

Broad River Basin Council

September 8, 2022, Meeting Minutes

RBC Members in Attendance: Bill Stangler, Paul Pruitt, Frank Eskridge, Steve Hilbert, Brison Taylor, Ken Tuck, Mike Daniel, Bryant Fleming, Angus Lafaye, Mark Boland, Jeff Walker, Karen Kustafik, Jeff Lineberger, Jim Cook, Erika Hollis, Chip Few, Justin McGrady, & Kristen Austin

RBC Members Absent: Daniel Hanks, Jason Wright, John Alexander, Amy Bresnahan (Ray Ammarell, alternate, present), & James Kilgo (Devin Orr, alternate, present)

Planning Team Present: John Boyer, Scott Harder, Tom Walker, Leigh Anne Monroe, Joe Gellici, Jeff Allen, Kaleigh Sims, & Andy Wachob

Total Attendance: 43

1. Call the Meeting to Order (Ken Tuck, RBC Chair) 9:00–9:05
 - a. Review of Meeting Objectives
 - b. Approval of Agenda
 - i. Steve Hilbert, 1st - motion to approve, Paul Pruitt, 2nd
 - ii. Agenda was approved unanimously
 - c. Approval of August 11th Minutes and Summary
 - i. Karen Kustafik, 1st – motion to approve, Steve Hilbert 2nd
 - ii. Previous meeting minutes and summary approved unanimously
 - d. Housekeeping Items
 - i. Review of restroom location and wifi, thermostat, breaks

 2. Public Comment (John Boyer) 9:05–9:10
 - a. Public Comment Period¹
 - i. None
 - b. Agency Comment Period
 - i. None

 3. August RBC Meeting Review and Highlights (John Boyer) 9:10-9:15
 - a. John providing review of August meeting
 - i. Broad scenic river review
 - ii. Flow ecology relationships
 - iii. Draft demand projections

 4. Aquatic Resources of the Broad Basin (Jason Bettinger, SCDNR) 9:15-9:45
 - a. Presentation on aquatic resources in the basin
 - b. Roughly 150 fish species in South Carolina and 86 of the species are represented in Broad river drainage
 - c. Provided overview of the species found and habitat
 - d. Overview of mussel inventory
 - e. Overview of emerging species threats
 - f. Questions?
 - i. Will there be any studies on the small mouth bass? Plan to do some studies on the Saluda – more of a sport fish community survey.
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- ii. You mentioned the 2006 stream survey, do you have map illustrating where locations at? Yes, as part of that report there is a map. Is there a plan to revisit survey? Yes, we have a statewide team now that does that work.
- iii. Have you done any correlation work with non-point source water and fish health? No, except stream team data does suggest that urbanization does impact stream health.
- iv. Do you have any information on health of other stems of the Broad? Focus was on upper Broad, but our stream group has a small river assessment group that evaluate other parts.
- v. Are you pulling in other data like counting Shad on fish ladder? Yeah, contractor counts the fish but as far as the Shad that's part of another project. We also collect acoustic information further down.

5. Groundwater Resources of the Broad Basin (Joe Gellici, SCDNR) 9:45–10:05
- a. Presentation on groundwater resources in Broad river basin
 - b. Broad is about 0.5 MGD groundwater use mostly water supply and industry
 - c. Overview of Piedmont hydrogeologic framework
 - d. Overview of drilled wells in Broad river basin
 - e. Questions?
 - i. Considering they are all very deep are there any contamination issues? Water quality seem to be good, main problem is iron bacteria which clogs up the well.
 - ii. Have you taken over any groundwater systems at water utilities? A few have, use some to supplement supplies.
 - iii. Have you seen any trends around drought? We have seen seasonal fluctuations, you can see drought signatures in some of the wells.

Break until 10:30am

6. Surface Water Modeling Approach and Planning Scenarios 10:30-11:17
(Scott Harder, SCDNR)
- a. Overview of current surface water demand scenarios examples
 - b. Overview of water management strategies like surface water conditions
 - i. Comment- one thing you can run into is that water utilities usually talk in MGD so might be helpful to convert cfs to MGD.
 - c. Overview of methods for evaluating surface water availability
 - d. Questions-
 - i. Will we have any input on setting conditions? Yes, the RBC will, we will discuss management goals throughout the process.
 - ii. The legislation is recommendations for maintaining habitat? If you guys decide you want to manage water differently you can apply surface water conditions, but it uses the 20,30,40 as a baseline. It is not legally binding.
 - e. Overview of surface water demand scenarios from the planning framework focus on water demand not water supply
 - i. Question- high water demand is still based on drought what is in that? Really just looking at the dryer conditions and more demand.
 - ii. Is there a moderate demand but dryer conditions scenario ? this scenario is possible.

- iii. How do we look at potential climate issues where we see less supply? We don't have a really good method to say how bad the next drought will be.
- iv. How bad was the drought in 2002? Were there any changes made? Georgetown did almost experience salt water intrusion.

- 7. Introduction the Broad Basin Surface Water Quantity Model 11:17–11:55
(John Boyer and Tim Cox, CDM Smith)
 - a. Overview of the Broad basin surface water quality model
 - b. Today is an introduction to the model, later in the year we will offer a training on the model
 - c. Tim Cox providing overview on the model, calculations, interface, and scenarios

- 8. Review Feedback on Draft Broad Basin Demand Projections 11:57–12:00
(Alex Pellett, SCDNR)
 - a. Feedback review on demand projections – still waiting on more feedback from reports we sent out

- 9. Upcoming Meeting Schedule, Topics, and October Field Trip 12:00–12:10
(Ken Tuck and John Boyer)
 - a. Plan to present scenario runs in November
 - b. Itinerary for October 13th RBC field trip at Lake Blalock park – try to get there 15 minutes early. After dam visit, we will go to RB Simms Plant then tentatively head over to Strawberry Hill
 - c. Please let us know if you plan to attend and/or if you want your alternate to go
 - d. SWAM training proposed for October 27, 28, 31 or November 1. Probably in Columbia at CDM Smith building (10am – 2 or 3 pm). We will send out more information on this
 - i. Any preferences? Couple cannot do 27th or 28th
 - e. Next RBC meeting Nov 10th, still waiting on location. During this meeting we will hear about proposed flow ecology relationship
 - f. We do plan to send out surveys to the RBC about presentations

Meeting conclusion: 12:07 PM

Minutes by: Kaleigh Sims and Tom Walker

Approved: 11/10/2022