

**Location:**

February 14, 2024

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

USRBC Meeting No. 7 and LSSRBC Meeting No. 4(Hybrid Format)

North Augusta, SC

**Action Items:**

- 1. Lower Savannah – Salkehatchie members to submit Chair and Vice Chair nominations to the Planning Team.**

**Decision:**

- 1. Formed IRC with 5 members from the US and 4 members from the LSS. (February 2024)**

**Meeting:**

- Review of Meeting Objectives
- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of LSSRBC and USRBC Meeting Minutes and Summary from January Meetings
- Public Comment Period
- RBC Introductions
- Savannah Reservoir Operations
- Shoreline Management Program
- Planning Branch Topics
- Summary of US and LSS RBC's Vision, Goals, and Activities
- Discuss Interbasin River Council Charter
- Select Interbasin River Council Members
- Upcoming Meeting Schedule and Topics

**Meeting Summary (February 14<sup>th</sup>)**

Jill Miller, USRBC Chair, called the February 14<sup>th</sup> joint meeting of the Upper Savannah and Lower Savannah - Salkehatchie RBCs to order at 10:00 AM. The seventh meeting of the Upper Savannah RBC and fourth meeting of the Lower Savannah – Salkehatchie RBC was held in-person and virtually via the Zoom virtual meeting platform. Including the Upper Savannah RBC and Lower Savannah – Salkehatchie RBC members and planning team, there were 67 people present at this RBC meeting in-person and online. Jill discussed the agenda items for the meeting. The joint RBC approved the RBC meeting agenda and the minutes and summary documents from January for each RBC. A public comment period was held with no comments

received. An agency comment period was held with no comments received. Ashley Reid and John Boyer facilitated an introduction of RBC members.

Stan Simpson, USACE, presented *Multipurpose Reservoir Management in the Savannah River Basin* to the RBC members present. Multipurpose projects included fish & wildlife, water supply & water quality, navigation, hydroelectric power, recreation, and flood risk management. Stan covered the Savannah River Reservoir System, drought planning history, flood management, gate operations, operational procedures for emergencies, the Augusta levee, hydropower at the Corps projects, shortnose sturgeon information, controlled flood pulse versus flood control, and HEC-RESSIM.

Melissa Wolf, USACE, presented *Shoreline Management Overview* to the RBC members present. Melissa also discussed multi-purpose projects in her presentation. Melissa discussed National shoreline guidance and the shoreline management program purpose, the Lake Russell shoreline statement, shoreline allocations or zoning, public law protection, shoreline management facilities, shoreline management plan updates, general information about shoreline management, and common misconceptions.

Brian Choate, USACE, presented *Programs and Projects Affecting the Savannah River Basin* to the RBC members present. Brian covered the Lake Hartwell water supply reallocation study, Savannah Harbor expansion program, Dissolved oxygen mitigation, and Savannah River below Augusta projects.

Ashley Reid and John Boyer presented a summary of US and LSS RBC's respective vision, goals, and activities. Next they discussed an Interbasin River Council Charter and asked for volunteers for the IRC from the US and LSS RBC members. 5 members from the US and 4 members from the LSS volunteered for the IRC.

The meeting concluded with Ashley Reid and John Boyer discussing upcoming SWAM training opportunities. The next Lower Savannah – Salkehatchie RBC meeting is scheduled for March 7 and an election of Chair and Vice Chair is an important agenda item. The next Upper Savannah RBC meeting is scheduled for March 13.

The meeting concluded at 1:59 PM.

Summary: Tom Walker

Approved: 3/7/2024