

Location:

March 9, 2023

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Spartanburg Community College – Tyger River Campus TRB RM #528

1875 East Main Street, Duncan, SC 29334

Hybrid Meeting

Action Items:

1. **CDM Smith to conduct additional Supply-Side Water Management modeling (Gaffney supply options and new basin reservoir to address shortages).**

Meeting:

- Review of Meeting Objectives
- Approval of Agenda, Minutes, and Summary
- Public Comment Period
- February RBC Meeting Review
- Review of SWAM updates
- Safe Yield Results for Additional Reservoirs
- Reduction in Water Supply from Sedimentation and Increased Evaporation
- Supply-Side Water Management Strategies for Gaffney
- Next Steps for Evaluating and Selecting Water Management Strategies
- Drought Response Initiatives and Recommendations
- Upcoming Meeting Schedule and Topics

Meeting Summary (March 9th)

Ken Tuck, Broad River Basin Council (RBC) Chair, called to order the March 9th meeting of the Broad RBC at 9:00 AM. The eleventh meeting of the Broad RBC was held in-person and virtually via the Zoom virtual meeting platform. Including the Broad RBC members and planning team, there were 40 people present at this RBC meeting in-person and online. Ken reviewed the meeting objectives and asked for motions to approve the agenda and minutes and summary documents from the previous meeting. The Broad RBC unanimously approved the RBC meeting agenda as well as the previous meeting minutes and summary. John Boyer held a public comment period with no comments received. An agency comment period was also held without any comments received. John Boyer reviewed the February RBC meeting.

John Boyer provided an update to the Broad RBC regarding SWAM updates. CDM Smith added the North Tyger reservoir. This addition reduced SJWD's high demand scenario results.

Kirk Westphal talked about safe yield results for additional reservoirs and compared water availability in reservoirs to potential extreme future conditions for Greer, Gaffney, SJWD, and Spartanburg. Reservoir balancing was used in the analysis so that reservoirs in a system drew down together at the same relative rate to avoid water in one but not others. The analysis was performed using the conservative – high demand 2070 scenario. Safe yield for Greer was 38.8 MGD, safe yield for Gaffney was 12.8 MGD which was in-line with a previous assessment, safe yield for SJWD was between 20.5 and 23.9 MGD, and safe yield for Spartanburg was 62 MGD.

Kirk then led discussion regarding reduction in water supply from sedimentation and increased evaporation. CDM Smith provided results from a comparative study which estimated percent storage loss due to sedimentation over the next 50 years. The comparative analysis provided results from three different methods of sedimentation rates over the planning horizon and compared them to a study by the Catawba-Wateree Water Management Group. Kirk then presented results of potential changes to flow statistics in the Broad River Basin with increased reservoir evaporation and the results indicated that there was no appreciable change in shortages.

Kirk then moved to discussion focused on supply side strategies for Gaffney. One potential option presented was increased dam height at Lake Whelchel. Another potential option was a conceptual off-line quarry which could be converted to a reservoir. The potential of an added intake and potential interconnection to Spartanburg was also discussed.

John Boyer then discussed the next steps for evaluating and selecting water management strategies. This discussion included a flow-chart which gave the RBC members a picture of the decision-making process for selecting water management strategies. John then reviewed some example water conservation and efficiency strategies and existing supply-side strategies in the Broad River Basin.

Finally, the meeting discussion moved to drought response initiatives and recommendations. The South Carolina Drought Response Committee (DRC) was reviewed including the Central Drought Management Area which encompasses the Broad River Basin. The Planning Framework was reviewed with attention focused on RBC obligations regarding drought assessment, information and recommendations to the DRC, communicating drought conditions and declarations, advocating for a coordinated response, and coordinating with other drought management groups as needed. The chapter 8 outline of the River Basin Plan was reviewed, and the RBC discussed drought response initiatives, recommendations, and a communication plan.

The meeting concluded with a review of the meeting schedule and topics for future meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for April 13th and will be held at Spartanburg Community College – Tyger River Campus.

The meeting concluded at 12:58 PM.

Summary: Tom Walker

Approved: 4/13/23