PPAC MEETING: January 6, 2022

Location:

January 6, 2022 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM Zoom meeting

Action Items:

- PPAC members and DNR to reach out to Broad river basin stakeholders to fill in Broad RBC application gaps, particularly in the Economic Development and Industry sector and middle section of the basin.
- 2. Tom to schedule Broad RBC application review follow-up meeting.

Meeting:

New Business

- Budget Update
- Basin Planning Updates
- Catawba-Wateree Water Management Group Water Supply Master Plan Update
- Flow-ecology Presentation and Discussion
- Broad River Basin Council Application Review

Meeting Summary (January 6th)

The Deputy Director of the Land, Water and Conservation Division of the Department of Natural Resources, Ken Rentiers, called the January 6th quarterly meeting of the PPAC to order at 10:00 AM. The quarterly meeting of the South Carolina PPAC was held via Zoom meetings application due to the need for many members to attend virtually. The PPAC held a public comment period with no public comment received. Approval of minutes and summary documents from the October 7th meeting were unanimous as was approval of the January 6th meeting agenda.

The meeting began with a welcome from Ken Rentiers. There was not much to report regarding budget updates. DNR should hear something soon regarding ARPA funding.

Scott Harder, SCDNR Hydrology Section Chief, updated the PPAC on the progress made on the Edisto river basin plan. The Edisto RBC has still been in phase 2 and phase 3 of the planning process since the October PPAC meeting and should be wrapping those up by Spring of 2022 when writing of the plan will begin. The Edisto river basin plan is anticipated to be finished by the end of Summer 2022.

Scott then updated the PPAC on the Broad river basin planning process. Two public kickoff meetings were held in November in Spartanburg and Columbia with about 40-50 attendees at each meeting. Scott discussed contractors and facilitator selection processes. The Broad river basin application solicitation process yielded 22 applications for the Broad river basin council. DNR is going to extend the application

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deadline in order to solicit Economic Development and Industry sector applicants to round out the applications for RBC selection. Appointment of Broad RBC members should be completed by early February at the latest.

The Pee Dee public meeting schedule is being pushed back in order to allow for in-person meetings to take place with anticipated public meeting dates in late February or early March in two Pee Dee river basin locations.

The Catawba-Wateree Water Management Group representatives presented to the PPAC and those in attendance about an update to the water supply master plan. The updated water supply master plan will identify water quality issues to focus on for the future in addition to updates to the current plan.

Scott Harder introduced Luke Bower, Brandon Peoples, and Eric Krueger who were part of a larger group of researchers working on a flow-ecology study. The pilot study was completed last year and was focused on impacts to ecology based on water management strategies. There is potential to expand the study to include other river basins in the planning process so the RBCs could potentially use this information to inform water management strategies for the basin plans.

The meeting concluded with discussion of the 22 applications received for the Broad river basin council. There were a few applications which did not seem to fit for selection for the Broad RBC and there is a need to extend the deadline to solicit Economic Development and Industry sector stakeholders to round out the RBC. The PPAC will need to have a follow-up meeting to review and make recommendations after the deadline extension.

The next quarterly meeting of the PPAC is currently scheduled for April 7, 2022. The meeting concluded at 12:45 PM.

Summary: Tom Walker

Approved: May 11, 2022