

Location:

October 25, 2022

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Sumter Water Plant #6

Hybrid Meeting

Action Items:

1. **Pee Dee RBC members should send in additional nominations for Chair and Vice Chair RBC positions to the Planning Team and be prepared to vote at the November meeting.**
2. **Chair and Vice Chair nominees should be prepared to briefly discuss why they are best suited for the Chair or Vice Chair positions.**
3. **Pee Dee RBC members should choose an alternate to serve in their absence at RBC meetings. Alternates should represent the same interest sector as the RBC member.**

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)**

Meeting:

- Review of Meeting Objectives
- Approval of Agenda
- Public and Agency Comment Periods
- Groundwater Resources of the Pee Dee Basin
- Water Legislation and Permitting
- Water Use in the Pee Dee Basin
- Chair and Vice Chair Discussion
- Meeting Conclusion
- Sumter Water Plant #6 Guided Tours

Meeting Summary (October 25th)

JD Solomon, Pee Dee River Basin Council Facilitator, called the October 25th meeting of the Pee Dee RBC to order at 9:06 AM. The fifth 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 32 people present at this RBC meeting in-person and online.

The meeting began with JD Solomon reviewing the agenda items for the meeting. The Pee Dee RBC approved the RBC meeting agenda and edited minutes and summary documents from September 27th. A public comment period was held with no comments received. An agency public comment period was held with no comments received.

The first agenda item was a presentation from Brooke Czwartacki entitled: *Groundwater Resources of the Pee Dee Basin*. The presentation emphasized the importance of groundwater resources and associated water uses in the Pee Dee basin. The hydrogeologic framework was presented which identified the aquifers in the Pee Dee basin along the dip and strike with the major aquifers in the Pee Dee basin being the Crouch Branch, McQueen Branch, Charleston, and Gramling. Other highlights included: the groundwater monitoring network, potentiometric mapping, major cones of depression, groundwater-level trends, data and publication locations on the hydrology website, and reported groundwater withdrawals. The key takeaways were the emphasis on groundwater being an important resource in the Pee Dee basin, regional groundwater decline observations due to pumping rates exceeding recharge rates, and groundwater-level data and potentiometric maps illustrating areas of decline.

The next agenda item was a presentation by Joe Koon entitled: *Surface Water Law and Regulation*. Joe introduced the water quantity programs that DHEC manages which includes the Capacity Use program, Surface Water Withdrawal program, and Water Use Reporting program. Joe presented information regarding surface water withdrawals across the state and in the Pee Dee basin and types of surface water withdrawers (existing, new, and agricultural) and associated permitting processes under the current Surface Water Regulation (R.61-119). Other highlights included water conservation measures and exemptions.

The next agenda item was a presentation by Priyanka More entitled: *Water Use in the Pee Dee Basin*. Priyanka reminded the RBC about water withdrawal reporting tracking by DHEC and presented information about surface water withdrawals and groundwater withdrawals in the Pee Dee basin. The Pee Dee basin is top three throughout the state in surface water withdrawals and the top groundwater withdrawer in the state illustrating the importance of both surface and groundwater resources in the basin. Additional highlights included: sector-specific surface and groundwater withdrawals, sector-specific surface and groundwater withdrawals by sub-basin, historical water use and data limitations, yearly surface and groundwater withdrawals by sector, and reported withdrawals in North Carolina.

The meeting concluded with JD Solomon discussing the election of the Pee Dee RBC Chair and Vice Chair positions. Several RBC members were nominated, and other nominations can be

submitted until the next meeting. Current nominees for Pee Dee RBC Chair (and Vice Chair) are (alphabetical): Bob Perry, Buddy Richardson, and Cara Schildtknecht. The election of Chair and Vice Chair will be held at the next Pee Dee RBC meeting.

The next regular meeting of the Pee Dee RBC will be at the Clemson Pee Dee REC on November 15th. The RBC meeting was adjourned.

The meeting concluded at 11:21 AM. Guided tours of Sumter Water Plant #6 commenced.

Summary: Tom Walker

Approved: 11/15/22