



**5. Introduction and overview of the Erosion Control Ordinance**

Mr. LaMontagne continued his series of overviews on Chatham County ordinances relevant to the work of the ERC. He presented a slide lecture on the provisions of the Erosion Control Ordinance. At a future meeting we will cover the Flood Plain Ordinance

**6. Discussion on approval process for “allowable” activities in buffers**

The ERC continued discussion about delegating to DEQ staff the authority to approve “allowable” uses under Section 304 (I) of the Watershed Protection Ordinance. Mr. LaMontagne had searched the minutes for a record of the WRB making such delegation in the past, but was unable to confirm any official action. He distributed a summary list of “allowable” uses [Section 304 (J) 3]. The members agreed to review the list, noting any uses we feel warrant further discussion. At a subsequent meeting we will determine whether all or some of the “allowable uses” should be delegated.

Mr. LaMontagne presented a proposed motion to delegate this authority from the Watershed Review Board to the DEQ:

*“...to delegate authority to the Watershed Administrator to provide written approval for uses designated as “Allowable” in Section 304 (J) 3, Table of Uses, of the Watershed Protection Ordinance.”*

**7. Discussion on status of Stormwater Ordinance Amendments**

Mr. LaMontagne reported that the General Assembly passed two bills, both of which effectively extend the mandatory date for adopting the Jordan Lake Watershed rules to August 10, 2014. The Governor’s action on the two bills is required by August 2; it is anticipated that the amendments will be approved.

Chatham County may choose to adopt the rules immediately or delay adoption until the 2014 deadline. The Board of Commissioners (BOC) did their first reading of the amendments at their last meeting; they will likely come to a final decision on when to adopt the Jordan Lake rules at their next meeting on August 20, 2012. The ERC members agreed that we should make a recommendation to the BOC; we will discuss these issues and form a recommendation at our next meeting on August 16.

**8. Updates from county staff**

Mr. Meads noted that the State bill on fracking had passed and that the Governor’s veto had been narrowly overturned. The bill establishes an Oil and Gas Board to oversee the fracking industry. Mr. LaMontagne reviewed the makeup of the board, noting that no position is specifically designated to represent Chatham County. Board positions are being filled rapidly. Thus the committee’s decision last month to draft a recommendation to the BOC to attempt to obtain representation in State decisions pertaining to fracking has become moot.

**9. Announcements and updates from ERC members**

There were no announcements or updates.

**10. Adjournment**

The next meeting of the ERC will be at 6:30 pm on Thursday, August 16, 2012. Mr. Meads made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Andrew seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.