

**Location:**

October 1, 2020

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Zoom meeting

**Action Items:**

1. **DNR to update PPAC on any budget information relating to River Basin Planning**
2. **DNR to pursue Economic Development Applicants for Edisto RBC Open Seats**
3. **DNR to follow-up regarding Edisto RBC Open Seats Applications**

**Meeting:**

New Business

- Budget update
- Edisto RBC Open Seats and Applications
- Water Quality
- Groundwater Modeling Update

**Meeting Summary (October 1<sup>st</sup>)**

The Deputy Director of the Land, Water and Conservation Division of the Department of Natural Resources, Ken Rentiers, called the October 1<sup>st</sup> quarterly meeting of the PPAC to order at 10:02 AM. The quarterly meeting of the South Carolina PPAC was held via Zoom meetings application 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 July 16<sup>th</sup> meeting were unanimous as was approval of the October 1<sup>st</sup> meeting agenda (10:03 AM).

The meeting began with a budget update from Ken Rentiers. The General Assembly was unable to come together on a new budget and the State will be operating under a continuing resolution. With the continuing resolution, all one-time funding is not a part of that budget, so there will not be any funding to begin the Pee Dee river basin planning process this year. DNR will be aggressively pursuing one-time funding for fiscal year 2022 to include funding for both the Pee Dee and Broad river basin planning processes. Any updates on future river basin funding will be passed on to the PPAC as it becomes available.

The discussion then moved to open seats on the Edisto RBC. An open application process resulted in one new application for the industry and economic development seat on the Edisto RBC. The PPAC recommended that DNR hold off on assigning the seat to the applicant at this time and to pursue other more directly impacted industry and economic development stakeholders. DNR will redouble their efforts in contacting potential industry and economic development stakeholders in the basin to garner interest for the open seats.

The next agenda item was discussion of the Edisto RBC and to what extent RBCs can discuss or make policy recommendations regarding water quality in the river basin planning processes. The general consensus once again reiterated that water quantity is the primary focus of the first iteration of river basin plans. Water quality presentations and education could help inform RBCs on the water quantity and quality nexus in this round of water planning with water quality issues being considered in the next round of planning. A similar discussion was had regarding flooding issues as they relate to the RBC planning processes.

The meeting concluded with final discussion on the groundwater modeling update. The groundwater model is complete, but not publicly available at this point in time. DNR is assessing the opportunity for groundwater modeling technical support from USGS in the RBC process.

The next quarterly meeting of the PPAC is scheduled for January 7, 2021.

The meeting concluded at 11:00 AM.

Summary: Tom Walker

Approved: January 7, 2021