



Yadkin-Pee Dee Water Management Group

Meeting Summary

Yadkin-Pee Dee Water Management Group Meeting

12PM to 2:30PM, March 4, 2020

Salisbury-Rowan Utilities

1 Water Street, Salisbury, NC

Action Items

The following action items were identified by the Group at the meeting:

- Assign one member from YPDWMG to act as liaison from this group to the Stakeholder Advisory Committee.
- HDR to run the scenario models by the Stakeholder Advisory Group and report back to the YPDWMG next meeting.
- NCDWR will follow up with the Yadkin/Lumber River Keepers who expressed interest in being involved in the Technical Review Committee.
- NCDWR will follow up with stakeholders who attended remotely to gauge interest in being involved in the Technical Review Committee.
- Warren Miller to follow up with YPDWMG members who were not at the meeting to gauge interest in being involved in the Technical Review Committee.
- Virginia Baker (NCDEQ) will send out notes from the OASIS Modeling session to the group.
- Fountainworks to continue to invite SC operators to the March 16th meeting at the SC AWWA Environmental Conference.
- Fountainworks to get in touch with some members of YPDWMG to help reach out to more NC operators.

Welcome and Approval of Minutes

Chair Jim Behmer called the meeting to order. The group approved the meeting minutes from the December 12, 2019 meeting.

HDR Updates - Stakeholder Advisory Group & Scenarios

Sabrina Colon and Jonathan Williams of HDR presented the following to the group about the Stakeholder Advisory Committee and Scenario Development (Slides can be found [here](#) under the 3/4/2020 meeting). Members of the YPDWMG were sent a survey prior to the meeting to rank their top choices for the stakeholder representative from each interest grouping. The YPDWMG discussed whether 8 responses to the survey was adequate to make a decision. The survey results of the rankings are listed below:

1) Stakeholder Advisory Committee Rankings based on group survey:

- Agriculture, Forestry, and Irrigation Interest Groups
 1. NC Agricultural Extension
 2. North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation
 3. NC Forest Service

4. North Carolina Irrigation Contractors' Licensing Board
 5. Carolinas Irrigation Association
 6. NC Irrigation Society
 7. EGGER Wood Products
- Local Governments
 1. Centralina Council of Governments
 2. Piedmont Triad Regional Council
 - Districts
 1. Wilkes County Soil and Water Conservation District
 2. Cabarrus Soil and Water Conservation District
 3. Stanly Soil and Water Conservation District
 4. Stormwater (Salisbury, Concord, or Charlotte)
 - Regulatory Agencies
 1. NC Division of Water Resources
 2. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
 3. Federal Energy regulatory Commission (FERC)
 - Higher Education and Academia
 1. UNC Charlotte
 2. US Geological Survey
 3. School of Government at UNC Chapel Hill
 4. The Water Institute at UNC Chapel Hill
 5. UNC Greensboro – Geography, Environment, and Sustainability
 6. Catawba College Center for the Environment
 7. Wake Forest Department of Biology
 8. The Regional Stormwater Partnership of the Carolinas
 - Industry and Economic Development Interest Groups
 1. NC Department of Commerce
 2. Cabarrus Regional Chamber of Commerce
 3. Dole Food Company (Kannapolis)
 4. Davidson County Economic Development Commission
 5. EGGER Wood Products (Industry)
 - Water-Based Recreation Interest Groups
 1. NC Wildlife Resources Commission
 2. North Carolina State Parks
 3. High Rock Lake Association
 4. Marine Fisheries Commissions
 5. Carolina Canoe Club
 6. U.S. National Whitewater Center
 - Environmental Interest Groups

1. Yadkin Riverkeeper
2. Three Rivers Land Trust

➤ NC-at-Large Water-Based Interest Groups

1. NC Rural Water Association
2. NC Water Infrastructure Authority
3. High Rock Lake Association
4. Stanback Foundation
5. Robertson Foundation

➤ SC-at-Large Water-Based Interest Groups

1. SC Department of Natural Resources
2. American Rivers

At the end of the meeting, after collecting comments from the group, HDR generated the updated list below for the Stakeholder Advisory Board representatives.

- **Agriculture, Forestry, and Irrigation Interest Groups**
 - North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation
- **Local Governments**
 - Centralina Council of Governments
 - Piedmont Triad Regional Council
- **Districts**
 - Wilkes County Soil and Water Conservation District
 - Cabarrus Soil and Water Conservation District
- **Regulatory Agencies**
 - NC Division of Water Resources
 - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Higher Education and Research-Based Organizations**
 - UNC Chapel Hill School of Government
 - NC Agricultural Extension
 - US Geological Survey
- **Industry and Economic Development Interest Groups**
 - NC Department of Commerce (*Prosperity Zone Representative*)
- **Water-Based Recreation Interest Groups**
 - North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
- **Environmental Interest Groups**
 - Yadkin Riverkeeper
- **NC-at-Large Water-Based Interest Groups**
 - NC Rural Water Association
- **SC-at-Large Water-Based Interest Groups**
 - SC Department of Natural Resources

- **HDR will move ahead to identify individuals from each recommended organization to serve on the Stakeholder Advisory Group.**
- The target for the first meeting of the Stakeholder Advisory Group will be late April.

- There will be quarterly ongoing meetings after the second meeting date.

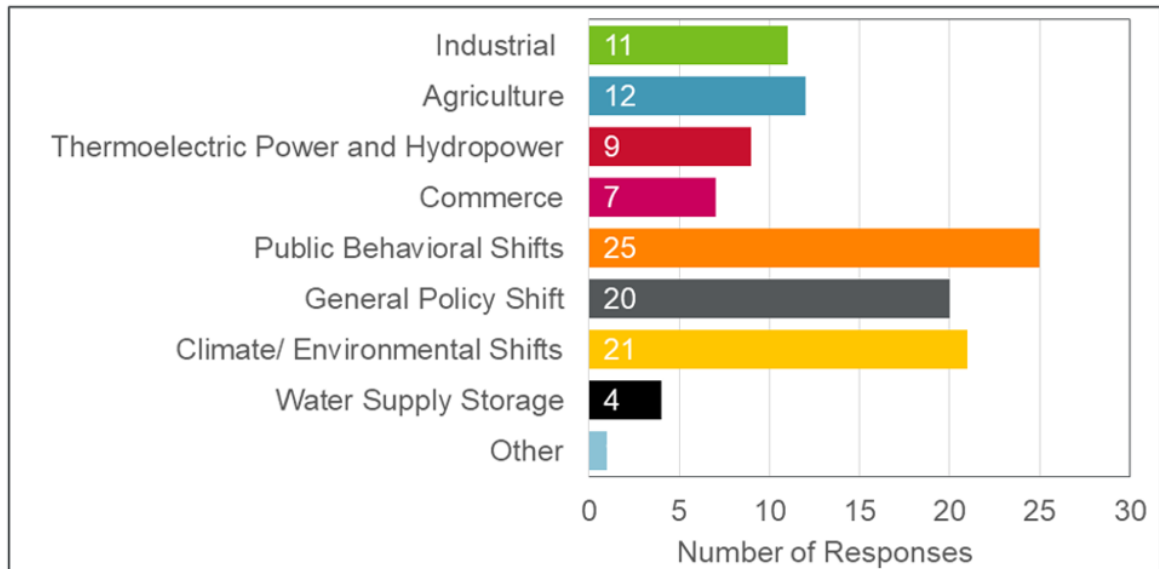
Meeting	Date	Topic
Invitations to participants	Monday, March 9	
Meeting 1	March 30 – April 3	Project overview
Meeting 2	June 29 – July 3	
Meeting 3	September 28 – October 2	

- If a selected stakeholder does not wish to participate, HDR will recommend another stakeholder within that interest category.
- YPDWMG would like to have one liaison from this group on the Committee.

2) Scenario Development

- Johnathan Williams presented to the group the survey results of the top 10 potential scenarios that the members want to see developed.
 - HDR wants to reach consensus on these scenarios.
 - HDR will run the initial list of models by the Stakeholder Advisory Group and share the results of that with the YPDWMG at the next meeting.

➤ Survey Results:



➤ Planning Scenario Descriptions:

Number of Votes	Planning Scenario Category	Planning Scenario	Planning Scenario Number
6	Public Behavioral Shifts	Changes to IBT, which allows more water to leave the basin	35
	General Policy Shift	New policy or regulation requires increased quality of wastewater discharge (e.g. High Rock Lake Nutrient Management and Cape Fear River Basin)	40
5	Climate/ Environmental Shifts	Drought reduces supply	43
	Climate/ Environmental Shifts	Increase in sedimentation decreases reservoir storage and/or restricts intakes	44
4	Industrial	Increase in industry wastewater production (Ex. Poultry processing), resulting in degraded water quality	8
	Public Behavioral Shifts	Increased regionalization as people move to the city and become less reliant on well water, which increases demand	28
	Public Behavioral Shifts	Increased population growth within the region, which increases demand	30
	General Policy Shift	New regulation/ policy requires an increase in the price of water, which decreases demand	39
	Climate/ Environmental Shifts	Storms become more infrequent and intense	45

Action Items: YPDWMG to assign one member from the YPDWMG to act as liaison for the Stakeholder Advisory Committee. HDR to run the scenario models by the Stakeholder Advisory Group and report back to the YPDWMG next meeting.

Discuss OASIS Meeting & DEQ Progress on Modeling

The floor was opened to the YPDWMG to discuss the OASIS meeting that took place before the YPDWMG meeting. The content below captures what was discussed.

- **The YPDWMG wants a technical review committee for the process.**
 - Technical Review Committee: Aubrey Lofton (Union County), Ed Bruce (Duke Energy), and Johnathan Williams (HDR).
 - Want 4-8 members on the committee
 - DWR will follow up with the Yadkin/Lumber River Keepers who expressed interest in being involved
 - DWR will follow up with stakeholders who attended remotely to gauge interest
 - Warren Miller to follow up with YPDWMG members who were not at the meeting to gauge interest
 - Do we want to add SC to this committee?
- **Members were expecting a firmer scope for the OASIS meeting. Some members are not sure what is included and what is extra cost if the group wants to include it.**
 - The YPDWMG needs to advocate for what it absolutely needs to have in the OASIS model.
 - Members believe YPDWMG needs to advocate for hydro operation.
 - YPDWMG is looking to HDR to identify anything that is deficient.

- **Recommendation:** Once HDR develops the scenarios the group wants, the YPDWMG should send DWR a letter detailing the scenarios that we need the OASIS model to do.
 - J. Lineberger: The group should look at how SC is doing demand projects to see if our methodology for demand projects is different.
 - Scott Harder (SCDNR): It is on SC's radar to coordinate with NC on this.

Action Items: NCDWR will follow up with the Yadkin/Lumber River Keepers who expressed interest in being involved in the Technical Review Committee. NCDWR will follow up with stakeholders who attended remotely to gauge interest in being involved in the Technical Review Committee. Warren Miller to follow up with YPDWMG members who were not at the meeting to gauge interest in being involved in the Technical Review Committee. Virginia Baker (NCDEQ) will send out notes from the OASIS Modeling session to the group.

Administrative Items

- **YPDWMG financial update** - Bill Brewer gave the group a financial update to the group
 - The YPDWMG has available cash on hand of \$214,254.85
 - Invoices will be sent out July 1, 2020 for membership fees
- **Discussion of what group members want from meetings this year**
 - If there are some comment periods, use the meeting time to develop joint comments
 - Potential legislative / regulatory updates and discussion – a topic to cover each meeting
 - Have consulting companies come in and present
 - Include 20 minutes of networking time in the agenda
 - Once we have the Stakeholder Advisory Committee, they could do a discussion topic.

New Member Outreach Updates

- **The SC AWWA Environmental Conference is March 15-18 in Myrtle Beach, SC.** Fountainworks is planning a meeting with some SC operators to talk about what they are doing in the Basin and what the YPDWMG is about. This meeting will take place on March 16, 2020 from 4:45 – 5:30PM.
 - So far one operator is confirmed: Christy from Grand Strand.
 - Fountainworks may need member help reaching out to some of the people:
 - City of Bennettsville
 - City of Florence
 - City of Georgetown
 - Georgetown County Water & Sewer District
 - Town of Cheraw
- **NC Outreach**
 - Fountainworks is continuing to reach out to members.
 - Meeting scheduled with Stanly County at the end of March.
 - Fountainworks will be in touch with some members of the YPDWMG to help get in touch with more NC folks.

Action Items: Fountainworks to continue to invite SC operators to the March 16th meeting at the SC AWWA Environmental Conference. Fountainworks to get in touch with some members of YPDWVG to help reach out to more NC operators.

Infrastructure Security Discussion

- There was an intense flood recently that impacted some of the membership. Jim Behmer asked the group if anyone would be interested in getting together to work on a risk and resiliency study.

Member Updates

Davie County – We are doing a water feasibility study now.

Duke Energy – We lost the Blewett Falls Lake SP station in the Fall of 2018 and it will be back online later this year. We should look at how climate change has impacted our flows. Could USGS give us a presentation on how the flow has changed?

Cube Yadkin Generation – Cube Hydro was bought by Ontario Power Generating. Our new name will be Eagle Creek Renewables Energy.

Salisbury-Rowan Utilities – The LGC approved \$44M in bonds. We are doing water treatment plant upgrades: working with Hazen to recalibrate our model.

Union County – 60 percent design on a facility in partnership with the Town of Norwood. It breaks ground in the Fall. We are currently hosting the CHEOPS model training. Union County is kicking off our water and wastewater master plan.

City of Monroe – We are busy with construction on our plants. There is a lot of development in Monroe. We have a waste to energy proposal – a recycling facility for chicken litter.

City of Kannapolis – We are replacing a tank. The storms impacted our pump station and we have spillway damage.

Non-Member Updates

Yadkin River Keeper – National Fish and Wildlife Grant was extended. We are moving forward with the watershed protection task force. Jim B. and Ron S. will serve on that task force. The amount of developed land will double in the next 10 years. There are harmful algae blooms in High Rock Lake. We have taken leadership on this and are writing an issue paper on it. We would like examples from the group on how anyone has handled algae blooms. Please advise Edgar Miller from Yadkin River Keeper.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Meeting Attendees

Karen Baldwin, Cube Yadkin Generation
Rusty Campbell, City of Concord
Ron Sink, Davidson Water, Inc.
Jeff Lineberger, Duke Energy
Edward D. Bruce, Duke Energy
Gerald Faulkner, City of Kannapolis
Johnny Lambert, Davie County
Russell Colbath, City of Monroe
Jim Behmer, Salisbury-Rowan Utilities
Aubrey Lofton, Union County
Sam Call, Town of Wilkesboro
Bill Brewer, City of Winston-Salem

Non- Member Attendees:

Virginia Baker, NCDEQ
Brian Fannon, Yadkin Riverkeeper
Edgar Miller, Yadkin Riverkeeper
Warren Miller, Fountainworks
Jonathan Williams, HDR
Sabrina Colon, HDR
Scott Thompson, Black and Veatch
Scott Harder, SCDNR