board of Realtors	Jack Tanner, City of McDonough
Luis Torres	Susan Varlamoff, UGA
Michael Walker	Steve Williams, Building Greener LLC

Members Not Present

Cassandra Barber
Michael Blackburn
Richard Edinger, Jr.
Roger Hatch, Rockdale/DeKalb Co Farm Bureau
Shirley House
Deirdre Faye Lyons-Gary, DeKalb Co League of Women Voters
Tonja Halton Mincey, Henry Co W&SA

Non Ocmulgee BAC Members Present

Tas Smith
Guy Pihena, Clayton County Water Auth.
Russell Toning, GSWCC
Dwight Wicks, Rockdale Water Resources

Metro Water District Staff Present

Matt Harper, Senior Principal Planner
Corey Babb, Senior Environmental Planner
Heather Moody, Senior Program Specialist

Welcome and Introductions

Matt Harper of the Metro Water District staff introduced Rockdale County Chairman Richard Oden who began the meeting by welcoming the group on behalf of the Metro Water District Board.

ACF Ruling Update

Matt Harper led a follow up discussion of the July 17, 2009 ACF court ruling. At the previous BAC meeting, 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. In response to that request, council members shared the following comments:

- It is important for Georgia to consider rainwater harvesting for irrigation, especially as part of new construction.
- There can be an advantage to increasing our conservation measures and demonstrating to the other states that Georgia is doing all we can to conserve water.
- Though there is currently no official drought, we should still be aggressively conserving water.
- Lake Lanier is still six feet down, yet other reservoirs are at full pool. We may need to consider other potential water sources.

Ocmulgee BAC Chairperson Election

Matt Harper invited the BAC Chair candidate to say a few words to the Council prior to voting. Candidate Vikki McReynolds shared a little about her background and told the group why she was interested in being Chairperson. Ballots were cast and Ms. McReynolds was voted in as Chair of the Ocmulgee BAC. She will serve a one year term.

Review of the Wastewater Management Plan

Corey Babb of the Metro Water District staff reviewed the newly adopted Wastewater Management Plan. All BAC members were provided with a hard copy of the Wastewater Management Plan. He focused in on key wastewater issues and showed the BAC where to find specific information in the Plan.

A member asked when results from the 2009 Implementation Survey will be made available. Matt Harper explained that the information will be summarized in the Annual Report which will be sent

to the Governor by the end of the year. The full Implementation Survey report will be available on the Metro Water District website once it is completed and will include full results from all the jurisdictions.

There was also a question about future levels of septic usage in the Metro area. Corey Babb responded that the forecast methodology in the Wastewater Management Plan is based on population projections and shows an expected decrease in septic system use. As population density increases, lot sizes become too small to accommodate septic drain fields. However, Mr. Babb added that some areas do not currently have the treatment capacity or infrastructure to connect to the sewer system.

Another BAC member asked if there is data on the amount of septage that is accepted by wastewater treatment plants. Matt Harper referenced Table 3-3 in the Plan, which provides an estimate of the BOD and TSS loading from septage by county. Mr. Harper explained that wastewater treatment facilities are not required to accept septage, but local governments must have a plan for disposal of septage.

Facility Tour

Quigg Branch Wastewater Treatment Plant staff member Daryl Waits took the group on an informative tour of the facility. Our guide led Council members through the state-of-the-art plant and explained each step of the wastewater treatment process.