



To: Middle Chattahoochee Water Planning Council

From: Jim Hawkins

cc: Tim Cash, Assistant Branch Chief, Georgia EPD

Subject: Meeting Summary: Kick-off Meeting Breakout Session on March 13, 2009

A kick-off meeting for all the Regional Water Councils was held on March 13, 2009, in the Georgia Aquarium. After lunch, the Middle Chattahoochee Regional Water Council met for the first time in a breakout session. This session was called to order by Jim Hawkins, Facilitator, at 1:00 pm.

The contact information sheets were circulated and each council member was requested to update appropriate contact information listed. The revised contact information sheets will be distributed to council members. Jim disclosed that information generated during this process will be subject to Georgia Open Records requirements.

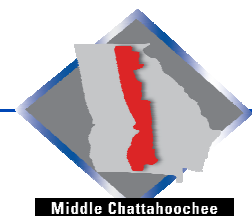
Jim briefly reviewed the agenda and purpose of the meeting.

Meet and Greet

Each of the council members was invited to provide a self-introduction including name, county of residence, and water use interest represented. Robert Osborne then led the group through a group development exercise called "Water Planning 35." Each council member was given a sheet of paper and invited to write what the member believed to be the most important thing to consider during the water planning process. The members were then invited to share their views of most important items with at least five other members one at a time and negotiate awarding of seven points between the two items compared in any discussion by two members.

At the conclusion of the exercise, the highest scored responses were shared with the group and were as follows:

- A plan is as good as the work that goes into it.
- Listen, Learn, Formulate consensus.
- Common Vision.



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Jim advised that all of the responses would be collected and incorporated in the meeting summary.

Review Multi-Year Project Schedule

After this exercise, the group reviewed the notebook that the Georgia EPD created for each council member. Jim led the council through a review of the materials in the notebook which included:

- A meeting agenda for the March 13, 2009, meeting
- A list of the draft contact information for the Middle Chattahoochee Water Planning Council
- An outline of the council meeting schedule and purposes of meetings
- An outline of the contents of the Memorandum of Agreement, including processes to be followed and responsibilities assigned in development of the Middle Chattahoochee Water Development and Conservation Plan
- An overview of morning presentations at the March 13 meeting
- A copy of the Georgia Comprehensive State-wide Water Management Plan
- Calendars for April and May 2009 to allow the Council to plan a date for the next meeting

Jim reviewed the materials in the notebook and highlighted the schedule information. There were no questions with the schedule.

Establish Council Meeting Schedule

The council discussed the desired meeting locations. Suggestions included:

- Callaway Gardens Discovery Center
- LaGrange Chamber of Commerce
- West Georgia Technical College
- Muscogee County Public Library in Columbus
- Community Center in Franklin

The council reviewed their calendars and identified the following dates and locations for the first and second council meetings:

- First Council Meeting: May 13 (first choice), May 7 (secondary choice) at Callaway Gardens (9 am - 3 pm)
- Second Council Meeting: June 17 or June 24 at Callaway Gardens (9 am - 3 pm)



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The planning consultant team will confirm first council meeting and time. A council member requested that Jim send a test email to all council members.

Memorandum of Agreement Discussion

The group reviewed the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) portion of the notebook. The MOA outlines the responsibilities of the council and the Georgia EPD.

Several council members questioned the legal liability of signing the MOA. Also, a council member asked if the draft MOA will be available prior to the next meeting. Tim Cash offered that every effort would be made to deliver the draft MOA to the Council members prior to the next meeting. Mr. Cash also indicated that he would consult with other State staff regarding the question of liability and try to have a response on that issue by the next Council meeting.

After reviewing the regional water planning summary portion of the notebook, Jim noted that the State Water Plan was in the notebook and should be read before the next meeting.

A council member questioned how the group will interact with other councils. Jim stated that this council will have meetings with other regional water councils to discuss regional issues.

The Middle Chattahoochee Georgia Department of Community Affairs representative asked to be included on the email distribution list.

Prior to adjournment, council members filled out kick-off meeting evaluation forms. With no other items of business, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.

jh
Attachments

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Attachment 1:

**Middle Chattahoochee Water Planning Council
Kick-off Meeting Attendance – March 13, 2009**

Council Members

See attached list

Georgia EPD

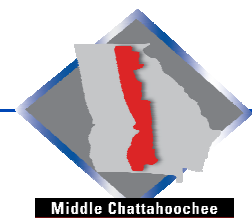
Tim Cash, Assistant Branch Chief

Planning Consultants

Jim Hawkins, B&V

Amanda Lester, R2T

Robert Osborne, B&V



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Attachment 2:

**Middle Chattahoochee Water Planning Council “35” Responses (Yellow Cards)
Kick-Off Meeting – March 13, 2009**

- A plan is as good as the work that goes into it.
- Listen, Learn, Formulate consensus.
- Common Vision.
- Catch more flies with sugar than with salt.
- What the objective of the process is.
- Objective.
- Be fair to different water uses.
- There are many points of view.
- Alabama.
- Think about the process into the future.
- Interest groups.
- Keep your eye on the ball.
- Big picture long-term.
- This plan is for tomorrow, not today.
- Water is neither created nor destroyed, so where does it go?

