

Location:

April 23, 2024

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Clemson Pee Dee REC and Zoom Virtual (hybrid)

Action Items:

1. RBC members should attend in-person as RBC decisions are made for the Draft River Basin Plan.

Major Decisions:

1. Unanimous – The Pee Dee RBC voted to adopt the RBC bylaws as written in the Planning Framework. (July 2022)
2. Unanimous – The Pee Dee RBC voted to adopt the proposed Process Metrics as presented. (August 2022)
3. Unanimous – The Pee Dee RBC voted to adopt the Mission, Vision, and Goals of the Pee Dee RBC. (August 2022)
4. The Pee Dee RBC elected the Chair: Buddy Richardson and Vice Chair: Cara Schildtknecht (November 2022)
5. Unanimous – The Pee Dee RBC decided to take a common sense approach to the groundwater modeling delays for the Pee Dee River Basin Plan. To continue to develop groundwater management strategies and clarify those/check them once the groundwater model is completed. If the model is not completed, move forward with the developed groundwater management strategies for the plan. (January 2024)
6. Unanimous – The Pee Dee RBC decided to continue the monthly meeting schedule during the groundwater model delay and for the planning team to decide on what is appropriate for in-person versus virtual meeting format on a month-to-month basis. (January 2024)
7. Unanimous – The Pee Dee RBC approved Ch 1 of the River Basin Plan. (January 2024)
8. Unanimous – The Pee Dee RBC approved development of a 20 – 30 page Executive Summary and development of a 2 page policy brief style handout. (January 2024)

Meeting:

- Review of Meeting Objectives
- Approval of Agenda, Minutes, and Summary
- Public and Agency Comment Periods
- Update on Groundwater Modeling Status

- Current and Projected Demand
- RBC Discuss Potential Groundwater Mitigation Strategies
- Continued Discussion of Policies, Technical, and Process Recommendations
- Overview of Prioritization Methods
- Chapter Updates
- Meeting Conclusion

Meeting Summary (April 23rd)

JD Solomon, Pee Dee River Basin Council Facilitator, called the April 23rd meeting of the Pee Dee RBC to order at 9:04 AM. The twenty-third meeting of the Pee Dee RBC was held in person and virtually via the Zoom virtual meeting platform. Including the Pee Dee RBC members and planning team, there were 34 people present at this RBC meeting.

The meeting began with JD Solomon reviewing the agenda items for the meeting. The Pee Dee RBC approved the RBC meeting agenda and approved the minutes and summary documents from the March meeting. A public comment period was held with no comments. An agency public comment period was held with no comments.

The first item on the agenda was an update on the groundwater modeling work underway. Andrea Hughes updated the Pee Dee RBC on the status of the model. Andrea informed the RBC of a delay with the update of model inputs for the Parent Model with an anticipated completion by April 29. Even with the delay, the model recalibration progress remains on track with past timeline updates.

Matt Lindburg, Brown & Caldwell, led discussion on potential groundwater management strategies. Matt reminded the RBC of information considered for groundwater management strategies and discussed potential demand side strategies for municipal, agriculture/irrigation, golf courses, industrial, and thermoelectric. Matt also reviewed potential supply-side water management strategies for new supply, water reclamation, and conjunctive use.

Buddy Richardson, Pee Dee RBC Chair, reminded the RBC of the March discussion about potential Pee Dee policy recommendations and future decisions. Buddy presented potential technical and process recommendation to the Pee Dee RBC members to gauge interest and feedback for the potential recommendations.

JD Solomon led the RBC through a prioritization overview. JD proposed a preference ranking approach to prioritization using a qualitative approach which uses capital costs, total impact, and time to implement. The next steps were to continue strategy approval by the RBC, the

consulting team will develop order of magnitudes, the RBC ranks strategies, and the RBC reviews and approves.

Alex Pellett, SCDNR, discussed current and projected groundwater demand with the RBC members. Alex reminded the RBC about the moderate and high demand scenarios used for projections. Alex reviewed draft reported and projected groundwater withdrawals in SC for agriculture, manufacturing, other, thermoelectric, and water supply. Alex went into more detail regarding agricultural projected demand.

Matt Lindburg, Brown & Caldwell, discussed the status of several chapters in the Pee Dee River Basin Plan. The RBC preliminarily approved Chapters 2, 3, and 8 of the draft river basin plan. Chapters 5, 6, 9, and 4 are in various stages of completion including feedback on the surface water portion of Chapter 5.

JD Solomon and Buddy Richardson concluded the meeting at 12:03 PM. The next meeting of the Pee Dee RBC will be May 29, 2024 and will be a hybrid meeting.

Summary: Tom Walker

Approved: 5/29/24