



Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District
GOVERNING BOARD
Meeting Notes and Minutes
December 2, 2010

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District Governing Board met on Thursday, December 2, 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
Mayor Boyd Austin, Vice Chair
Hon. Buzz Ahrens
Mayor Ken Steele
Mr. Brad Currey
Ms. Katie Kirkpatrick
Mr. Gerald Pouncey
Mr. Birdel Jackson, Secretary/Treasurer
Mr. Tim Thoms
City of Atlanta Designee: Dexter White

Coweta County Designee: Mr. Ellis Cadenhead
DeKalb County Designee: Mr. Charles Lambert
Douglas County Designee: Mr. Peter Frost
Forsyth County Designee: Mr. Jon Heard
Fulton County Designee: Ms. Angela Parker
Gwinnett County Designee: Mr. Jim Scarbrough
Hall County Designee: Mr. J. Carlyle Cox
Henry County Designee: Mr. Don McKenzie
Rockdale County Designee: Dwight Wicks

Members Not Present

Hon. Eldrin Bell
Hon. Tim Lee
Mayor Matt Santini
Mr. William Thomas Craig

Mr. Bob Fountain
Mr. Reggie Prime
Ms. Suzanne Sitherwood

Approve Meeting Notes and Minutes

Chairman Kit Dunlap called the meeting to order. The meeting notes and minutes from the September 2, 2010 Board meeting were approved.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Kit Dunlap announced the 2010 Clean Water Campaign/Water Use It Wisely Essay Contest Winners. Chairman Dunlap also welcomed back Metro Water District staff member Matt Harper following his recovery from surgery and treatment for cancer.

Ms. Patricia Barmeyer with King & Spalding gave the Board an update on the Tri-State Litigation. She stated that the Phase 1 decision by Judge Magnuson was still under appeal and the Court will likely hear oral arguments in March. Ms. Barmeyer feels that the decision to cut off water supply withdraws from the Lake may be reversed. She also stated that it is good that

the Metro Water District is considering adding Additional Water Conservation Measures to the Plan today. In regards to the Phase 2 ruling, on July 21, 2010, Judge Magnuson rejected Florida's claims that river flows were harming endangered species. Florida appealed but the decision has been stayed to wait for results of the new Biological Assessment.

Joint Water Council Meeting Update

Ms. Pat Stevens with the Metro Water District provided an overview of recent statewide water planning activities and the October Joint Council Meeting that took place in Macon. District Board members who attended and participated on several panels gave their perspective on the meeting. Mr. Brad Currey stated that the meeting was very constructive and he was glad the Metro Water District was represented. Ms. Stevens informed the group that Georgia EPD will hold an ad-hoc meeting to address instream flow issues on December 7, 2010.

Status of Metrics Reports

Ms. Stevens updated the Board on the status of the 2010 Plan Implementation Review Report and the 2010 Water and Wastewater Rates Survey. She said that the two reports are being finalized and drafts are currently available online. Once the reports are published in January, copies of both will be made available to the Board.

Legislative Committee Update

District Vice Chair, Mr. Boyd Austin provided a legislative update. Mr. Austin identified funding availability and monitoring interbasin transfer activity as priorities for 2011. He asked that Dexter White, new Board designee for the City of Atlanta, join the Legislative Committee. A Legislative Committee conference call will be scheduled for January.

Update on GEFA Activities

Kevin Clark, Executive Director of GEFA, provided an update on the passing of Senate Bill 380, the Water System Interconnection, Redundancy and Reliability Act. He explained that it calls for a thorough and detailed engineering study to develop an emergency water supply plan for the Metro Water District. Mr. Clark recognized the work of District Board members and Designees Mayor Boyd Austin, Mr. Mike Thomas, Mr. Jon Heard and Mr. Kelly Randall. A group has been selected to lead the effort and the study has an expected completion date of September 2011. GEFA plans to continue working closely with the Metro Water District and their staff will be available to answer questions. Mr. Clark also requested assistance from jurisdictions in the District as GEFA works to gather new data for the project in December. He expects the data collection phase to be completed in February.

City of Atlanta Multifamily Toilet Rebate Program

Melinda Langston of the City of Atlanta's Department of Watershed Management presented the City of Atlanta's multifamily toilet rebate program that was launched on October 28, 2010. Multifamily customers account for approximately 20% of Atlanta's daily water production. Multifamily is defined as more than one housing unit on a single meter. The City of Atlanta rebates WaterSense certified toilets that are 1.28 gpf or less. A rebate of \$100.00 is credited to the master meter account, per toilet replaced. Recycling of old toilets is required. Mrs. Langston

listed two Atlanta area recyclers for old toilets: Patterson Industries and Stephens MDS, LP. One group member asked if the City of Atlanta was planning to inspect every installation and Mrs. Langston explained that they would be inspecting 10% of all installations.

Recommendations on Additional Water Conservation Measures

Pat Stevens directed the Board to a memo in the packet detailing the revised Additional Water Conservation Measures recommended for consideration as amendments to the Metro Water District's Water Supply and Water Conservation Plan. She explained that the first six measures would only apply to water providers who withdraw water from the Chattahoochee River and Lake Lanier. The list does include two District-wide conservation measures and additional education measures to be implemented by Metro Water District staff.

Ms. Stevens explained that the District staff has recommended tabling Measures CL-3 and D-1 based on input from the Technical Coordinating Committee and on feedback received during the public comment period. She then walked the Board through the revised document and explained other changes made to the measures.

A motion was made and seconded to vote on the revised Additional Conservation Measures as one package. The motion passed without opposition. Another motion was then made to approve all the revised Measures as recommended. That motion was approved and seconded and the Additional Water Conservation Measures passed without opposition.

Mr. Brad Currey complemented the District staff on the thoroughness of the public comment period and the work that was done to seek feedback from affected groups.

Other

Pat Stevens reminded the Board that the 2010 Implementation Survey and the 2010 Water and Wastewater Rates Survey are available on the Metro Water District website. She stated that because GEFA is now doing a survey similar to the Water and Wastewater Rates Survey, the District will need to evaluate the need for that survey in future years.

Ms. Steven announced that the Metro Water District is conducting three Hotel Commercial Water Audit Workshops on December 14, 15 and 16. The workshops are offered in partnership with Marriott hotels and will teach hotel and local government staff how to perform commercial water audits.

Kit Dunlap called attention to the list of 2011 Governing Board meeting dates included in the packet. Ms. Dunlap asked for ideas on Board direction and how to continue moving forward on water supply issues.

Mr. Gerald Pouncey commended the Board for their leadership and challenged everyone not to lose focus on the need for water storage and supply options. He suggested that a discussion of water storage and supply needs and solutions be added to every Board agenda. Brad Currey agreed and added that water supply and storage planning was a main reason that the District was formed.

Mr. Birdel Jackson recommended that we continue outreach efforts to the other water planning districts in the state.

Mr. Jim Scarbrough asked if the Board should reach out to Governor elect Nathan Deal about water supply needs. Kit Dunlap said that Mr. Deal is being briefed on the state's water issues.

Ms. Katie Kirkpatrick said that the Metro Water District should invite the other State Water Planning Councils to attend future District Board meetings. Kit Dunlap and other members of the Board agreed that this was a good suggestion.

Next Meeting

Chairman Dunlap announced the next Board meeting would take place on Thursday, March 3, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. in the Loudermilk Center Amphitheatre. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.