

Location:

November 7, 2024

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Meeting No. 10 (Hybrid Format)

Hampton, SC

Action Items:

1. **Come prepared to discuss, select, and prioritize water management strategies**

Major Decisions:

1. **The LSSRBC adopted 11 process metrics (December 2023)**
2. **Lower Savannah – Salkehatchie RBC Vision Statement (to be reviewed and potentially modified in every phase): Shared water resources are managed to sustainably meet the needs of all stakeholders in the LSS basins now and into the future. (December 2023)**
3. **LSSRBC Goals (from meeting #3):**
 1. **Develop water use strategies, policies, and legislative recommendations so that the LSS River Basins are resilient and:**
 - a. **Provide for an accurate accounting of current and future water availability**
 - b. **Promote stability of water allocations to support long-term planning**
 - c. **Maintain water availability to support public water supply, industrial, golf course, energy, food and fiber production and other legitimate needs**
 - d. **Allow for growth**
 - e. **Prevent saltwater intrusion and loss of freshwater resources**
 - f. **Maintain adequate flows to support instream needs of aquatic organisms and recreation.**
 2. **Enhance collaboration between all stakeholders and water interest groups, including Georgia and the Upper Savannah RBC.**
 3. **Educate and inform local governments on how land use decisions impact water availability.**
 4. **Develop and implement an education and communication plan to promote the strategies, policies, and recommendations developed for the LSS River Basins. (January 2024)**

4. The LSSRBC elected Kari Foy as Chair and Ken Caldwell as Vice Chair (March 2024)

Meeting:

- Review of Meeting Objectives
- Approval of Agenda
- Public Comment Period
- Governor's Executive Order 2024-22 and WaterSC Overview
- September Meeting Review
- Finish Development of Drought Response Strategies and Recommendations
- Introduction to Water Management Strategies
- Group Breakout Session to Discuss Water Management Strategies
- Future RBC Meetings Discussion

Meeting Summary (November 7th)

Kari Foy, LSSRBC Chair, called the November 7th meeting of the Lower Savannah - Salkehatchie RBC to order at 10:00 AM. The tenth meeting of the Lower Savannah - Salkehatchie RBC was held in-person and virtually via the Zoom virtual meeting platform. Including the Lower Savannah - Salkehatchie RBC members and planning team, there were 37 people present at this RBC meeting in-person and online. The meeting began with John Boyer welcoming the RBC members to the meeting. Kari introduced the meeting structure and discussed the agenda items for the meeting. The Lower Savannah – Salkehatchie RBC approved the RBC meeting agenda. The RBC also approved the September meeting minutes and summary documents. A public comment period was held with no comments received. An agency comment period was held with no comments received. John Boyer reviewed the September meeting.

Joe Koon, SCDES, discussed the Governor's Executive Order (2024-22) and the formation of WaterSC with the RBC members present. WaterSC has tasks they were charged with which included: writing a stakeholder engagement plan, engaging with a standing legislative committee regarding surface water, and advising DES on the production of the state water plan.

John Boyer worked through finalizing the development of drought response strategies and recommendations with the RBC. The RBC worked through finishing the communication plan and drought response recommendations.

Next, John Boyer introduced water management strategies for the RBC members. John reviewed planning framework definitions and examples of water management strategies. The rest of the meeting was dedicated to group breakout discussions of water management

strategies for the Lower Savannah – Salkehatchie basins. The groups were tasked with discussing what existing strategies are used in the LSS basins, how effective are existing strategies, can those strategies be expanded or improved, and what types of strategies are likely to be relevant in the LSS basins. The group breakouts ended, and the groups reported their discussions.

Finally, John discussed the December 5th meeting objectives. The December 5th meeting will be held at the Hampton Stanley Arts Center from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM.

The meeting concluded at 1:54 PM.

Summary: Tom Walker

Approved: 12/5/24