

**North Carolina Environmental Management Commission -
Water Allocation Committee
Meeting Summary**

512 N. Salisbury Street
Ground Floor Hearing Room, Archdale Building
Raleigh, NC

08:30 A.M. – 09:30 A.M
Wednesday, March 10, 2010

Water Allocation Committee (WAC):

Commissioner Mayor Darryl D. Moss, Chair
Commissioner Stephen Smith, EMC Chair
Commissioner Frank Crawley, EMC Counsel
Commissioner Donnie Brewer
Commissioner William L. Hall, Jr.
Commissioner David H. Moreau
Commissioner Jeffrey Morse
Commissioner Dickson Phillips, III

Item I. Preliminary Matter

1. Committee Chairman, Commissioner Mayor Darryl D. Moss, called the meeting to order. Pursuant to Executive Order Number One, the committee chairman called upon committee members to evaluate the matters to come before the committee and to identify any known conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest.

2. Minutes and Agenda

Upon motion and second, the Committee approved the minutes of the November meeting as a true and accurate summary of the proceedings. The committee approved the printed agenda without change. There were no amendments to the Agenda.

Item II. Action Item

1. Approval of Coop Agreement: EMC, DWR & LRCOG, Jim Perry Executive Director LRCOG.

Mr. Perry began his presentation by describing various accomplishments associated with the previous agreement dated October 14, 2004. He listed improvements to the Division of Water Resources monitoring well network and other recent LRCOG water level gathering efforts. He also spoke of planning reports that have been written for both the upper and lower portions of the COG area. He said that water use surveying activities have helped to better identify agricultural and industrial facility withdrawals. Mr. Perry advised the Committee that Smithfield Foods and the Lower Cape Fear Water and Sewer Authority were about two years from completing the surface water intake and Bladen Bluffs water treatment plant on the Cape Fear River. This new facility will have the potential to dramatically reduce the impact of ground water withdrawals from the Upper Cape Fear aquifer. In renewing this agreement Mr. Perry hopes to continue progress toward

sustainable use of the water resources in the southern coastal plain. Mr. Perry's presentation can be found at [Approval of Coop Agreement, EMC, DWR, LRCOG.](#)

Discussion:

Committee member Mr. Les Hall stated that the new Coop Agreement should have a section dealing with conservation and reuse. Mr. Perry stated that there was language in the old Agreement that addressed conservation and reuse strategies. **Dr David Moreau** made the motion to approve the new Agreement with the modification suggested by Mr. Hall and to send the Agreement to the full EMC. The motion was unanimously approved and was sent to the full EMC for approval.

Item III. Information Item

1. Update on Neuse Regional Water & Sewer Authority (Neuse WASA) Plans, Steve Reed, DWR.

Mr. Reed said that Neuse WASA was formed in 2000 to develop regional solutions to meet water supply needs as communities shift off of ground water in response to the Central Coastal Plain Capacity Use Area (CCPCUA) rules. Neuse WASA began operation of a 15 MGD water treatment plant in Sept 2008, which uses the Neuse River as its source. They have 74 miles of water transmission mains in Lenoir and Pitt Counties; with total infrastructure investment of approximately \$150 million. Members of the Authority include; the Towns of Ayden, Grifton and Pink Hill and the Deep Run, N. Lenoir, Bell Arthur and Eastern Pines Water Corporations.

Neuse WASA will need an IBT certificate to provide water to the Bell Arthur, Eastern Pines and Deep Run areas. Neuse WASA expressed interest in moving forward under the old statutory requirements because this IBT is in the CCPCUA. Based on advice from the AG's Office, the EMC needs to receive a Petition before 1/1/2011, to be able to process the certificate under the old statutory requirements.

If the Neuse Regional WASA decides to move forward with a request under the old statutory requirements, the WAC and the Commission will decide if they want to deviate from their normal procedures. The normal process is to have completed SEPA documentation (EA/FONSI or EIS) before or at the same time the petition is received. It is extremely unlikely that the SEPA process can be completed before 1/1/2011.

Mr. Reed's presentation can be found at [Neuse WASA Plans.](#)

2. Update on Interbasin Transfers, Toya Ogallo, DWR.

Brunswick Co: DWR was recently informed that the County's 2009 transfers were lower than expected due in part to economic conditions and a decrease in irrigation demand. Therefore the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners has delayed action on the EIS until after July 1, 2010.

KLRWS: The draft EIS is currently being prepared. DWR has been working closely with the consultant to update the Roanoke River Basin hydrologic model. This process has taken a bit longer than expected due to challenges related to obtaining data from VA,

GUC: The Hearing Officers' report is currently being developed and the report, recommendations and draft certificate will be presented at future WAC/EMC meetings (likely July and September).

Jordan Overview: The EMC approved DWR's proposed allocation process in January, which involves the development of a basin model, water supply plan, and allocation applications. DWR will be moving forward with all three development tracks concurrently and feeding information from one process to another. The final goal of the process is having complete applications, a basin model, and a basin plan that are all in agreement. All three will be needed for the EMC to make a decision on allocations.

DWR is anticipating that a completed package will be brought before the EMC near January 2012. Upcoming Jordan allocation milestones:

- Kick-off meeting was held 2/24 in Archdale Building.
- Modeling meeting has been scheduled for those parties interested in the hydrologic model development.
 - When: Wednesday, March 17, 2010 10:00 am-12:30 pm
 - Where: Jordan Lake State Recreation Area Auditorium
- "Letter of interest" from those who may be requesting an allocation due 4/1/10.

Adjournment

There being no further business, **Chairman Mayor Darryl D. Moss**, dismissed the assembly at 09:30 A.M.