

**Location:**

March 16, 2022  
9:00 AM – 1:00 PM  
Clemson Edisto REC  
Hybrid Meeting

**Action Items:**

1. Per RBC bylaws and decision at the March 16<sup>th</sup> RBC meeting, attendance rules will be enforced moving forward with the start date being the March 16<sup>th</sup> RBC meeting.
2. RBC members are required to inform the Planning Team in advance of the RBC meeting if they will not be in attendance and if their alternate will be present.
3. Public Comments for call-ins at the RBC meeting are to be sent to Tom Walker [tcwalke@clermson.edu](mailto:tcwalke@clermson.edu)

**Decisions:**

1. Majority decision: Edisto RBC recommends establishing areas of groundwater concern in regions where groundwater data and/or groundwater modeling predict water levels drop below the top of the aquifers. 17 – Yes and 3 – No majority vote.

**Meeting:**

- Review of Meeting Objectives
- Approval of Agenda and February 16<sup>th</sup> Minutes and Summary Documents
- Public and Agency Comment Periods
- Old business/New business Discussion
- Update on Edisto River Basin Plan Chapters
- Additional output and comparisons for the Current Use and Fully Permitted and Registered Scenarios
- Groundwater Modeling Results for Business-as-usual (moderate) and High Demand Scenarios
- RBC Discussion of Results and Consideration of Groundwater Areas of Concern and Groundwater Conditions
- Upcoming RBC agenda and schedule

**Meeting Summary (March 16<sup>th</sup>)**

The Edisto RBC Chair, Hank Stallworth, called the March 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Edisto RBC to order at 9:00 AM. The twenty-first meeting of the Edisto RBC was held in-person and virtually via the Zoom virtual meeting platform. Including the Edisto RBC members and planning team, there

were 49 people present at this RBC meeting in-person and online. The meeting began with Hank Stallworth discussing the agenda items for the meeting. The Edisto RBC approved the RBC meeting agenda and the February 16<sup>th</sup> minutes and summary documents. A public comment period was held with no comments received. An agency public comment period was held with no comments received.

Old and new business had some discussion specifically focused on RBC attendance. The RBC bylaws are specific about attendance requirements for the river basin planning process. The RBC had not strictly enforced attendance prior to this meeting. After several minutes of discussion weighing the decision, the Edisto RBC approved by majority vote to strictly enforce the attendance requirement for the RBC as the RBC will be making decisions about the Edisto river basin plan. Enforcement of attendance included the current meeting held March 16<sup>th</sup>.

John Boyer introduced the first major agenda item regarding the writing of the Edisto River Basin Plan. The first section draft received reviews from DNR and the second section draft will be distributed soon to the subcommittee for review. The entire Edisto RBC will be sent the draft of section one once it has been updated and reflects the reviews from DNR.

The next agenda item was a presentation by the USGS, Greg Cherry and Matt Petkewich: *Simulation of Groundwater Flow in the Edisto River Basin, South Carolina*. They presented on aquifer thickness, the hydrogeologic framework, and moderate and high growth scenarios for groundwater use. Some of the summary takeaways were that simulated recharge rates were estimated with the Soil-Water Balance model output, simulated number of wells in the Edisto per aquifer were 113 for the Gordon, 493 for the Crouch Branch, 97 for the McQueen Branch and 91 in the multi-node package, and simulated results indicated declines below the top of the aquifer for all scenarios in the McQueen Branch (Lexington County) and the Crouch Branch (Calhoun County).

Finally, the RBC meeting moved to a discussion of results and consideration of groundwater areas of concern and groundwater conditions. The Edisto RBC discussed the output from the model and specifically focused on the groundwater areas of concern discussion point. With the output from the groundwater flow model from USGS, two potential groundwater areas of concern were identified in Calhoun and Lexington counties. After significant discussion about model validity and making recommendations based on model outputs, a motion was put forward which was passed by majority vote. The decision was for the Edisto RBC to recommend establishing areas of groundwater concern in regions where groundwater data and/or groundwater modeling predict water levels drop below the top of the aquifers.

The meeting concluded with John Boyer discussing items for the next meeting. The RBC meeting was adjourned. The next Edisto RBC meeting will be held April 20, 2022.

The meeting concluded at 12:58 PM.

Summary: Tom Walker

Approved: 4/20/22