

**Location:**

February 7, 2019

Rembert Dennis Building (DNR Boardroom)

1000 Assembly Street

Columbia, SC 29201

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

**Action Items for March 7<sup>th</sup>:**

1. **Letters to the Editor (Coordinate among PPAC members by basin/newspaper outlet)**
2. **10 days (from Feb 7) to insert comments on Draft Framework and submit to Tom**
3. **10 days (from Feb 7) for subcommittees/sub leaders to respond to Planning Framework Information Requests document**

**Meeting:**

Unfinished Business

- Ken Rentiers Budget Presentation
- Regional Water Planning Framework Document Draft
- Long-term Vision and Goals for PPAC and RBCs Memo from Ken Rentiers
- Letter to the Editor

New Business

- Breakout Group discussions on priorities for the next 3-4 months for the PPAC
- Subcommittee reports and revisions for inclusion into the Framework Draft (SUB12, SUB13, SUB15, SUB4, and SUB5)

**Running Consensus and Contention Points**

August 2<sup>nd</sup> - **Contention and Consensus** - Basin stakeholder approach, when to assemble the basin stakeholder groups to maximize momentum/prevent stagnation (contention). How to notify and achieve broad stakeholder inclusion (general idea consensus with details needed in future topic discussion). Further discussed the issue on September 6<sup>th</sup> with some preliminary subcommittee reporting due October 4<sup>th</sup> and November 1<sup>st</sup> (Process of designating members to River Basin Councils and Public and Stakeholder Notification and Participation).

September 6<sup>th</sup> - **Consensus** - The PPAC changed Basin Advisory Committees to River Basin Councils (RBCs) to reflect the level of autonomy and decision-making power that will be included in Regional Water Plans. Still in an advisory role without legislative ability.

September 6<sup>th</sup> – **Consensus** - Vision in the Charter.

October 4<sup>th</sup> – **Contention** – Size limits on RBCs - Texas has 20 members on planning groups. Number of spots for RBCs allotted vs open - 8 broader categories vs (over)specifying RBC membership requirements.

November 1<sup>st</sup> – **Consensus** – RBC maximum member number, state and federal agency role as advisory in RBCs, specific groups on RBCs as identified in draft document in Process of Designating Members to RBCs.

December 6<sup>th</sup> – **Consensus** – Letter to the Editor, SUB1 Process of Designating Members to RBCs draft, SUB2 Roles and Responsibilities of the RBCS, SUB7 Table of Contents as annotated, SUB10 Committee report and DNR to detail implementation.

January 3<sup>rd</sup> – **Consensus** – Top priorities for 2019 are a Budget for the planning process to be completed and an Implementation approach.

February 7<sup>th</sup> – **Consensus** – Move forward with Letter to the Editor with added language from Clay. Basin priority agreement: Edisto first round and Savannah last round. Exception to the 6-month rule for adding a new PPAC member and DNR to appoint additional agriculture representative.

#### **Meeting Summary** (February 7<sup>th</sup>)

The PPAC Facilitator, JD Solomon, called the February meeting of the PPAC to order at 9:07 AM. The PPAC held a public comment period with public comment regarding Western Capacity Use Area stakeholder involvement to ensure the PPAC was aware and to coordinate efforts. Approval of minutes and summary documents from the January 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting were unanimous as was approval of the February 7<sup>th</sup> meeting agenda (9:14 AM and 9:15 AM, respectively).

The meeting began with a synopsis of the meeting from January 3<sup>rd</sup>, which had some positives and negatives as identified in the meeting and referenced by the Facilitator. The needs identified in that meeting were appropriately met for the February 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the PPAC. DNR senior staff were able to produce an RBC basin draft budget matrix, a regional water planning framework document draft based on PPAC subcommittee reports and other sources, and a memo from Ken Rentiers regarding DNR's intent regarding RBCs and PPAC longevity to promote a stakeholder driven process for state water planning. There was a brief discussion on the removal of a PPAC member for actions contrary to the charter.

The budget presentation from Ken Rentiers covered the Governor's budget proposal for DNR water planning. The budget is in the General Assembly with the potential for additional funding as a result of that process. PPAC members are encouraged to contact decision-makers to advocate for additional funds for water planning. With funding needs in mind, two matrices were presented to provide line item detail for the funds. One matrix was for the RBC process and one matrix was for DNR LWCD division operational needs. Discussion again circled back to one-time appropriations vs tax stamp proposal and political feasibility.

The meeting then began discussion on the regional water planning framework document draft. The draft had made major progress and had a detailed outline and two chapters drafted. The PPAC broke out into two groups to discuss and provide initial feedback on the draft document. Overall, the reaction was very positive with significant work completed towards a final framework deliverable. Comments are to be made by PPAC members and submitted within 10 days of the February 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. Additionally, a planning information requests document was distributed to all PPAC members to take back to their subcommittees to develop responses to incorporate into the draft document. The comments to the planning information requests document should also be submitted within 10 days from February 7<sup>th</sup>.

The memo regarding PPAC and RBC lifespan in state water planning was then briefly discussed. The memo is an important component for developing the framework document and committing to a stakeholder driven process for water planning at the regional and state level. The memo was well-received by the PPAC members. A question regarding PPAC/RBC membership and voting rights was addressed and the language was intended to maintain independence for the RBCs.

The letter to the editor was next on the agenda. The letter to the editor was originally scheduled to be distributed in January, but was put on hold until the budget matrix draft, framework outline and draft document, and implementation intentions were clarified. The items were produced and the PPAC arrived at consensus to move forward with the letters to the editor. PPAC members are to coordinate amongst themselves to sign and send one letter with several PPAC signatures/endorsements, as appropriate, to their respective local newspaper outlets to prevent duplicate copies and ensure all PPAC member letters are published.

Breakout discussions focused on the direction of the PPAC agenda over the next 3-4 months and to prioritize basins for the RBC process. Items identified were: SWAM demonstration (scheduled for March 7<sup>th</sup> meeting), a Groundwater flow model demonstration, Water Demand projection methodology draft document and clarification on RBCs providing feedback on water demand projections. The PPAC encourages DNR to develop a process for receiving feedback on projections and deciding whether or not to adjust projections accordingly at the RBC level. Basin prioritization from group 1 was: the Edisto and the Saluda river basins as the first two pilot basins and group 2: the Edisto and Broad river basins as the first two pilot basins. Group 1 proposed staggering the basins one year apart for three rounds with the Broad, Pee Dee, and Catawba being in round two, and the Savannah, Saluda, and Salkehatchie basins in round three. Group 2 also agreed that the Savannah should be in the last rounds.

Subcommittee reports were briefly discussed and accepted as a final point of business. Subcommittee reports 12, 13, 15, 4, and 5 are considered complete to be added into the framework document draft for further review by the PPAC. Subcommittees/leaders are again asked to respond to the planning information requests document within 10 days of February 7<sup>th</sup> to be incorporated into the next framework document draft ahead of the March 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Finally, the meeting concluded with discussion of an amendment to the charter to allow DNR to appoint a new PPAC member within 6 months of the deliverable date. The charter identifies extraordinary circumstances as an allowance for additional appointment. The PPAC voted unanimously to make an

exception to allow DNR to appoint a new agriculture PPAC member/representative. The next meeting of the PPAC will be held March 7, 2019 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM with a location to be determined. The meeting concluded early, at 2:58 PM.

Summary: Tom Walker

Approved: 3/7/19