



**Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District  
GOVERNING BOARD  
Meeting Notes and Minutes  
March 4, 2010**

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District Governing Board met on Thursday, March 4, 2010 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  
Hon. Sam Olens, Vice-Chairman  
Mayor Boyd Austin  
Mr. Brad Currey  
Ms. Katie Kirkpatrick  
Mayor Kasim Reed  
Mayor Rick Roberts  
Mayor Ken Steele  
Mr. Steven Woodruff

Bartow County Designee: Mr. Ed Mullinax  
DeKalb County Designee: Mr. Charles Lambert  
Douglas County Designee: Mr. Peter Frost  
Forsyth County Designee: Mr. Jon Heard  
Fulton County Designee: Mr. Chris Browning  
Gwinnett County Designee: Mr. Jim Scarbrough  
Hall County Designee: Mr. Carlyle Cox  
Henry County Designee: Mr. Don McKenzie  
Rockdale County Designee: Mr. Lee Pope

**Members Not Present**

Hon. Eldrin Bell  
Mr. William Thomas Craig  
Mr. Bob Fountain  
Mayor Casey Houston

Mr. Birdel Jackson  
Mr. Gerald Pouncey  
Ms. Suzanne Sitherwood

**Approve Meeting Notes and Minutes**

Chairman Kit Dunlap called the meeting to order. The meeting notes and minutes from the December 3, 2009 Board meeting were approved.

**Chairman's Report**

Chairman Kit Dunlap shared the news of Mr. Jack B. Elkins passing and she expressed her gratitude for his service on the Board. Mr. Elkins was appointed to the Board in June 2009 by the Speaker of the House and also served as the Henry County Farm Bureau President.

Mayor Kasim Reed was welcomed as a new member of the Board. Mayor Reed commented that he is committed to be a strong partner to the Metro Water District and he's ready to get to work.

GA EPD Director Allen Barnes was introduced and Chairman Dunlap thanked him for all his efforts and leadership. Director Barnes commented on the importance of the District's role

moving forward with the other Water Planning Councils and he expressed his appreciation for the District's role in water planning.

The Board will need to elect a Secretary / Treasurer at the June 2010 Board meeting and possibly a Vice-Chair. Chairman Dunlap reminded the Board that her term as Chair expires in June 2011 and not this year. She recommended that a nominating committee be formed for the upcoming election, the Board agreed. One Board member commented that the committee should look for candidates that have been very involved in the planning process.

Chairman Dunlap informed the Board that the Metro Water District's updated plans were recognized by the Georgia Engineering Alliance with an Honor Award at the 2010 Georgia Engineering Week Gala Evening on Saturday, February 20, 2010.

### **Legislative Policy Committee Report**

Mayor Boyd Austin, Legislative Policy Committee Chair reviewed the 2010 Legislative Agenda. Committee Chair Austin noted that the most significant water related legislative issue this year is potential interbasin transfer legislation that would prohibit all interbasin and intrabasin transfers which cross more than two county lines. He told the Board that Joe Tanner & Associates has been hired this year to help with this and other legislative issues. A motion was made and seconded to adopt the 2010 Legislative Agenda. The motion passed without opposition.

### **Annual Report and Plan Implementation Review Report**

Heather Moody gave an overview of the results of the Implementation Review Report and the Annual Report. She noted that the survey showed a need for water audit software training and commercial water audit training. The Board requested that all state legislators receive a copy of the annual report. The Board noted that the 2009 Annual Report does not contain the measures added during the plan update because the implementation of those measures has not yet begun. The Board commented that the District should be looking at trends and not just static numbers. Another Board member commented that we should be comparing each water system to themselves and not each other because they are so different.

### **Update from Joint Water Planning Council Meetings**

Matt Harper gave an update on the joint Water Planning Council meetings held recently to discuss the draft resource assessments. He explained that the meetings provided only summary results and that the detailed documents would be released by GA EPD in the coming weeks. Brad Currey had attended a number of the meetings and commented that the resource assessments are very complex and that it took him hearing GA EPD explain the resource assessments a couple of times to understand the methodology and purpose of the assessments. Another Board member asked if anyone would be reviewing the State's work. Mr. Harper responded that yes, the staff with the assistance of our water quality modeler will review the documents and help us develop comments on the resource assessments.

### **Update on BAC & TCC Discussion Topics**

Pat Stevens shared an overview of recent topics that the District staff has been working on and have been discussing with the BACs and TCCs. She noted that the Chattahoochee BAC brought up the idea of biodiesel production as a means of reducing the amount of grease that gets poured down the drains. The staff is researching this topic as a means of reducing the source of grease.

Ms. Stevens then reviewed the report developed for the Metro Water District entitled *Analysis of the Potential for Water Saving Tax Incentives for Selected Commercial Water Using Equipment in Georgia*. One Board member asked if there was a summary of water saving equipment recommended and if so requested that it be sent out to the entire Board.

The District staff is working to collect data on all public and private schools in the 15-county area. The first step is to record how many students and staff occupy each school then the District staff will work to collect water use data for the schools. This year the focus is on Elementary Schools in the 15-county area. A Board member commented that it's good to focus on elementary schools because you can make a big impact on children that age.

Development of a website for the new "I'm In" water conservation campaign has begun. Grass roots educational materials will also be developed this year.

In addition to these items the District staff is working to research watershed and wastewater metrics, planning seminars on infrastructure maintenance and grease management, as well as working with the water providers in the Lanier and Chattahoochee Basins to develop additional water conservation measures.

### **ACF Stakeholders Update**

Pat Stevens gave the Board an update on the ACF Stakeholders group. She emphasized that this is a group of the people affected by the Tri-State Litigation and it is not a Federal or State government facilitated process. The group was incorporated in 2009 and has since organized into committees that will begin producing recommendations. The main value of the group is communication. A Board member commented that this is a consensus based group so there has been some frustration at the pace of progress and that the group is just starting to discuss the hard topics. More information about the group can be found here: [www.acfstakeholders.org](http://www.acfstakeholders.org).

### **Next Meeting**

Chairman Dunlap recognized Tim Thoms (Flint BAC Chair) and John Lawrence (Chattahoochee BAC Chair) and thanked them for attending. She also reminded the Board that the BAC meeting summaries were included in their packet and encouraged them to read those summaries. Chairman Dunlap also thanked Director Barnes and Mayor Reed for attending. She announced the next Board meeting would take place on Thursday, June 3, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. in the Loudermilk Center Amphitheatre. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.