

Location:

April 2, 2020

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Conference Call

Action Items:

1. **DNR to update PPAC on any budget information relating to RBCs**
2. **DNR to notify PPAC regarding GW model final report and training schedule**
3. **DNR to convene RBC planning team and discuss options for Edisto RBC process**

Meeting:

New Business

- Budget update
- Update on Facilitator Selection
- Update on Surface Water Technical Support Contractor RFP
- SWAM updates and extensions for the Edisto and Pee Dee Basins
- Update on Groundwater model report and training with the USGS
- Edisto RBC selections
- Edisto RBC meeting discussion

Meeting Summary (April 2nd)

The Deputy Director of the Land, Water and Conservation Division of the Department of Natural Resources, Ken Rentiers, called the April 2nd quarterly meeting of the PPAC to order at 10:03 AM. The quarterly meeting of the South Carolina PPAC was held via conference call due to Covid-19 policies. The PPAC held a public comment period with no public comment received. Approval of minutes and summary documents as revised from the January 9th meeting were unanimous as was approval of the April 2nd meeting agenda (10:08 AM and 10:09 AM, respectively).

The meeting began with a budget update from Ken Rentiers. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, there is some uncertainty regarding the budget for future basins. The State Legislature is meeting the following week to discuss the budget. At that time, there will likely be more information regarding the budget for future basin water planning.

The next point of discussion was regarding the selection of a Facilitator for the Edisto RBC process. The firm CDM Smith was publicly awarded the facilitation contract and there is a challenge period before DNR can develop a purchase order for those services. Once the purchase order is developed, DNR, CDM Smith, and the SC Water Resources Center (planning team) will meet for next steps in the Edisto RBC planning process.

The discussion then focused on the SWAM model updates and extensions for the Edisto River Basin and the Pee Dee River Basin. CDM Smith is also providing the work on those extensions and updates which include: expanding the period of record to 2018, updating the water demand and adding new users since 2013, and removing other inactive users. DNR and DHEC have been coordinating that effort.

Discussion then moved to the groundwater modeling final report. The groundwater final report is under internal review at the USGS. DNR has reviewed a previous version and will review again once the report has been finalized by the USGS. The PPAC and the Groundwater TAC will be informed when the final Groundwater model report is available for review publicly. Discussion also included making training sessions available for observation by interested PPAC members and the Groundwater TAC.

The final discussion items included the public release of the Edisto RBC membership selections and future Edisto RBC meeting schedule. Discussion was held on RBC alternates being selected by Edisto RBC members to sit in for them at RBC meetings if absent and being consistent with the Planning Framework. Regarding the first meeting of the Edisto RBC, the meeting schedule is on hold until further notice due to the Covid-19 pandemic and State policies currently in place which prevent in-person meetings. The PPAC brainstormed on ways to keep the Edisto RBC process moving along. Edisto RBC members will begin by reviewing the Planning Framework and, once the planning team meets, further informational packets and updates to the planning process and timeframe will be determined.

The next quarterly meeting of the PPAC will be held July 2, 2020.

The meeting concluded at 10:40 AM.

Summary: Tom Walker

Approved: July 16, 2020