Catawba Wateree Bi-State Commission Meeting Minutes
October 23, 2009
(Approved February 26, 2010)

1) Meeting called to order at 10:15 AM.
   - Meeting was held at the Baxter Hood Center – York Technical College
   - Welcoming remarks by the Chairman
   - Previous meeting minutes approved
   - Jimmy Bagley was confirmed by the commission to replace Nick Stegall
   - Rep. Becky Carney resigned from the commission
     - Sen. Hayes. Motion to send Rep. Carney a letter for her services to the commission. Commission members approved
   - Request was made to have name plates for commission members by Rick Lee

2) Catawba Wateree Water Management Group (WMG) Update: Barry Gullet
   - One page handout was given at the meeting
   - Water management group is comprised of 18 members (public water utilities) in Catawba basin.
   - The group partnered with USGS to increase ground water monitoring well network for 3 to 10 wells in Catawba basin
     - USGS sites and data collected will be available through USGS web site
     - WMG will fund some of the O & M costs of these wells
   - Centralina COG and WMG working on a GIS project using existing data – currently gathering data in one place to start the process
   - Ongoing smart irrigation study for direct water withdrawers to quantify withdrawals – determining if smart technology makes a difference in water usage
   - Benchmarking survey of successful water management programs across the country – hired a consultant to this study
   - Defining and enhancing the safe yield of a multi-use and multi-reservoir water supply
   - Applied for a $150,000, 18 month grant from the Water Research Foundation to study safe yield in the Catawba — how to factor in climate change, how to increase safe yield, and how water can be transferred.
   - WMG has received $30,000 in grants to develop educational materials – WMG money will be used to help distribute the materials
   - WMG works on a 5 year strategic operating plan, which was approved in December
     - To date it has send more than 120 letters to request suggestions but the response has been very limited
     - New ideas: complete a basin-wide water resource master plan; develop a plan for water use efficiency plans; impacts of lakes long term due to sedimentation.
     - Sediment study may include bathymetric surveys to determine rate of fill and impact on usable storage – have data for all lakes due to recent FERC relicensing studies
The NC Water Resource Research Institute (WRRI) has commissioned a study to examine areas in the State that may have the potential to be sites for future reservoir construction.

Question was asked – how about dredging existing lakes. Response from NCDENR was it is cost prohibitive on a major scale

Question – are there other groups like WMG in South Carolina? There is a similar group in Atlanta.

3) **Reports of New Surface Water Permitting Bill:**
   - In SC the bill is in sub-committee

4) **Water Quality Update by NC: Melanie Williams**
   - Provided the power point presentation package
   - Discussed 2010 Catawba plan schedule
   - Moving towards using HUC codes
   - 2008 303(d) list of impaired water still not approved by EPA Region 4

5) **Water Quality Update by SC: Mihir Mehta**
   - Provided power point presentation
   - Discussed current monitoring, assessment, and status of impaired waters in Catawba
   - Discussed ongoing project to restore water quality
   - Discussed status of nutrient TMDL on Fishing Creek Reservoir and Lake Wateree

6) **Other Business**
   - David Baize mentioned that SCDHEC is working on a guide for accepting outside data for regulatory and non-regulatory purposes

7) **Commission Member in attendance:**
   - Sen. Robert W. Hayes
   - Sen. Austin Allran
   - Rep. Mitchell Gillespie
   - Mark Hollis
   - Pam Beck
   - Rick Lee
   - Susie Hamrick Jones
   - Tim Mead
   - Jimmy Bagley

8) **Adjourned at 12:25 PM**

Meeting minutes by Anne Rone and Mihir Mehta (SCDHEC-BOW)