

**State Water Infrastructure Authority**  
**North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality**  
**September 20, 2017**  
**Meeting Minutes**

---

**State Water Infrastructure Authority Members Attending Meeting via Conference Call**

- Kim Colson, Chair; Director, Division of Water Infrastructure
- Melody Adams, Director, Rural Grants/Programs, Rural Development Division, NC Dept. of Commerce
- Johnnie Carswell, Burke County Commissioner
- Greg Gaskins, Deputy Treasurer, State & Local Finance Division; Secretary, Local Government Commission
- Maria Hunnicutt, Manager, Broad River Water Authority
- Cal Stiles, Cherokee County Commissioner
- JD Solomon, Vice President, CH2M
- Charles Vines, Mayor of Bakersville

**Division of Water Infrastructure Staff Attending Meeting**

- Francine Durso, Special/Technical Issues Unit Senior Program Manager
- Jennifer Haynie, Environmental and Special Projects Unit Supervisor
- Jessica Leggett, Project Manager, Environmental and Special Projects Unit
- Seth Robertson, State Revolving Funds Section Chief

**Department of Justice Staff Attending Meeting**

- Mary Lucasse, North Carolina Department of Justice; Special Deputy Attorney General, Environmental Division

**Item A. Call to Order**

Mr. Colson opened the meeting and reminded the members of the State Water Infrastructure Authority (SWIA) of General Statute 138A-15, which states that any member who is aware of a known conflict of interest or an appearance of a conflict of interest with respect to matters before the Authority today is required to identify the conflict or appearance of a conflict at the time the conflict becomes apparent. There were no known conflicts.

**Item B. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Colson presented the draft meeting minutes from the July 2017 Authority meeting and the August 2017 Authority meeting via conference call for approval.

**Action Item B:**

- Mr. Solomon made a motion to approve the July 19, 2017 Authority meeting minutes. Mr. Vines seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Ms. Adams made a motion to approve the August 23, 2017 Authority meeting minutes. Mr. Stiles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Item C. Attorney General's Office Report**

Ms. Lucasse had nothing to report.

#### **Item D. Chair's Remarks**

Mr. Colson stated he had no initial remarks but would make closing comments.

#### **Item E. Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Annual Report**

As reported to the Authority at its July 2017 meeting, annual report requirements were changed by the General Assembly and now the Authority's Annual Report and Division's Annual Report will be combined and submitted as one report. The Executive Summary will pull information from both reports. Quotes regarding Asset Inventory and Assessment will be highlighted in the Executive Summary as well. The cover page of the report will have a section introducing the combined report.

Mr. Colson reminded Authority members that Ms. Adams suggested at the July meeting that a "grab and go" document should be prepared along with the Annual Report. The Executive Summary will be designed to be the grab and go document.

The draft report had been presented to the Authority at its July 2017 meeting and comments were due to staff on August 11<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Leggett thanked Authority members for their comments. As a result, minor revisions were made to the draft report as follows:

- **Emphasis on Asset Inventory and Assessment Grants:** The Asset Inventory and Assessment (AIA) grants have been further highlighted. Sections of the report that reference the AIA grants were rearranged to present the AIA information at the beginning of these sections.
- **Effectiveness of the Affordability Criteria:** After the next funding decisions are made by the Authority in Feb. 2018, the Authority will have awarded all the Connect NC Bond money and it will be the third round in which the affordability criteria have been utilized. Having three rounds of funding data, the effectiveness of the affordability criteria can then be analyzed and reported in the next Annual Report.
- **Mapping:** An appendix was added to the report which includes a map showing every project the Authority has funded since January 2014. This is an impressive visualization detailing over one billion dollars in loans and grants that the Authority has awarded across the state.

Mr. Colson asked each Authority member if there were any further questions on the Annual Report. Mr. Solomon, at this point, was no longer on the call.

#### **Action Item E:**

- Mr. Vines made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Annual Report as presented. Mr. Gaskins seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Item F. 2018 Authority Meeting Dates**

Ms. Leggett presented the proposed 2018 Authority Meeting dates, which had first been presented to the Authority at its July meeting. Ms. Leggett reminded the Authority that funding decisions will be made at the February 28, 2018 meeting for the applications submitted to the Division on September 29, 2017. At the April 18, 2018 meeting, funding decisions will be made for the CDBG-I Public Schools grant program and at the July 18, 2018 meeting funding decisions will also be made.

#### **Action Item F:**

- Ms. Goodwin made a motion to approve the 2018 Authority Meeting Dates. Mr. Vines seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Item G. Informal Comments from the Public**

Chair Colson stated that public comments could be made at this time with the reminder that in accordance with the Authority's Internal Operating Procedures, comments must be limited to the subject of business

falling within the jurisdiction of the Authority and should not be project-specific. There were no informal comments from the public.

**Item H. Concluding Remarks by Authority Members, Chair and Counsel**

There were no concluding remarks from Authority members.

Mr. Colson made the following comments:

- The next Authority meeting will be held on December 13, 2017 at the NC Rural Economic Development Center.
  - A number of important issues will be discussed at the Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> meeting which will help frame the Authority's work for 2018.
  - Trevor Clements, Director of Water Resources at TetraTech, will give a presentation on the concepts of "One Water" at the Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.
  - The Authority will receive an update on the Fair Bluff Initiative. This is a major effort of the Division and staff will seek the Authority's input at the December meeting. Mr. Colson stated that this process will play a key role in how we work with smaller systems and the continued development of the Troubled System Protocol.
- A meeting of the Master Plan Outreach Committee will be held before Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Item I. Adjourn** – The meeting was adjourned.