



COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Karen Howard, Chair
Franklin Gomez Flores, Vice Chair
Mike Dasher
Diana Hales
Robert Logan

COUNTY MANAGER: Dan LaMontagne

**Wastewater Study Commission for Northeast
Chatham Tuesday, March 1, 2022
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Microsoft Teams**

Agenda

Welcome and Introductions

Approval of the January 31, 2022 Study Commission Meeting Minutes

Meeting 1 Highlights

County Planning Presentation – Jason Sullivan, Chatham County Planning Director

Decentralized (Package) WW Treatment Facilities Overview – Part 1

Defining the Problem(s)

Plans for Meeting 3

Capture Meeting Highlights for Board of Commissioner Report

Closing Remarks

Adjourn

Wastewater Study Commission for Northeast Chatham County

Draft Minutes

Monday, January 31, 2022

6:00 – 8:00 PM

Microsoft Teams

Roll Call: Lee Bowman, Victor D’Amato, Francis DiGano, James Flood, Halford House, Perry James, David Moreau, Denise O’Gorman-Nowak, Scott Peck, Liz Rolison, Robert Paul Waldrop, Jason Welch

All Members Present

Others Present:

Dan LaMontagne – Chatham County Manager

Charles Archer – Freese & Nichols

Blake Mills – Chatham County Utilities Director

Val Gist

Yvonne Monroe

Ken Bruce - Freese & Nichols

Christine Oliver - Freese & Nichols

Welcome & Preliminary Information:

Chatham County Manger, Dan LaMontagne, informed the commission members that the meeting would be recorded and that minutes will be taken and posted on the Chatham County website for public consumption. Mr. LaMontagne outlined a plan moving forward on how the commission can approach the topic and encourage members to give feedback and recommendations for changes they would like to make to the plan. Mr. LaMontagne thanked everyone for meeting virtually and suggested the commission continue to meet virtually until further notice. Mr. LaMontagne gave an explanation about open meetings law and virtual meeting etiquette.

Study Commission’s “Why”:

Mr. LaMontagne informed the commission that they are not given authority to make decisions but are to develop a report to present to the Board of Commissioners with options to consider at their June 21, 2022* Board of Commissioners meeting. Chatham County staff members are present to assist and support the meeting.

**During the meeting June 20, 2022 was the date mentioned for the Board of Commissioners meeting; however after the meeting it was discovered the actual date of the BOC (Board of Commissioners) meeting will be June 21st due to the Juneteenth holiday.*

Self-Introductions Work Plan Overview:

Charles Archer called on attendees one by one as they appeared on his screen to speak on why they want to serve on this Study Commission, something they would like to learn from others and something others can learn from them, and what they would consider successful for the commission. All members shared followed by Chatham County staff present. Mr. Archer laid out an overview of the next five meetings scheduled for Phase 1 of the commission in six months' time. Mr. Archer reiterated the scope of the commission is to provide the Board of Commissioners with viable options to consider. County staffs' goal is to provide data, insight, expertise and facilitate the process. The County has a Comprehensive Plan to help guide the decision-making process. The next meeting will discuss this plan. The commission does not have authority to make changes to the plan.

The commission is tasked to gain more of an understanding of what the issues are in Northeast Chatham. Future meetings will take a deeper dive into the data and will include mapping, vetted capacities, current use capacities, and notices of violations for each facility. Sometimes violations are purely administrative. Mr. Archer said at the next meeting the Chatham County Planning department will give a presentation to the commission on the Comprehensive Plan and the bulk of Meeting 2 will be on the data for the privately-owned and operated package treatment facilities within the study area. Meeting 3 will cover publicly owned and operated treatment facilities typically government owned, large scale, and serving a large area. Meeting 4 will cover privately owned septic systems. Meeting 5 will finalize the report and the commission's PowerPoint presentation for the Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Archer suggests two-three members serve as co-chairs that take turns chairing the meetings and open it up for discussion. Member Scott Peck volunteered to be one of the co-chairs.

Mr. Flood made a motion to approve Liz Rolison and Perry James to serve as co-chairs of the Wastewater Study Commission for Northeast Chatham County. Mr. Welch seconded the motion.

Mr. Archer asked if the motion could be amended to include Scott Peck as the third co-chair. There were no objections.

The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Archer asked if there were any objections to the Operating Norms.

None were opposed to the following Operating Norms presented:

OPERATING NORMS:

RESPECT:

- We respect each other & those responsible for current WW treatment in the service area.
- We are always on time (starting & finishing).
- We are always prepared.
- We are always present.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- We listen and are openminded, valuing contributions & perspectives of others (avoid sidebar conversations).
- When speaking we stay on point and are concise.
- We allow others to speak (avoid talking over)

TRUST:

- We are honest and act with integrity, always.
- We have each other's back.

COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY:

- We are committed to each other.
- We succeed together.
- We are unselfish & contribute to better collective solutions

FLEXIBILITY:

- We learn from others.
- We do not let biases influence behaviors & decisions.
- We do not complain.

ENTHUSIASM:

- We work hard & have fun.

PRIDE:

- We have a positive impact on our Community, the Study Commission & each other.

Mr. Archer proposed a meeting schedule with the following dates and period of 6:00-8:00 PM.

Suggested Meeting Calendar:

February 28th

March 28th

April 25th

May 23rd

June 21st – BOC*

**During the meeting June 20, 2022, was the date mentioned for the Board of Commissioners meeting; however, after the meeting it was discovered the actual date of the BOC (Board of Commissioners) meeting will be June 21st due to the Juneteenth holiday.*

Mr. Peck requested that February 28th be changed to March 1st. The commission agreed by consensus.

Study Commission's Operations/Administration Closing Comments
Adjourn

Mr. LaMontagne thanked the commission for their commitment, and he looked forward to working with them.

Mr. Archer thanked the commission and looked forward to working with the commission.

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 PM.