

To: Upper Flint Water Planning Council

From: Kristin Rowles GWPPC and Steve Simpson, Black & Veatch

cc: Tim Cash, Assistant Branch Chief, GA EPD

Subject: Meeting Summary: Council Meeting 2 on June 26, 2009

The council meeting was held on June 26, 2009 at the Warm Springs Community Building in Warm Springs, Georgia. The list of attendees is attached. In addition to these minutes, the presentations (slides) discussed in this meeting will be posted on the Statewide Water Planning web portal (<http://www.georgiawaterplanning.org>).

Welcome and Introductions / Recap Council Meeting 1/Approve Agenda/EPD Process Overview

Steve Simpson welcomed the council and thanked the council for their dedication and turned the meeting over to Kristin Rowles. Kristin thanked all members for attending. Council chair Donald Chase gave an invocation.

Kristin thanked Kip Purvis for providing the meeting facility. Frank Keller then provided a local welcome.

Kristin asked if any members had any comments or edits to the Council Meeting 1 meeting summary. There were no comments. *Dick Morrow made a motion to approve the meeting summary; the motion was seconded by Frank Keller. Don Chase asked for comments; the meeting summary was approved by voice vote consensus with no dissent.*

Kristin reviewed the agenda for the meeting and the goals for today's meeting, which were the following:

1. Review and approve (if possible) the MOA
2. Review population and employment forecasts and provide input
3. Overview Georgia agricultural water use
4. Introduce resource assessments -- purpose and approach
5. Continue to create a regional vision

Kristin asked if there were any objections to this agenda. There were no objections, and *the agenda was approved.*

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Next, Tim Cash provided an overview of the planning process and its various components. His presentation focused on how the Council will use the resource assessments and forecasts to develop a water development and conservation plan. The slides for his presentation are available on the Council website with the Council Meeting 2 (CM2) materials.

During the presentation, the following questions were asked:

- Brant Keller asked when the Council would establish a technical advisory committee and referenced the state water plan as providing for such a committee. *Steve commented that the subcommittee makeup would be determined by the individual Councils. The state water plan provides for the creation of advisory committees as needed.*
- Cliff Arnett mentioned to the Council that he had read a study that 97% of pollutant loading for the Chattahoochee River was from nonpoint sources. *Tim said the graphics in the presentation were hypothetical and not actual.*
- Kip Purvis said he thinks there is a general misconception from the public in that they think most of the pollution comes from point sources.
- Randall Starling asked if we had good data for the Upper Flint planning region. *Tim said although we do not know yet since the resource assessments are not done, the purpose of the resource assessments will be to standardize data throughout Georgia.*
- Frank Keller asked what the source of nonpoint source pollutant loading is north of the fall line where row crop agriculture is not significant. *As an example, Tim said that any land disturbing activity could contribute to nonpoint source pollution.*
- Donald Chase asked whether the slides were true projections of future conditions regarding capacity of our resources or just illustrative. *Tim said the slides were hypothetical to illustrate the planning process.*
- Cliff Arnett asked if the resource assessments will consider varying climatic conditions. *Tim responded that they would.*
- Cliff Arnett asked if the resource assessments will look at beneficial uses such as swimmable or fishable standards. *Tim explained that each stream in the State of Georgia has a designated use. Assimilative capacity is determined based on this designated use, and therefore, the assessments will consider the designated uses.* Randall asked what the designed use of stream in Upper Flint. *Tim said there were many different uses designated for stream segments in the region.*

Tim's re-capped his presentation as follows:

- Resource Assessments are being conducted by EPD, and they will establish the amount of water that is available to the region.
- Forecasts being prepared by EPD and its partners will estimate the region's future water needs.
- The Regional Water Councils will use the resource assessments and forecasts to identify unmet future needs.

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- The Regional Water Councils will identify management practices that could be used to expand the capabilities of and/or reduce demand on their water resources.
 - The Regional Water Councils will recommend Regional Plans to EPD that includes those management practices.
 - EPD permit decisions will be guided by the Regional Plans.

MOA, Operating Procedures, and Rules for Meetings

Next, Kristin referred the Council to the documents that had been sent with feedback from GA EPD on possible changes to the companion documents to the MOA. Kristin reminded the group that while the MOA itself was not open for discussion, the companion documents (i.e., Operating Procedures and Rules for Meetings), which are incorporated by references into the MOA, were open to discussion. She noted that at the first meeting, this council discussed many issues but did not provide definitive positions to EPD on what changes they would like to see. Therefore, Kristin worked with the Chair and Vice-Chair in advance of this meeting to identify the possible changes considered by GA EPD that were most relevant to this council's discussion at Council Meeting 1 (CM1).

Three hand-outs were distributed by e-mail this week, and hard copies were passed out at the meeting:

- Desired Changes in MOA Companion Documents
- Operating Procedures (with possible changes noted)
- Rules for Meetings (with possible changes noted)

Kristin explained that the "Desired Changes" document listed possible changes that GA EPD had already considered, after reviewing input and requests from all ten regional water councils. Some changes were acceptable to GA EPD, while others were not. Those that were not acceptable were highlighted, and alternatives were presented. The other two hand-outs reflect the changes listed in the "Desired Changes" document. Kristin said, if there were no objections, we would use the "Desired Changes" document to guide our discussion, but she noted that we were not limited to what was listed there, if the members wished to consider other changes.

Kristin noted that the Council could adopt these documents today if they finalized them, and if not, adoption of the MOA and related documents could proceed at CM 3. She reminded the Council members that when they sign the MOA, they are doing so as individuals, not as representatives of their organizations, and that signing the MOA was an acknowledgment of their agreement to participate in the process.

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Changes to the Operating Procedures

Section II: Quorum

The first change discussed was to define a quorum as 17 members. A Council member asked whether alternates also counted as part of the quorum. Kristin said that alternates could be counted toward the quorum, but if so, all alternates present would be included in the quorum. After some discussion, Kristin asked if there was any objection defining a quorum as 17 members. *There were no objections.*

Section IV: Council Leadership

The next change discussed was to change the election of the Chair and Vice-Chair from two-thirds vote to simple majority. Kristin noted that at CM1, many members had expressed an interest in the use of simple majority instead of two-thirds majority, and that this was an issue that we would take up in several places in this discussion. She also noted that the first Chair and Vice-Chair were elected by simple majority at CM1. There were no questions or comments. Kristin asked if there were any objections to this change. *There were no objections.*

The next change concerned setting the length of the terms for Chair and Vice-Chair, which were six months in the original document. Several members had expressed concern that this was too short at CM1, while it was acceptable to others. The proposed change would set the term so that the initial term ended on December 31, 2009, and that subsequent terms would end at the end of each calendar year. After Kristin explained this change, Kristin asked if there were any objections. *No objections were noted.*

Section V: Decision Making

Kristin introduced possible changes to the decision making process. She noted that at CM1, several members had expressed preferences for simple majority, but other preferred two-thirds majority, as a fall-back when consensus could not be reached in a reasonable time period. Council member Frank Keller asked about why the Council could not just follow Robert's Rules of Order. Kristin said that one of the possible changes addressed Robert's Rules specifically. She said that GA EPD wanted to demonstrate, where possible, broad agreement in decisions by first attempting to get to consensus. GA EPD found the use of Robert's Rules acceptable if the decision-making preference for consensus, with a fallback voting procedure, was stated explicitly. Then, Robert's Rules could apply to all other situations.

First, the Council considered the following change: In the event that consensus on a decision cannot be reached in a reasonable time period, specify that decisions will be made by a simple majority vote rather than two-thirds majority. A couple members were concerned that voting by simple majority did not promote consensus. Cliff Arnett noted his preference for two-thirds majority. Randall Starling also expressed concern about simple majority instead of two-third majority. Kristin introduced an alternative that GA EPD had found acceptable for another council: Specify a process of sequential voting that provides for decision by a simple majority

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after two efforts to achieve two-thirds majority. Discussion followed. Then, a council member made a motion that the Council use simple majority voting in the event that consensus could not be reached after a reasonable amount of time. During discussion of the motion, Randall Starling offered an alternative based on the sequential attempts approach that Kristin had mentioned (see below), but the Council voted on the original motion first. Cliff Arnett raised a point of order: what standard would apply to this motion – two-thirds or simple majority? The Council decided to vote and see if they had a two-thirds majority. **The motion did not pass: 13 votes favor, and 9 against.**

Randall Starling had suggested that, in the event consensus could not be reached, the Council could attempt a two-thirds majority vote at two different meetings and then fall back to a simple majority vote if needed. Council member Buddy Leger was concerned about the length of time to achieve this and council member Brant Keller was concerned with the tight deadline with getting the plan passed. Kristin noted that meetings were scheduled to be quarterly. After some discussion, a council member made a motion that the Council shall use the following decision-making process: *If consensus cannot be reached after a reasonable amount of time, the Council may attempt to attain a two-thirds majority to approve a proposal. The Council may make two attempts to attain a two-thirds majority on a proposal. Then, a simple majority vote may be attempted to make the decision.* **The motion passed: 19 votes in favor and 3 against.**

Kristin said she needed to undelete the definition of two thirds majority. **There were no objections.**

Kristin also noted that a definition for simple majority should also be added. She said that some of the original documents defined simple majority as 50% plus one and asked if this was clear enough. A brief discussion followed about the clarity of this definition. An alternative was suggested: “Simple Majority Vote – More than half of the Council members present at a meeting.” References to “50% plus one” would be removed from the document and replaced with this definition. **This definition was adopted with no objections.**

Kristin explained the next possible change in this section: Specify that, for decision-making situations not specifically addressed in the operating procedures, Roberts Rules of Order will be followed. **The Council adopted this change with no objections.**

Section VI: Meetings and Governance

The following four changes were noted and explained:

- Specify that advertisement of meeting will be by press release. **The Council adopted this change with no objections.**

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- State that the regular meeting should be at least quarterly or more frequently, if needed and called by the Chair. ***The Council adopted this change with no objections.***
 - Specify that meeting summaries shall capture dissent to the extent that dissent is formally noted during the meeting. ***The Council adopted this change with no objections.***
 - Specify that, if a quorum is not present a majority of those present may choose to meet and discuss issues, but may not take any actions. ***The Council adopted this change with no objections.***

Kristin explained the next possible change: Specify that the Chair has the authority to appoint subcommittees. Council member Brant Keller raised a concern that we need to review the statewide water plan to ensure that we are consistent. His concern related to the establishment of advisory committees, as noted in the statewide plan, but he also noted a broad concern for the need for this and other Councils to be consistent with the provisions of the statewide water plan. The MOA and its companion documents reference the statewide water plan, but do not explicitly require consistency. Discussion about Brant's concern followed.

Steve mentioned that GAEPD has begun the process of establishing the Local Government Advisory Body with the distribution of an invitation letter with the Population and Employment Input DVD that was sent out last month. It was noted that changing the documents of other councils was not within our purview and that changes could be made if needed at a later time.

Lamar Perlis asked who had the authority to approve changes to MOA and to the Water Development and Conservation Plans. Tim noted that the parties signing the MOA documents included GA EPD, GA Department of Community Affairs, and the Council, and that GAEPD had a role to ensure level playing field and some consistency for all 10 regional councils. Steve referenced the statewide water plan which notes that the Water Development and Conservation Plan is to be submitted to the Director of GAEPD, who reviews the plan and determines whether it will be adopted, modified, or rejected.

Vice-Chairman Dick Morrow made a motion that the Council should express concern to GAEPD that the Operating Procedures do not specify adherence to the State Water Plan. ***The motion passed: 20 votes in favor with no dissent and 2 abstentions.***

Kristin returned the discussion to the change concerned the chairman having the authority to appoint subcommittees. ***The Council adopted this change with no objections.***

Next, the Council considered the following change: Specify that the Chair shall be responsible for directing participation by nonmembers. After some discussion, several Council members suggested changing "directing" to "guiding". Kristin asked if there were any objections to adopting the modified language. ***There were no objections.***

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Kristin explained there was a change recommended by EPD/DCA to clarify language on resignations. This revised the first sentence of the paragraph on resignations as follows “Any Chair, Vice Chair or Member may resign at any time by submitting a resignation in writing to the Director of EPD, who will notify the appointing officials.” ***The Council adopted this change with no objections.***

Section VIII: Amendments

The next change considered was: Specify that the Council Operating Procedures and Rules for Meeting be amended by a simple majority rather than a two-thirds majority. The Council discussed this change relative to the decision making changes already adopted. Kristin suggested that the modified decision making section could be referenced here and those procedures applied to decisions about amendments. One member asked that the decision-making procedure language be repeated here, rather than referenced. The revised text will read as follows (1st two sentences of Section VIII): These operating procedures and the Council’s Rules for Meetings shall be reviewed annually. After EPD review and comment, the procedures may be altered, amended, or replaced by new operating procedures by a simple majority vote following two attempts at the same meeting to achieve a decision by a two thirds majority vote of the Upper Flint Water Planning Council members. ***The Council adopted this change with no objections.***

A Council Member was concerned that there was no method for members to call a meeting; only the Chair could call a meeting. Chairman Donald Chase offered an amendment to modify the first sentence under Regular Meetings in Section VI: Meetings and Governance: “A regular meeting of the Upper Flint Water Planning Council shall be held at least quarterly, or more frequently if needed and called by the Chair or by 13 voting members of the Council.” ***The Council voted on this change, and it was adopted: 21 votes in favor, 1 against.*** The dissenting voter was concerned that it would not be clear who would run the meeting if the Chair did not agree to the meeting, but the Chair noted that he believed that the Chair would still be expected to participate.

The Council members voted on approving the Operating Procedures, as amended. **The motion passed: 22 votes favor, 0 against.**

Kristin then asked that the Council take a break, conduct the Population and Employment Forecast discussion after the break, and complete the discussion of the MOA and companion documents after lunch, in order to accommodate those who would be joining us by phone for the Population and Employment Forecast discussion.

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Population and Employment Forecast

For the discussion of the population and employment forecasts, David Tanner (Office of Planning & Budget (OPB)), Dr. Warren Brown (Carl Vinson Institute Government Applied Demography Program), Dr. Jeffrey Dorfman (UGA Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics) joined the meeting by telephone. Dr. Brown and Dr. Dorfman led the development of the population and employment forecasts.

David Tanner thanked the group for this opportunity and explained how the Office of Planning & Budget contracted with Carl Vinson Institute to assist with this effort to ensure projections were as good as possible. Warren Brown introduced himself, stressed these estimates are preliminary, and encouraged comments. Jeff Dorfman introduced himself as well.

Kristin stated that the comment period on the forecasts is open until June 30th. She reminded members to contact local government officials that might be interested in comments on the population and employment forecasts. Thus far, only a handful of comments have been received from this region.

Kristin noted that the population and employment forecasts would be used to project the future demand for water for municipal and industrial water uses. She presented slides (included on the council website with the CM2 meeting materials) that described the types of input that was needed to finalize the estimates and that presented the estimates, statewide and in the region. Hand-outs of county level data on population projections and industry specific data on employment projections for the region were passed out.

A member asked about how to comment on the forecasts. Kristin explained that this can be done online at www.georgiawaterplanning.org/pe. She reminded them that comments are due on Tuesday, June 30.

Council members asked the following questions and made the following comments to Warren, Jeff, and David:

- Vice Chairman Dick Morrow said he took exception to the Spalding County forecasts. He noted four factors that would substantially affect population and employment in the county in the near term, including: (1) spillover from rapid growth in neighboring counties, (2) the development of Sun City, a retirement community with over 3400 homes, (3) continued growth of the UGA-Griffin campus; 9000 more students are expected, and (4) development of an industrial park. Dick noted that the Sun City development alone will surpass the project 40-year growth for the county in the next decade. *Warren said Spalding County was at his top of his list as far as numbers that need to be revised. Warren encouraged Dick to officially provide this input.*

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- Cliff Arnett asked why they used a Texas model and what was the margin of error for the forecasts? *Warren said while the model was based on model methodology used in Texas (which, like Georgia, is a large, rapidly growing state), it uses only Georgia data. For the population projects, the model used is not a probability model, and therefore it does not have a margin of error. Instead, they are preparing high/medium/low series of forecasts. Jeff Dorfman said that for the employment forecasts, he is still pinning down an exact margin of error, but estimates it in at least the 5-6% range.*
 - One member asked whether or not the forecasts used data from the RDCs. He noted that these Pike County forecasts were quite different from the forecasts prepared by the McIntosh Trail RDC. *Jeff noted that they have involved the RDCs through the advisory council and used input from the RDCs to make adjustments.*
 - Michael Donnelly asked why the population forecast dips down in 2040. *Dr. Brown explained that this dip was the result of stitching together modeling methods for beyond 2040. He noted that the revisions to the population and employment forecasts will eliminate the dip at 2040.*

Kip Purvis noted that Merriwether County had developed infrastructure in the northern part of the county to attract industry and had been fairly successful to date. He said that metro Atlanta and Columbus development are reaching Merriwether County, and he did not think that forecasts captured that impact. *Warren said that one weakness of their approach is in predicting future spillover development and growth. He noted that Merriwether has increased since the 2000 census.*

William Culpepper commented that the development of an inland port in Crisp County is projected to increase jobs by 3000-5000 in the county. Lamar Perlis and Buddy Leger confirmed the importance of this proposed development to future growth in Crisp County. *They were encouraged to submit comments on this development.*

Dick Morrow said that undercounting was a significant problem in Georgia in the 2000 census. *Warren said he had worked a lot in New York State on census issues, including challenging census estimates. He noted the importance of involvement in the census process.*

One member asked how the census counts transient populations, such as tourists, college students, and military. *Warren responded that the current place of residence determines where one is counted, so the population estimates capture college students (living in a college town), but do not include tourists.*

Kristin thanked Warren, Jeff, and David for joining the council meeting. Warren reminded the group to submit comments by June 30. He also announced a series of regional workshops in the fall to collect input that will assist them as these forecasts are revised in the future. Kristin told

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the group that tonight she will send them an e-mail link to the Population and Employment Forecasts comment submittal website.

The Council broke for lunch.

MOA, Operating Procedures, and Rules for Meetings (After Lunch)

After lunch, Kristin revisited the meeting goals to remind members what had been covered so far and what items remained. Then she returned the discussion to the MOA companion documents and turned to possible changes in the Rules for Meetings document.

Rule 2: Meeting Roles and Rule 3: Communications

The first change considered affected communications with the media:

- In Rule 2, paragraph E, delete the statement that the EPD representative is available to talk to the media.
- In Rule 3, add a paragraph 8 stating that media communications will be coordinated between the Chair and the EPD representative.

Kristin said that in a previous meeting, another council had discussed what it meant to coordinate on media communications, and that after discussion with the EPD representative, it was clarified that it did not mean getting prior permission, but rather keeping each other informed about media communications. *The Council adopted this change with no objections.*

Rule 4: Meeting agenda and summaries

Next, the Council considered the following change: Specify that agenda will be available electronically ten days in advance of each regularly scheduled meeting. One member asked that the word “business” be inserted in between “ten” and “days”. *The Council adopted this change, as modified, with no objections.*

Rule 6: Decision making

The next change considered was: Specify that votes shall be by show of hands. Discussion regarding the election of Chair and Vice-Chair followed. It was recommended that the Council use written ballots for the election of the Chair and Vice-Chair. *The Council adopted the following language with no objections for the second sentence in paragraph I: “All votes shall be by show of hands, with the exception of the election of the Chair and Vice-Chair, which shall be by written ballot.”*

Next, the Council considered how to make this section consistent with prior changes affecting Decision making. For paragraph I, the text will be modified to read: *When voting on a proposal, approval by a simple majority following two attempts in the same meeting to achieve approval by a two-thirds vote is required for its acceptance.* This change will make paragraph I consistent with the revised decision making process described in Section V of the Operating Procedures. Paragraph K will be added as follows: “K. For all decision making not specifically addressed in the Operating Procedures or the Rules for Meetings, Robert’s Rules of Order will be followed.”

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One member noted that the documents should specify a specific version of Robert's Rules, to be selected by the planning contractors. *These changes were adopted by the Council, with the addition of the version reference for Robert's Rules, without objection.*

Dick Morrow made a motion to approve the Rules for Meetings; the motion was seconded by Beth English. Don Chase asked for discussion, and then called for a vote. **The motion passed: 23 votes favor, 0 against.**

Kristin noted that the changes would be sent to GAEPD for review and that the Council could take up signing the MOA at its next meeting.

Introduction to Agriculture Water Demand Forecasts

Mark Masters from the Georgia Water Planning and Policy Center provided an introduction to the agricultural water demand forecasts, which will be presented at CM3. His slides will be available on the council website with materials from CM2.

Mark's presentation included an overview of crops, associated water usage, irrigated amounts, types of irrigation equipment, seasonal patterns of irrigation, changes over time, and trends.

The Council Members had the following questions:

- Dick Morrow asked how agricultural acreage had changed in the last fifty years. *Mark said that the total land devoted to agriculture has diminished, while agricultural yield and individual farm size has increased.*
- Cliff Arnett asked how consumptive agricultural water use is. *Mark said that there are ongoing studies to estimate this better, but currently, the State of Georgia considers agriculture 100 percent consumptive for planning purposes.*
- Dick Morrow referred to saltwater intrusion problems in the Ogallala aquifer and asked if aquifers have similar problems. *Mark responded that in Georgia, saltwater intrusion is a problem in the Floridan aquifer only in the Savannah/Hilton Head area, where agriculture is not the primary user. He said that the Ogallala is a confined aquifer which takes a long time to recharge, while the Floridan in Southwest Georgia recharges quickly. With the Florida, inter-connectedness with the surface water leads to a different set of concerns, especially for endangered species. In Georgia, the Clayton aquifer is confined, and there is a moratorium on pumping. However, Mark said that the bulk of groundwater use for agriculture in Georgia is from the Floridan aquifer. Mark said that to the east of our region, in Tift and Worth counties, there is some concern about over-*

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pumping in the Floridan aquifer, and this concern is being assessed by the state as a part of the resource assessment process.

- One member asked if there was significant pumping for bottled water in the region. *Mark thought this use was not substantial and noted that he knew of only one such operation (i.e., Nantze Springs).*

Introduction to Resource Assessments

Kristin noted that so far today, we had talked about the forecasts that would be used to determine the region's future water needs. Now, we would shift to focus on how we would be assessing the region's water resources capacity to meet those needs with an overview of the resource assessments and the use of modeling in those assessments. Steve Simpson reviewed an introduction to modeling, types of models, and the use of modeling for the resource assessments pertaining to the statewide water planning effort. He provided an introduction to the development of the resource assessments, which will serve as the basis for determining the status and capacity of the region's water resources. The slides from the modeling and introductory resource assessment presentation will be available on the council website with materials from CM2.

The Council Members had the following questions:

- Cliff Arnett asked how a baseline is being established for the assessments. *Steve said EPD is going to use existing data to develop a baseline and build the models.*
- Brant Keller asked if there had been a general call for data. *Steve said no.*
- Cliff Arnett brought to the attention of the Council some correspondence he had with Brian Hughes of USGS concerning their data for this region. USGS has a report, Water Availability for Ecological Needs in Flint River Basin, GA. *Tim noted that GAEPD should have this data.*
- Cliff Arnett said he would like for the Council to get a list of TMDLs in the region. *Steve said we could supply that list. Kristin noted that at CM3, we would be talking about 319 (nonpoint source) and TMDL projects in the region.*
- Brant Keller asked how much time the Council would have to review the resource assessments and whether the Council would be able to have input. *Steve answered that he expected the review process would be similar to that we are now going through for the population and employment forecasts.*

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- Council member Lamar Perlis asked where he could find this presentation. *Steve answered that it will be uploaded to: www.georgiawaterplanning.org*
 - Dick Morrow asked whether better water quality would lead to better assimilative capacity. *Steve answered yes.*

Creating a Regional Vision

Kristin presented some slides to describe the development of a regional vision to guide the Council in the development of the regional water plan. (These slides are included on the council's website with materials for CM2.) She referred to the vision for the statewide water plan: Georgia manages water resources in a sustainable manner to:

1. Support the state's economy
2. Protect public health and natural systems
3. Enhance the quality of life for all citizens

She said that the Council's vision would describe how the statewide vision applies in this region. The vision would help in the development of goals for the regional water plan and in the selection of management practices, in combination with the resource assessments and water use demand forecasts.

She said that at the next meeting, we would work to develop a shared vision for the Council, and that before that, the Council members should think about their individual ideas for the vision. She passed out two hand-outs. The first is a summary of the Council's discussion of trends, forces, and factors affecting water resources in the region at CM1. This summary is to serve as a reference as they consider their ideas about the vision.

The second hand-out describes a "homework" assignment to prepare for the vision discussion at the next council meeting. Overall, the hand-out asks Council members to list their ideas in response to the following question: *What do you want your rivers, lakes and groundwater to do for you and the citizens in your planning region?*

Kristin said that she would send these documents to the Council again, electronically, at a time closer to the meeting, to remind them to complete this exercise before CM3.

Council member Dick Morrow commented all visions come with a cost and urged members to consider the need to temper our visions based on economic conditions.

One member asked about the recent designation of the Flint River as an "endangered" river. Kristin explained that a national environmental organization had recently identified the Flint River on its annual list of the ten most endangered rivers in the country. Brant Keller noted that this listing was related to Atlanta's interest in building a dam on the Flint River. He said the

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Atlanta Regional Commission had made such a proposal. (See further discussion under public comment below.)

Kip Purvis said that the “elephant in the room” is Atlanta. He said he thought growth should go where the resources are.

Public Involvement Plan

Kristin said that GAEPD will soon issue a public involvement plan template for finalization by the regional water planning councils. She presented a few slides (available on the Council website) that reviewed the goals and process for the public involvement plan.

The public involvement plan will provide the opportunity for stakeholder participation from the local government advisory body, other regional water planning councils, and the public during the regional water planning process. Public involvement will be provided for at each of the Council’s meetings (minimum quarterly) through comment periods for local government officials and the public at each meeting. Public involvement will also include interacting with neighboring councils with which this region shares water resources. This will occur in part through joint council meetings. In the event of conflict between regional water planning councils, dispute resolution procedures will be outlined in the technical planning guidance, which will be provided by GAEPD. After GAEPD issues a draft public involvement plan, the regional councils will finalize and implement it. This will be on the CM3 agenda.

Next, Kristin read a list of items on the CM3 agenda:

- Visioning
- Resource Assessments
- Joint Meetings
- Public Involvement Plan
- MOA Execution
- Regulatory Process Primer
- Regional Geography (319 and TMDL examples for region)
- Agricultural Water Use Forecasts
- Municipal & Industrial Forecasting Methodology
- Management Practices Overview

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Local Elected Officials and Public Comments

Next, the Council provided time for local elected officials and the general public to address the council. No elected officials spoke. One public commenter spoke:

Shana Udvaardy, Georgia Conservancy: Ms. Udvaardy introduced herself as the Water Program manager and described her organization. She highlighted some of the Georgia Conservancy's issues of concern, which include air, water, growth, and recreation. She clarified that it was the American Rivers organization that had identified the Flint River as endangered. She said concern arose not only from the Atlanta Regional Commission's interest in a dam on the Flint River, but when two U.S. Congressmen proposed discussions about a dam on the Flint River. She encouraged those with questions about this issue to contact the new Flint Riverkeeper, Paul Deloach. Ms. Udvaardy stated the Georgia Conservancy's vision for water was for clean and abundant drinking water, and noted that it is important to her organization that water is kept in its basin of origin and that downstream flows are maintained. She said that efficiency is one of the most environmental and economic means of water management. She noted the importance of the connection between energy use and water use. She said that water conservation is a much less expensive way to get water than to build a reservoir. With respect to the public involvement plan, Ms. Udvaardy said that she would like to see that the Council offer the opportunity for public comment prior to decision-making on an issue.

After Ms. Udvaardy's comments, Cliff Arnett said that he felt it was important that the Council meet with the Atlanta Regional Commission if it has plans for the Flint River. Tim Cash said that the final plan of the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District (Metro District), which is staffed by the Atlanta Regional Commission, did not include a dam on the Flint River. Kristin offered to send a link to the plans of the Metro District. Tim said that the website did not yet have the final plans posted, but it would soon.

One member made a motion that the Council should have the Metro District come to meeting to and provide the Council with an update on its plans. Steve indicated that an overview of the Metro District plans for the Council was currently being developed. ***The Council approved this motion with no objections.***

Wrap-Up and What to Expect Next Meeting

Kristin had already reviewed the list of items that would be on the agenda for CM3 (see above), and the Council noted the addition of a presentation from the Metro District. Next, the Council selected dates and locations for its next two meetings:

September 22 – Weyerhaeuser, Oglethorpe, GA

Upper Flint Water Planning Council
Council Meeting 2
Meeting Date: June 26, 2009

B&V Project 164139
June 29, 2009

November 20 – South Georgia Tech, Americus, GA

Council Meeting 2 Evaluation

At the conclusion of the council meeting, the members completed evaluation forms on the meeting, including one evaluation for the Carl Vinson Institute of Government and an additional evaluation for GAEPD.

Action List

- Send an e-mail link to the Population and Employment Forecast comment submittal website. (completed by Kristin, June 26, 2009)
- Send an e-mail link to the plans of the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District. (completed by Kristin, June 26, 2009)
- Arrange for a briefing for the Council by a representative of the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District.
- Provide Council members with a list of TMDLs in the region.
- Forward information regarding Water Availability for Ecological Needs in Flint River Basin, GA (USGS FS 2006-3114) to EPD and discuss inviting Brian Hughes, USGS, 3039 Amwiler Road, Suite 130, Atlanta, GA 30360, 770-903-9162, or 404-277-6934, sbhughes@usgs.gov to a future Upper Flint Water Planning Council Meeting.

Upper Flint Water Planning Council
Council Meeting 2
Meeting Date: June 26, 2009

B&V Project 164139
June 29, 2009

Attachment 1:

**Upper Flint Water Planning Council
Council Meeting Attendance – June 26, 2009**

Council Members

Clifford Arnett
Hays Arnold
Michael Bowens
Gene Brunson
Tommy Burnsed
Donald Chase
William Culpepper
Mike Donnelly
Beth English
Harold Fallin
Eddie Freeman
Jack Holbrook
Terrell Hudson
Raines Jordan
Frank Keller
Brant Keller
Buddy Leger
Dick Morrow
Lamar Perlis
Gary Powell
Kip Purvis
Jim Reid
Charles Rucks
Bill Sawyer
Randall Starling
Joel Wood

Planning Consultants

Steve Simpson, B&V
Robert Osborne, B&V
Mark Masters, GWPPC
Kristin Rowles, GWPPC

Georgia EPD

Tim Cash, Assistant Branch Chief
Bill Morris

Council Members Not In Attendance

Greg Barineau
Mike Beres
George Hooks (Ex-Officio)
Lynmore James (Ex-Officio)