

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Chatham County Environmental Review Advisory Committee**  
**(ERAC)**  
**August 9, 2018, - 6:30 p.m.**  
**Performance Building Conference Room**

**Present:**

**Staff:** Rachael Thorn, Watershed Protection supervisor,

**Members Present:** Fran DiGiano, Vic D'Amato, Elaine Chiosso, Terry Schmidt, ,  
Farrell Moose, Terri Tyson, Mary Beth Koza, Madison Ponder; Farrell Moose

Absent: Jeanette Ragland Vic D'Amato, Elaine Chiosso, Ray Bode, Sherri Stuewer

**Guests:** Jeannie Ambrose,

**1. Introductions**

**2. Selection of the recording secretary** for the meeting minutes – Mary Beth Koza

**3. Approval of meeting minutes** Nominated by Fran and seconded by MB Koza

Minutes approved by acclamation

**4. Public Input** – Questions to be included from

**5. Updates from Country Staff County: See attachments**

**Restructuring of County Environmental Quality Group**

- There will now be 2 departments, Environmental Quality  
<http://www.chathamnc.org/government/departments-programs/environmental-quality>

and Watershed Protection Department

<http://www.chathamnc.org/government/departments-programs/watershed-protection>

The websites have been updated.

- The website for our committee “Environmental Review Advisory Committee” is  
<http://www.chathamnc.org/government/departments-programs/watershed-protection/environmental-review-advisory-committee>

- Oil and Gas Commission met on 8-7-2018 and Rachael Thorn attended for

the County. Items discussed.

- discussed a tour of a Fracking plant.
- Specialized training for EMS folks
- Attached meeting agenda and notes

## **6: Announcements and updates from ERAC members**

- Elaine Chiosso reported to group concerning pollutant PFOS and the recent news pertaining to PFOS. There will be a meeting next Tuesday August 14, 2018 in Fayetteville Community Engagement Event from EPA <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-releases-agenda-fayetteville-community-engagement-event>

Additional details will be posted on the [PFAS Community Engagement Website](#)

Information pertaining to the Haw River/Jordon Lake Watershed Monitoring program for 1,4 Dioxane was passed around for review. Elaine will share the raw data to all members.

- Fran reported that Clean Jordan Lake <http://cleanjordanlake.org/> now has GIS trash data. Recommended the members attending look at the site.
- Terry attended the Local Emergency Planning Committee which had a presentation on fracking. Chatham County is totally unprepared to fight a well fire.

**8: 2017 Annual Report** – Terri presented the draft. Asked for feedback on the barriers & challenges & recommended changes by 8-16-2018.

Elaine committed to find out how ERAC can become a partner to Chatham Conservation Partnership group.

**9: Adjournment**

***Next meeting: September 13, 2018  
6:30 pm at Performance Building Conference Room***

## STAFF UPDATE FOR ERAC - 8/9/18

- 1) EQ Department has been split up, each division is now a separate department
  - a. Solid Waste and Recycling division will retain EQ Department name and will incorporate new Sustainability focus and hire new Director. Coal Ash information will remain on the EQ webpage.
  - b. Watershed Division is now Department, all four regulations remain. Rachael Thorn is now Director and will remain staff liaison to ERAC.
- 2) The prospective Minor Variance has been resolved by staff. Confirmed with Karen Higgins, the 401 and Buffer Permitting Branch Supervisor at NC DWR. Our attorney felt comfortable with her determination. The original call remains, no variance needed.
- 3) Oil and Gas Commission met on 8/7/18 – main items were discussion of the draft of the Rules of Procedure for the new group, a Springfield trip to PA to tour existing fracking facilities and speak with residents, and unfinished business of previous MEC, which includes important items such as EMS resources and training for local governments affected.
- 4) Duke Energy Cape Fear Plant submitted an application Zoning Consistency Determination for Air Quality Permitting of Ash Benefication Process (incinerator). No approval will be given until compliance with Flood Damage Prevention is confirmed, which we don't yet have but we should know more next week. However, Planning has met with counsel and once that confirmation is supplied, the project is approvable from a Zoning standpoint and documentation will be provided to NC Division of Air Quality.
- 5) Consultant is preparing a presentation for the BOC on most recent Coal Ash GW Monitoring results for the August 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. I will share that information once I have it for the next ERAC meeting but you can also attend the August 20<sup>th</sup> meeting if you'd like that data sooner.
  - a. Coal Ash storage is up to 6.3 million tons as of June 2018
  - b. Summary from Dan's email –
    - i. No GenX detections in JL
    - ii. PFOS and PFOA combined concentrations were found at 46 PPT in raw lake water, the EPA Health Advisory Level for combined is 70 PPT for these combined concentrations. After carbon treatment at the water plant, levels were reduced by 33%
    - iii. County is increasing activated carbon during treatment process to further reduce these contaminants