

Pee Dee River Basin Council (RBC) Meeting #14 Minutes

July 25th, 2023

RBC Members Present: Michael Hemingway, Buddy Richardson, Tim Brown, Lindsay Privette, John Crutchfield, Mike Bankert, Jason Gamble, Hughes Page, Megan Hyman, Cara Schildtknecht, Walt Beard, Jeff Steinmetz, Cliff Chamblee, Snipe Allen, & Cynthia Walters

Absent: Cricket Adams, Brandon Durant, Eric Krueger, Frances McClary, Doug Newton, Jeff Parkey, Bob Perry, & John Rivers

Planning Team Present: JD Solomon, Matt Lindburg, Scott Harder, Brooke Czwartacki, Andy Wachob, Alexis Modzelesky, Leigh Anne Monroe, Hannah Hartley, Jeff Allen, Thomas Walker, and Chikezie Isiguzo.

Total Attendance: 39

1. **Call the Meeting to Order (Buddy Richardson, J. D. Solomon - Facilitator)**

a. Review of Meeting Objectives

J. D Solomon (the Facilitator) called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and welcomed members to the 14th Pee Dee RBC meeting. The main objectives of the meeting included reviewing the status of the coastal plain groundwater model and Chapters 1-3 of the Pee Dee River Basin Plan.

b. Approval of Agenda, June 27th Minutes and Summary

The agenda was unanimously approved. The approval of June 27, 2023, Pee Dee RBC meeting minutes and summary documents were delayed until the August 2023 meeting due to a lack of quorum in the meeting at the time. The June and July minutes and summary documents will be approved at the August meeting.

2. **Public Comment (JD Solomon)**

There were no public comments. Also, there were no agency comments.

3. **Coastal Plain Groundwater Model Status (Andrea Hughes, USGS)**

Andrea Hughes provided an update on the groundwater model. Unfortunately, the model is not at a point to share the preliminary calibration results. She explained that her team is working on transferring the model from its former version to a newer version which will allow for a more robust and timely analysis. It is expected that the new calibration will provide a great deal of information and be a much better product going forward. Results from the new model are expected in the August 2023 meeting.

4. **Chapters 1-3 Update and Next Steps (Matt Lindburg, Brown and Caldwell)**

Matt Lindberg reported that an initial draft of Chapter 1 has been sent to the subcommittee working on the Chapter for review. Their comments are expected by August 18, and the updated draft will be presented during the August 2023 RBC meeting. He flipped through the initial draft of Chapters 1 (Introduction) and 2 (Description of the Basin), showing the

members the layout, headings, sub-headings, pictures, and diagrams.

Question: Does the draft RBC plan show the extent of the Pee Dee River basin that is outside South Carolina?

Matt Lindburg noted the question and agreed that it is important to present a complete diagram and description of the Pee Dee River Basin in the document. Also, Matt invited members to send pictures that could be included in the RBC Plan document, especially from field trips and other events that involved members of the Pee Dee RBC.

Finally, Matt gave an overview of Chapter 3, which focuses on the Water Resources of the Pee Dee River Basin. He also noted that the information required to complete a draft of Chapter 3 and commence Chapter 4 was being collated and consolidated into a report. Subsequently, the Pee Dee RBC will nominate a sub-committee to review the Chapter 4 draft.

Comment:

Elliot Wickham offered, on behalf of the Climate Office of the SCDNR, to review the Climate Overview section of the document, and the members of the Pee Dee RBC did not object to the offer. Scott Harder clarified that the Climate Office of the SCDNR is required to review the Climate Overview section of all the RBC plans in South Carolina.

Matt Lindburg noted that a Summary Report has been identified as a need given the expected large size of the Pee Dee RBC plan document.

5. Closing Comments and Upcoming (Buddy Richardson and JD Solomon)

Buddy Richardson appreciated Matt Lindberg and his team for the presentation on the draft Chapters 1-3. He reiterated the need for the members to sustain their efforts and achieve an excellent plan for the Pee Dee River Basin. Members were encouraged to attend the August 2023 meeting in-person and prepare for an extensive session.

The next meeting will be held on August 22nd, 2023, at the Clemson Pee Dee Research and Education Center, Classroom #240 Darlington, SC 29532

The meeting concluded at 9:41 AM.

Minutes: Chikezie Isiguzo and Tom Walker

Approved: 8/22/23