

Regular Meeting
ALABAMA WATER RESOURCES COMMISSION
Alabama Center for Commerce and via WebEx
July 28, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Roy McAuley – Chair
Commissioner Eliska Morgan – Vice-Chair
Commissioner Thomas Adams
Commissioner William Burbage
Commissioner Matt Diamond
Commissioner Steve Forehand
Commissioner Sam Givhan
Commissioner Dan Hilyer
Commissioner Kathy Horne
Commissioner Cline Jones
Commissioner Patty Lambrecht
Commissioner Ashley McVicar
Commissioner J.P. Martin
State Senator Tim Melson
Commissioner Brady Peek
Commissioner Debbie Roberts
Commissioner Philip Saunders
J. Brian Atkins – Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT

Tom Littlepage
Michael Harper
Mary Blackmon
Rita Pope
Mary Elizabeth Dial
David Waters
Jack West
Greg Guthrie
Brandt Hill
Jennifer Lee
Shonda Gray
Dennis Lathem
Bennett Bearden
Russell Kelly

MEMBERS ABSENT

Commissioner Bill Henderson

OPEN MEETING

INTRODUCTION AND CALL TO ORDER

Chair Roy McAuley welcomed everyone and called the meeting of the Alabama Water Resources Commission (AWRC) to order at 10:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Secretary Brian Atkins, OWR Division Chief, called roll and a quorum was declared.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Chair McAuley requested that the minutes from the April 26, 2022 AWRC meeting be considered for approval. Commissioner Matt Diamond made the motion to accept the minutes. Vice Chair Eliska Morgan seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

REPORT OF DIVISION DIRECTOR

Secretary Atkins gave an update on current hydrologic conditions. Over the last 30 days, rainfall deficits have been focused on the northern and western portions of the state. Since January 1, rainfall deficits have been more widely scattered. Streamflows levels are in the normal range across most of the state with exceptions of portions of the northern and western areas. Reservoir levels in Alabama are all within one foot of expected elevations with the lone exception of Inland Lake which is slightly below full pool. Both monthly and seasonal forecasts indicate either normal or slightly above normal rainfall patterns.

OLD BUSINESS

WATER WARS UPDATE

Brandt Hill gave a brief update on the status of water wars.

Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP)

Secretary Atkins introduced Jennifer Lee, acting Energy Division Chief, and Shonda Gray, LIHWAP Program Manager, who gave a status update on the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program in Alabama.

NEW BUSINESS

Alabama Water Infrastructure Funding Report

Russell Kelly, ADEM Permits and Services Division Chief, gave a presentation with an overview and status update on three funding programs; the State Revolving Loan Fund Program (SRF), the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and the American Rescue Plan Act, which are providing funds to support drinking water and clean water infrastructure projects in Alabama.

OTHER BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments from the public.

SCHEDULE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting will be scheduled for either August 26 or 27, 2022. OWR will conduct a doodle poll among the members to determine the best date.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Chair McAuley asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Dan Hilyer made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Matt Diamond seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m.