

Memorandum

To: Coastal Georgia Regional Water Planning Council

From: Shayne Wood and Jenny Bywater, CDM Smith

Date: November 8, 2018

Subject: Coastal Georgia Regional Water Planning Council: Business Meeting Draft Meeting Summary (subject to Council review and approval)

This memorandum provides a summary of the Coastal Georgia Regional Water Planning Council (Council) business meeting held directly after the Joint Council Meeting in combination with the Savannah-Upper Ogeechee Regional Water Planning Council. Both meetings took place on November 8, 2018 at the Screven County Community Center in Sylvania GA.

The business meeting began at approximately 12:35 PM and followed the Council Meeting Agenda.

Call to Order

Vice-Chair Michelle Liotta called the meeting to order and asked for a motion and second to approve the minutes from the previous council meeting and agenda for the current meeting. All council members (CMs) attending supported the motions, but a quorum was not present for official approval. The planning contractor (PC) will follow up with other council members over email to finalize approval.

Debrief from Joint Meeting

CMs enjoyed the presentation by USACE but discussed that more context would have been helpful to tie back into why the projects are important for the work of the Councils. Since final recommendations were not available, consideration should be given to updating the councils on the final outcomes once available.

The attending CMs also noted the atypical low attendance for the meeting. This was potentially due to the longer travel distance. PC plans to try a Skype call-in number option for the next meeting. While this will hopefully not take away from those attending in person, additional council members could potentially join for part of the day through the number.

CMs found the presentation by EPD on permitting updates to be informational and recommended this as a recurring agenda item.

New Web Site Content

The PC overviewed that the current council website contains the current plan, supporting technical information, meeting summaries, agendas, and slides. Additional content can be added at the council's discretion.

A CM asked about the official process for updating the website. The website is housed on a State agency server. The PC has received training in the software and can prepare material for posting which is then approved by EPD before going live.

EPD Seed Grant Discussion

During the joint meeting, EPD provided details on applying for the current round of seed grant funding. The Council discussed potential projects of interest.

CM Loper was interested in learning more about the seed grant opportunity to support wastewater plant improvements.

CM Odom is interested in looking at the use of constructed wetlands to mitigate stormwater in established urban areas. He sees more benefit to have a regional urbanization plan rather than many small-scale mitigation measures.

The PC shared that Chairman Thompson who was not in attendance also has an idea for a dashboard of relevant monitoring data for the region. PC will share the current write up for this idea with the whole council to see if anyone has ideas for partnership opportunities.

Outreach Meetings

The planned outreach meeting for Camden and Glynn counties was moved to January to avoid the holidays. An outreach meeting for the northern counties in the region is also being planned for January and is expected to be focused on agricultural issues. The Red Zone outreach meeting will then be targeted for February or March.

During the October outreach meeting for Liberty, Long and McIntosh Counties, there were questions regarding the population census data for Liberty county. CMs noted that there's a chance with the timing of the next plan update, that updated census numbers may not yet be available.

Public Comment

Reid Jackson with EPD noted that he attended a Water Beyond Borders meeting which is an effort to combine monitoring and research efforts in the St. Mary's Basin between various Florida and Georgia state agencies and stakeholders.

Next Meeting

The next full council meeting will be targeted for March after the planned outreach meetings are complete.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:08pm

Meeting Attendance

The table below summarizes the Coastal Council Members in attendance as well as public and agency attendees.

Affiliation	Name
<i>Coastal Georgia Regional Water Planning Council</i>	Michelle Liotta
	Reginald Loper
	Phil Odom
	Brian Nease
<i>Georgia EPD Representatives</i>	Reid Jackson
<i>Regional Water Planning Council Planning Contractors</i>	Shayne Wood
	Jenny Bywater