

Location:

January 9, 2020

9:00am-2:00pm

Rembert Dennis Building - Board Room

1000 Assembly Street

Columbia, SC 29201

Action Items:

1. **DNR to solicit applications for vacant sector-specific Edisto RBC slots**
2. **PPAC to provide feedback on new sector-specific applicants**
3. **DNR to name the Edisto RBC members and open RBC slots**

Meeting:

New Business

- Updates on various phases of the planning process: Edisto public meetings, RFPs for the Edisto RBC, groundwater model report, and water demand projections.
- Edisto RBC application review and feedback.
- Future funding: Pee Dee basin in the Governor's budget proposal, one-time ask for full funding, and recurring funding.

Meeting Summary (January 9th)

The Deputy Director of the Land, Water and Conservation Division of the Department of Natural Resources, Ken Rentiers, called the January 9th quarterly meeting of the PPAC to order at 9:20 AM. The PPAC held a public comment period with no public comment received. Ken awarded PPAC members with plaques to recognize their leadership and service in the development of the State Water Planning Framework for South Carolina. Approval of minutes and summary documents as revised from the October 3rd meeting were unanimous as was approval of the January 9th meeting agenda (9:29 AM and 9:30 AM respectively).

The meeting began with a debrief of the Edisto River basin public meetings that were held in Blackville, SC at the Clemson Edisto REC on November 18, 2019 and in St. George, SC at the Lovely Hill Convention Center on November 21, 2019. Both meetings were well-received and well-attended by stakeholders. PPAC members were also in attendance at both meetings and were part of a panel discussion at the St. George meeting which was also well-received. The meetings and panel demonstrated the stakeholder-driven process that this water planning framework intends to achieve. PPAC members in attendance received positive feedback from stakeholders at the public meetings.

The next point of discussion was regarding the status of the RFPs for the Edisto RBC planning process which includes separate RFPs for facilitation and technical work. The RFPs are currently in the state

procurement review process and should be released soon. The plan continues to be for the Edisto RBC to be formed and meet at the end of February or early March.

The PPAC then moved on to discussion of the RBC applications and initial review for filling seats on the Edisto RBC. Specific discussion regarding applications (RBC appointment/personnel discussion) was held in executive session. No official actions were taken during the executive session.

Discussion then moved to the groundwater modeling final report. The groundwater final report is under review at DNR and federally. The final report should be available for review in one month. Additionally, the USGS contract is going to be extended to the RBC process in the Edisto to assist with technical groundwater modeling needs.

A water demand projections project update was held before breaking for lunch. The water demand projection reports were developed, and the first drafts were mailed and e-mailed to all registered or permitted water users in the Edisto basin. A water user water demand projection meeting will be held at the Clemson Edisto REC on January 14, 2020 to meet with water users to discuss their projections and solicit feedback regarding their individual projections and development of future scenarios.

After lunch, the PPAC once again moved to executive session (RBC appointment/personnel discussion) with no official actions taken during the executive session. The remainder of the PPAC session was regarding future funding of river basin planning including discussion on the Governor's budget proposal for the Pee Dee River Basin Plan, possible full funding ask this budget cycle and the processes to secure that funding, and recurring funding to continue future cycles of basin-level water planning. Other topics on the meeting agenda were tabled for future PPAC meeting discussion.

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

The meeting concluded at 1:04 PM.

Summary: Tom Walker

Approved: April 2, 2020