

MINUTES

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF HENDERSON

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AUGUST 19, 1991

The Henderson County Board of Commissioners met for a special called meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the Henderson County Office Building.

Those present were: Chairman J. Michael Edney, Vice-Chairman Vollie G. Good, Commissioner Hugh D. Randall, Commissioner William McKay, County Attorney Don H. Elkins, County Manager David F. Thompson, Assistant County Manager/Finance Director David E. Nicholson, and Clerk to the Board Elizabeth W. Corn. Absent was Commissioner F. Richard Baker.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Edney called the meeting to order stating that the purpose of the meeting is a workshop on the watershed regulations as well as a public input opportunity.

OVERVIEW

Chairman Edney recognized Matt Matteson to give an overview of the watershed protection rules (HB156) and to explain why the county is involved.

In June of 1989, the State of North Carolina through the legislation passed by the General Assembly felt that in the interest of 3.2 million water users that obtain water in the state of N.C. from surface water supplies, to protect those same waters and the watersheds, passed legislation that would govern land use controls and other specific controls.

In N.C., either a county or a city which has jurisdiction would have jurisdiction on the control of the watershed. In the case of Henderson County, these four watersheds are in fairly remote areas and the county therefore has jurisdiction. These four jurisdictions are the Saluda area (Colt Creek), Reasonover Creek (Lake Julia), Mills River Watershed, "the run of the river watershed". The intake is in Buncombe County and Henderson County has had an interest in using the Bent Creek Intake for a water supply source. Henderson County along with Buncombe County will have to control these watersheds and formulate a management plan for the watershed.

Mr. Matteson clarified the difference between two items: 1. **Non-point Source Discharge** are pollutants that enter the water supply that do not come from a pipe. This could be runoff from roofs or parking lots, roads, oil leaks, etc., 2. **Point Source Discharge** are the pollutants that come through the pipes carrying the water which have been through a treatment process.

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There was very much discussion with different options being discussed.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Chairman Edney introduced our State and Local Resource Personnel:
Mayor Don Michalove, City of Hendersonville
Tom Kilpatrick, Director, Hendersonville Water & Sewer Dept.
Bill Eaker, Environmental Planner, Land of Sky Regional
Council
Forrest Westall, Chief Water Quality Engineer, N.C.
Division of Environmental Management, Asheville District
Geoffrey Willert, Planner, N.C. Division of Community
Assistance
Art Rowe, District Ranger, U.S. Forest Service

Planning Board's Recommendations

Mr. Matteson stated that the **Colt Creek Watershed** is 102 acres which lies in the southeastern part of the county, south of the Town of Saluda, along the Henderson/Polk County border. The Division of Environmental Management proposed a classification of WS-II, the Planning Board recommended to support the State's proposed WS-II classification.

The second watershed is **Reasonover Creek Watershed or Lake Julia**, which is 1760 acres, east of DuPont. The majority of the watershed lies in Transylvania County and is mostly forested. The Division of Environmental Management has not made a formal study at this time but DuPont has requested a WS-II classification. This watershed has not been classified previously. The Planning Board recommended that comment be withheld until amended State listing is published.

The third watershed is the **French Broad River Watershed**, 25,505 acres which lies within Henderson County. The watershed overlaps the Mills River Watershed. This watershed is called the "run of the river watershed". It arbitrarily ends 10 miles from the proposed intake. The Planning Board decided that it would be in the best interest of Henderson County to petition the state to withdraw classification of this portion of the watershed, not the portion in the Mills River that coincides, but the remainder of the watershed which lies in the northern part of Henderson County which also includes the entire town of Fletcher. The Planning Board recommends the State be petitioned to withdraw their classification within Henderson County because it has not been determined by the Asheville Buncombe Water Authority that it is going to be a water supply source.

The fourth watershed is the **Mills River Watershed**, a large watershed (approx. 43,000 acres) within which two smaller

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watersheds fall. Between 8-9,000 acres are in private ownership. The smaller watersheds are the North Creek and the Bradley Creek, based on their intakes. Both of these are entirely within U.S. Forest Service property. There is no development within either of the smaller watersheds. The Planning Board recommends support of the States recommendation for a WS-I classification, the highest and most restrictive classification. The Planning Board recommended that the watershed be classified in two fashions. The portion which drains above the confluence of the North and South forks is recommended as a WS-II and the portion which drains into the intake just west of NC 191 is recommended as a WS-III classification.

PUBLIC INPUT

Phyllis Brittain
George Love
John C. McLean
Rick Brown
Phil Brittain
Polly Kremer
Brent Conner
J. Fred Edwards
Dr. Jim Volk
Barbara Volk
Pamela Pate
Joyce Gordon
Doug Ray
Carolyn Carland
Janet F. Moore
Carolyn M. Johnson
Tom Harshbarges
Dr. Karen C. Saucier
Ellen C. Carland
John Humphrey
Speed Rogers
Ed Ingle
Mary Kelly
Will Zaff
Ken Weitzen
Cora Belle Gillespie
R.M. Shuffstall
Emory Jackson
Jim Sexton
C.M. Patell
William Bradley
Tom Matteson
Gary Kauffman

Most of these speakers spoke for either a WS-II or a WS-III classification with the majority for a WS-II classification.

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Chairman Edney thanked everyone who spoke. He stated that no decision would be made tonight. The Commissioners may submit written responses or comments to the state, they have until September 30 to do so. Mr. Edney said that this (watershed classification) will most likely be on the September 5 agenda.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

Elizabeth W. Corn

Elizabeth W. Corn, Clerk

J. Michael Edney

J. Michael Edney, Chairman

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Mayor
Nolan D. Pace

Commissioners
Harold B. Phillips
Ray Johnson
James Boyie, Jr.
Charles Ward

City Clerk
Doris T. Marion
Treasurer
Charlotte Sullivan

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Ms. Joy Franklin, Editor
P. O. Box 490
Hendersonville, N.C. 28739

To the Editor:

As Mayor of the City of Saluda, I wish to voice the City of Saluda's support of a WSII classification for Henderson County's Mills River watershed.

The WSII classification serves the best interests of Hendersonville and Henderson county as well as it will Saluda, who purchases their water for the City of Hendersonville.

Sincerely,


Nolan D. Pace
Mayor of Saluda

NDP/dm