



**Chatham County Environmental Review Board  
Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting Date:** December 16, 2010

**Location:** Dunlap Classroom

**Board Members Present:**

|                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Raj Butalia     | Sonny Keisler   |
| Elaine Chiosso  | Martha Girolami |
| Allison Weakley | Steve Wing      |

**Present:** Fred Royal, Environmental Resources Division

**Copy:**

**Note:** Motions and resolutions are noted in red. Other actions are noted in blue

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1. Approval of meeting minutes in November.

Allison moved to accept the December 16, 2010 ERB minutes. Raj seconded. All approved.

2. Public Input

None

3. Staff Report (Fred Royal)

a. Clean Water Management Trust Fund Easement (CWMTF)– ERB input.

The County placed 15.3 acres of Northeast Park into a conservation easement and has received award notice of approximately \$218,000 from the State CWMTF. One issue is whether to have language in the legal easement agreement to have the option to place a mt. bike trail in the easement. Elaine and others argued against this use of the easement. Steve asked Fred if the DWQ must approve all uses of the easement. Fred said it was not DWQ, but the CWMTF Board and legal will make the final decisions of the easement language. Fred asked the ERB for written comments for presentation to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

Allison asked about the Forestry Management Plan (called Attachment A) which had not been seen by the ERB earlier. Fred said the DFR will help with the draft of a management plan of natural communities and he will pass it on to the ERB for comments.

b. ERD website- Fred stated that the website is up-dated and asks ERB to review it and comment if need be.

4. Communication/Posting of Sludge Application Information (All)

Steve commented that dialog on sludge has been silenced by governments and represents a failure of government. There is a huge need by municipal WWTP s to apply sludge to land. But you can't protect the environment without educating people on issues and making information available. The public needs information on sludge application and locations. Elaine suggested that since the ERB has already approved the FAQ document on sludge, and the posting of it and the map on the county website, that we go ahead with this request to BoC.

Steve will draft a memo to be used by Elaine and Tara (as ERB co-chairs) requesting that the BoC put the ERB sludge application FAQ document and the map on the County website. If this gets on the BoC agenda, someone from the ERB should attend the meeting to present our request.

5. Update on Chatham County Conservation Plan (Allison Weakley)

The CCC plan is posted on the Wikispace and out for public comment. The ERB may review the document at a future meeting. Working with Jeremy Poss (County GIS staff), the conservation layer have been posted on the Chatham GIS website. The Conservation Plan Models need comments by 12/31/10.

Ideally the CCC plan will be updated every four years but funding must be found.

6. State of the Environment Report (Amanda Campbell)

Cynthia Van Der Wiele introduced Amanda, an intern, working on a second draft of a report on the state of the environment in Chatham possibly for presentation to the BoC early next year. Ideally this report would be updated every five years. She will email the ERB a copy and it will be posted on the County website. Elaine suggested that any future State of the Environment reports be done with more formal input from the ERB and to make more use of the CCC plan.

There was some discussion on best sources of data on population growth, water quality etc.

7. Announcements and Updates from ERB members

Elaine briefed the ERB on the status of several projects as follows:

- a. The EMC decided that the Stericycle Medical Waste Incinerator must comply with the new EPA regs in 2013 instead of 2014.
- b. The Durham 751 development zoning appeal by adjacent landowners will go to Superior Court
- c. The Haw River Assembly, Clean Water of NC, RAFI and the Deep River Park Assoc. held a meeting about "fracking" concerns (for natural gas extraction) and showed the documentary Gas Lands in December in the Town of Gulf.
- d. The DWQ will hold a public hearing on the Pittsboro waste water permit to discharge into the Haw River near the Hwy 64 bridge. Citizens have raised issues about the impact on the Haw and Jordan Lake and the need to include reuse in the permit. The date has not been set yet.

Sally Kost is now the ERB liason from the BoC.

Steve moved to adjourn at 8:25 pm. Martha seconded. All approved.