

**Location:**

January 17, 2024

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Laurens County Water & Sewer Commission Office

Hybrid Meeting

**Action Items:**

1. Tom to distribute Greenville riparian buffer ordinance information.

**Decisions:**

1. **Saluda RBC Vision Statement: A resilient and sustainably managed Saluda River Basin that balances human and ecological needs. (May 2023)**
2. **Saluda RBC Goals: 1. To perform a review and update of the plan every 5 years at a minimum or sooner should a significant event occur requiring plan update, 2. Develop and implement an education and communication plan to promote the strategies, policies, and recommendations developed for the Saluda River Basin, and 3. Apply science-based resource management and conservation strategies that consider resource availability and allocation. (May 2023)**
3. **The Saluda RBC elected KC Price as Chair and Katherine Amidon as Vice Chair. (June 2023)**
4. **Formation of a Public Supply Water Demand projections subcommittee. (July 2023)**

**Meeting:**

- Review of Meeting Objectives
- Approval of Agenda, Minutes, and Summary
- Public and Agency Comment Period
- November Meeting Highlights
- Preliminary Moderate and High Demand Scenario Results
- Preliminary Reservoir Safe Yield Results
- Discussion of Next Steps
- SC Resilience and Risk Reduction Plan
- Introduction to Water Management Strategies

- Water Management Strategies Discussion
- Upcoming Meeting Schedule

### **Meeting Summary (January 17<sup>th</sup>)**

The Saluda RBC Chair, KC Price, called the January 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Saluda RBC to order at 10:00 AM. The tenth meeting of the Saluda RBC was held in-person and virtually via the Zoom virtual meeting platform. Including the Saluda RBC members and planning team, there were 39 people present at this RBC meeting in-person and online. KC discussed the agenda items for the meeting. The Saluda RBC approved the RBC meeting agenda. The previous RBC meeting minutes and summary documents were tabled until February. A public comment period was held with no formal comments received. An agency comment period was held with no comments received. John Boyer reviewed the November meeting highlights.

Amy Shaw, John Boyer, and Kirk Westphal, CDM Smith, presented the preliminary moderate and high demand scenario results to the Saluda RBC. The presentation covered initial scenario runs for moderate demand which assumes moderate growth and normal climate and high demand which assumes high growth and a hot and dry climate. The moderate demand scenario identified shortages in the basin for three irrigation users and one public water supplier. The high demand scenario identified shortages in the basin for five irrigation users and one golf course and one public water supplier. The rest of the presentation covered percentage change in minimum flows, 10<sup>th</sup> percentile flows, and reservoir storage under the scenarios.

For the next agenda item, Kirk Westphal discussed preliminary reservoir safe yield results to the RBC. Kirk reviewed safe yield for reservoirs concepts and purpose, the method used to calculate safe yield for reservoirs, and discussed preliminary results for Lake Greenwood and Lake Murray safe yield.

John Boyer discussed the next steps for surface water modeling for the Saluda planning process which included reviewing preliminary modeling scenario results and evaluating flow-ecology metrics. Other options for the RBC to consider were also discussed such as additional demand scenarios, a MIF scenario, extending historical droughts to simulate longer severe droughts, safe yield analyses for other reservoirs, and whether the RBC would like to consider establishing reaches of interest or setting a surface water condition.

Hope Warren, SCOR, presented the SCOR Strategic Statewide Resilience and Risk Reduction Plan to the RBC. Hope's presentation started with the recent history of severe flooding events which created SCOR and other information pertinent to the duties of SCOR such as resilience, disaster recovery, and mitigation. Hope then discussed specific sections of the plan which included legislative guidance, floodwater commission principles, resilience planning

assumptions, a definition of resilience, planning conditions, climate trends, flood risk and vulnerability assessment, other hazards, current processes, funding, and recommendations.

John Boyer presented concepts related to water management strategies as developing those strategies are the next step in the planning process. The discussion focused on demand side strategies, supply side strategies, and the criteria used to evaluate the strategies. John wrapped up the discussion with water efficiency and water loss program examples from bordering states and Greenville. John and the CDM Smith team then facilitated group discussions of water management strategies.

John reviewed the upcoming meeting schedule and topics. The RBC meeting was adjourned. The next Saluda RBC meeting will be held February 21, 2024.

The meeting concluded at 2:08 PM.

Summary: Tom Walker

Approved: 2/21/24