

Location:

April 19, 2023
10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
The Ridge at Laurens
Hybrid Meeting

Action Items:

- 1. RBC members should select an alternate from the same water use interest category and inform the planning team.**
- 2. RBC members should be thinking of potential Saluda RBC Chair and Vice-Chair nominees.**
- 3. RBC members to consider possible field trip locations.**
- 4. Planning Team to distribute Surface Water Act markup document to RBC members.**
- 5. Saluda RBC members should come prepared to finish vision and goals at the May RBC meeting.**

Meeting:

- Review of Meeting Objectives
- Approval of Agenda, Minutes, and Summary
- Public Comment Period
- Review of the Planning Framework and Q & A
- Surface Water Law and Regulation
- Water Resources of the Saluda River Basin
- Selection of Process Metrics
- Vision and Goals Development
- Future RBC Meetings Discussion

Meeting Summary (April 19th)

The Saluda RBC Facilitator, John Boyer, called the April 19th meeting of the Saluda RBC to order at 10:00 AM. The second meeting of the Saluda RBC was held in-person and virtually via the Zoom virtual meeting platform. Including the Saluda RBC members and planning team, there were 51 people present at this RBC meeting in-person and online. John Boyer introduced two RBC members and discussed the agenda items for the meeting. The Saluda RBC approved the RBC meeting agenda as well as the previous RBC meeting minutes and summary documents. A public comment period was held with no comments received. An agency comment period was held with no comments received. John reviewed the March meeting highlights and had a quiz for the RBC members.

The first major agenda item was a presentation by Scott Harder, Chief of the DNR hydrology section, with a review of the planning framework. Scott discussed the contents of the planning framework and how the RBC can use the framework to guide the process. More details of the framework as well as meeting materials can be found on SCDNR's Hydrology Website.

The next agenda item was a presentation by Leigh Anne Monroe of SCDHEC entitled: *Surface Water Law and Regulation*. The presentation began with an overview of SCDHEC water quantity programs. Highlights included: review of the SC Surface Water Regulation R.61-119, Active surface water withdrawals statewide and in the Saluda River Basin, grandfathered permits, agricultural registration, new or expanding surface water withdrawer information, water conservation measures, and exemptions.

Next, Priyanka More, SCDNR, discussed the surface water resources of the Saluda Basin. Priyanka provided a basin wide overview that included: physiographic provinces, surface water resources, Saluda basin reservoirs, hydroelectric projects, climate information - rainfall, surface water monitoring network, flow data, water use and withdrawal data.

Joe Gellici, SCDNR, presented the groundwater resources of the Saluda River Basin. Joe covered the hydrogeologic section of the state with the vast majority of groundwater resources being in the Coastal Plain Province, Saluda groundwater withdrawals and trends, Saluda reported groundwater withdrawers, the Piedmont hydrogeologic framework, types of wells in the Saluda, well depths and yields by county in the Saluda, groundwater yields in the Piedmont, groundwater monitoring network, and a summary of groundwater availability in the Saluda.

John Boyer then facilitated the selection of process metrics. The RBC group discussed eleven process metrics. John discussed progress metrics and the intent to identify progress metrics later in the planning process.

Following the metrics discussion, John Boyer facilitated vision and goal development. The idea is to develop a vision statement and goals for the basin by the end of phase 1. John presented on the RBC-identified basin priorities as well as other examples of vision statements and goals to help facilitate the vision and goals conversation. A few vision statements and goals were developed during the meeting. It was agreed by the RBC that they needed some time to think these over and discuss them at the next meeting.

The meeting concluded with John Boyer discussing potential items for the next meeting and potential field trips. The RBC meeting was adjourned. The next Saluda RBC meeting will be held May 17, 2023.

The meeting concluded at 1:58 PM.

Summary: Tom Walker

Approved: May 17, 2023