



**Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District Governing Board
MEETING NOTES AND MINUTES
May 7, 2009**

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District Governing Board met on Thursday, May 7, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in the Allen S. Hardin Amphitheater at the R. Charles Loudermilk Center for Regional Community in Atlanta, Georgia.

Members Present

Ms. Kit Dunlap, Chairman
Mayor Boyd Austin
Mr. Bradley Currey
Ms. Katie Kirkpatrick
Mr. Steven Woodruff
Mayor Rick Roberts
City of Atlanta Designee: Mr. Rob Hunter
Cobb County Designee: Ms. Judy Skeel
Clayton County Designee: Mr. Mike Thomas
Coweta County Designee: Mr. Ellis Cadenhead

DeKalb County Designee: Mr. Charles Lambert
Douglas County Designee: Mr. Peter Frost
Fayette County Designee: Mr. Tony Parrott
Fulton County Designee: Mr. Chris Browning
Forsyth County Designee: Mr. Tim Perkins
Gwinnett County Designee: Mr. James Scarbrough
Hall County Designee: Mr. J. Carlyle Cox
Henry County Designee: Mr. Ken Phillips
Rockdale County Designee: Mr. Lee Pope

Members Not Present

Commissioner Clarence Brown
Mr. William Thomas Craig
Mr. Bob Fountain
Mr. Gardiner Garrard
Mr. Birdel Jackson
Mr. Gerald Pouncey
Ms. Suzanne Sitherwood

Approve Meeting Notes and Minutes

Chairman Kit Dunlap called the meeting to order and welcomed the Board. The meeting notes and minutes from the April 2, 2009 Board meeting were approved without opposition.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Dunlap informed the Board that the staff is beginning to advertise the Clean Water Campaign's annual essay contest. Board members were provided a fact sheet on the essay contest. Chairman Dunlap mentioned that all County Commissioners, School Boards, School Superintendents, middle school principals and teachers in the Metro Water District have received information about the essay contest.

Chairman Dunlap noted that the new regional water conservation education campaign entitled "I'm In" is moving forward and the consultant is working to develop materials. She reminded the Board that Ms. Sitherwood, Ms. Kirkpatrick and Mr. Hunter had volunteered to help raise money for this campaign and she thanked each of them.

Chairman Dunlap called on Pat Stevens to present a water conditions status report. Ms. Stevens reviewed current drought conditions and lake levels around the region. Ms. Stevens noted that the criteria to revert back to the interim operations plan is getting close to being met.

Adoption of Updated Plans

Chairman Dunlap called on Matt Harper to walk the Board through the resolution to adopt the final updated plans. Mr. Harper noted the schedule for the plan updates and the involvement of the TCC, BAC and Board in the process. He noted that the Board has received a copy of a letter from the Director of GA EPD certifying the plans.

A motion was made, seconded and approved without opposition to adopt a resolution by the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District adopting the updated: Watershed Management Plan, Long-term Wastewater Management Plan, and Water Supply and Water Conservation Management Plan. Mr. Harper clarified that the staff will now work to publish a final document and print hard copies of the plans this summer.

Pat Stevens recognized Ms. Kim Shorter with AECOM for all her hard work on updating the plans. Ms. Stevens also recognized and thanked District staff members Steve Haubner, Maia Davis, Corey Babb, and Matt Harper for their hard work on the plan updates.

Coweta County Water Conservation Team

Chairman Dunlap introduced Mr. Ellis Cadenhead to share the water conservation efforts that Coweta County has undertaken. Mr. Cadenhead introduced Ms. Stephanie Butcher with the UGA Cooperative Extension Service to introduce the water conservation team for Coweta County. Ms. Butcher noted that many different people were all doing work independently on the water conservation issue and they decided that it would be more efficient to work together.

Ms. Butcher introduced Mr. Donald White, the Coweta County School System Science Content Specialist. Mr. White has worked to develop a curriculum that encompasses water conservation messages and lessons. Mr. White showed the Board a brief video that high school students had produced on water conservation. Mr. White explained that they gauge the program's success by surveying the student in the early in the school year and then again before summer break. He noted that there was a decline in student's water use over the course of the school year showing that their education program has been successful.

Chairman Dunlap requested that all Board members receive a copy of Coweta County's conservation education resources. Chairman Dunlap also suggested that they apply for a national award to highlight their success.

Update on Drought Planning & State Water Plan

Chairman Dunlap introduced Mr. Tim Cash with GA EPD to review State's progress on drought planning and the status of the State Water Plan. Mr. Cash announced that progress has been made on drafting new drought rules but the timeframe for adopting those new rules has been extended.

Mr. Cash also provided the Board an overview on the activities of the other Water Planning Councils in the state. He noted that the councils will be meeting individually during the first two weeks of May to discuss council organization, elect officers, and establish operating procedures. The councils will also receive an overview of the planning process and review water use data and other technical background information. Mr. Cash noted that other council meetings are scheduled for June, September and November of this year.

The Board offered the following comments:

- Why did GA EPD not extend the reduced 650 cfs flow target through the end of May? Mr. Cash responded that GA EPD had concerns over the temperature levels for fish below Morgan Falls Dam.
- Ms. Pat Stevens requested that GA EPD meet with the District in the future about the fish temperature issue. She noted that there are competing cool and warm water fisheries in the river. Mr. Cash agreed that it is a very complex issue and it needs future discussion.

Next Meeting

Chairman Dunlap announced the next Board meeting would take place on Thursday, June 4, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in the Loudermilk Center Amphitheatre. She noted that Mr. Jerry Barnes will be attending to provide an update on the ACF / ACT Operations Manual and the District will need to adopt a budget for calendar year 2010 at the June Board meeting.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.