



Upper Neuse River Basin Association (UNRBA) Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting Agenda
Butner Town Hall, January 18, 2023, 9:30 AM to Noon
[Remote Access for those not able to attend provided below](#)

Materials related to this BOD Meeting have been placed on the UNRBA website unless noted otherwise on the [Meeting page](#). See items under the January 18, 2023, meeting date.

I. Opening—Sig Hutchinson, Chair

- A. Introductions, Note Board Member Changes and Announcements**
- B. Roll Call for Quorum**
- C. Identification of any Conflicts**
- D. Review and Approval of Agenda**

II. Initial Action Items of UNRBA Board of Directors

- A. Approval of [November 16, 2022 Draft Board Minutes](#)**
- B. Approval of the [Treasurer's Report](#)**
- C. Officer Elections for 2023: Nominating Committee Recommendations**

Item Summary (Nominating Committee): The [UNRBA Bylaws](#) call for its Annual Meeting to be held in January and provides for the election of Association Officers for the calendar year. The Board appointed a Nominating Committee during the November 16, 2022, Board Meeting to make recommendations at the January Meeting: William McKellar, Carolyn Bachl, and Terry Hackett. A summary of the recommendations of the Nominating Committee will be provided for the [consideration of the Board](#).

D. Personnel Committee Report

Item Summary (Committee Chair, Don O'Toole): The Personnel Committee met December 5, 2022, and reviewed the work of the UNRBA during 2022 and the support provided under the Executive Director Services Contract. The Chair will provide the Committee's report and make recommendations to the Board on behalf of the members of the Committee. The Board will consider [approval of the Personnel Committee recommendations](#).

E. Budget Adjustment for Modeling and Regulatory Support for FY2023

Item Summary (Forrest Westall): The modeling team has been working extensively with the subject matter experts and modeling staff at the Division of Water Resources to finalize the calibration of the watershed and lake models. As of January 3, 2023, the WARMF and EFDC models have been approved by the Modeling and Regulatory Support Workgroup. The modeling subcontractors have exhausted, or soon will exhaust, their FY2023 contracted budgets. With six months remaining in FY2023 and a great deal of work needed to support development of the revised nutrient management strategy including running scenarios and developing modeling reports, the Executive Director recommends a contract amendment for FY2023 up to \$180,000 to be appropriated from the balance of funds which has a sufficient amount to fund this amendment. The amount of the contract amendment would be subtracted from the modeling team contract amount for FY2024 such that the total funds allocated to the Modeling and Regulatory Support project would be the same as previously planned. [The Board will consider a request to authorize the Executive Director to work on a contract amendment for FY2023 up to \\$180,000 for the Modeling and Regulatory Support FY2023 contract for review by the PFC in February and consideration by the Board at their March meeting.](#)

III. Status Reports and Informational Items

A. Prospective Budget for FY2024

Item Summary (Forrest Westall): The [prospective budget for FY2024](#) will be discussed. Final budget adoption will be considered at the March Meeting. The information provided at this time reflects no change from the FY2022. However, based on the Board's action on the Personnel Committee Report, the Executive Director's contract for FY2024, and other adjustments as needed, revision will be necessary before a final budget is proposed.

B. Modeling and Regulatory Support (MRS) Status:

Item Summary (Alix Matos): The Watershed Analysis Risk Management Framework (WARMF) model for the Falls Lake watershed has been calibrated for stream flows and water quality. The MRSW will review a revised draft report in response to their comments on the original draft after the watershed modeling scenarios have been conducted. A WARMF model training will be held with UNRBA members and DWR modeling staff on February 6, 2023. The modeling team is evaluating several scenarios including converting all land uses to forests and increasing and decreasing rates of atmospheric deposition by 25 percent.

The three lake water quality models (WARMF Lake, Environmental Fluid Dynamics Code (EFDC), and a Statistical/Bayesian model) are being developed considering the information generated by the watershed model (stream flows, nutrient concentrations, and delivered loads to Falls Lake). Both WARMF Lake and EFDC have been calibrated for water quality in Falls Lake with approval by the MRSW. Lake model reporting and scenario evaluation are under development.

The datasets for the statistical model have been compiled and are being evaluated to address questions about the relationships among precipitation, nutrient loading, chlorophyll-a, and satisfaction with designated uses. The model team will begin providing summaries of the model output at the February and March PFC meetings. This model will inform the proposed revised nutrient management strategy and the petition for a site-specific chlorophyll-a standard. The modeling team will continue to reach out to Collaboratory funded researchers to consider and supplement the extensive database developed by the UNRBA, our members and DWR. The modeling effort has included extensive vetting through identified SMEs, third-party reviewers, our membership representatives, and DWR.

C. Developing Recommendations for a Revised Nutrient Management Strategy and a Petition for a Site-Specific Chlorophyll-a Water Quality Standard

Item Summary (Forrest Westall): The UNRBA has been meeting with DEQ and DWR leadership to discuss coordination efforts to finalize the models, develop a revised nutrient management strategy, and develop a petition for site specific criteria. Plans are under development on how to coordinate with DEQ and EPA on our general objectives for a revised strategy and a site-specific standard. DWR has hired a standards coordinator that replaces the former coordinator who retired. As a result, we anticipate the Division will identify a contact for us to work with on developing the site-specific standard recommendation/petition. The UNRBA will continue to work with other stakeholders on these items as well.

The UNRBA has compiled preliminary concepts for developing the recommendations for a revised nutrient management strategy. The PFC will continue to discuss and refine over the coming months. The PFC has discussed principles and concepts for the revised strategy during its [November](#), [December](#), and [January](#) meetings. These discussion notes will be used to develop a "strawman" document that the PFC will review at their March meeting.

We have reached out to other regulated stakeholders, specifically agriculture, DOT and forestry, to provide input and participate in these discussions. We will expand this outreach to include stakeholders impacted by all aspects of the current rules, including other state and federal facilities, the development community (new development rule), and landholders.

The subject matter experts continue to evaluate other State's site-specific standards for chlorophyll-a and nutrient-related standards. Dr. Marty Lebo continues to integrate his work into the statistical modeling and regulatory support efforts.

D. Communications

Item Summary (Forrest Westall): There are several items of outreach that are underway including the continued engagement with DWR. The UNRBA is also planning for the WARMF Model Training with DWR and UNRBA members on February 6, 2023; a session at WRRRI's Annual Conference in March 2023; a Technical Stakeholder Workshop in spring 2023; a workshop with DWR/NC Policy Collaboratory/NGOs to discuss stakeholder feedback on the concepts for a revised nutrient management strategy planned for spring 2023; a joint symposium with NC Policy Collaboratory planned for early summer 2023, and a Stakeholder workshop to discussed the final recommendations for draft strategy in the fall of 2023. Expansion of outreach efforts with our members and their elected and leadership representatives will be a priority.

The Executive Director will continue to reach out to local government staff to identify needs and support staff with implementation of the IAIA Program and participation in developing the revised nutrient management strategy. The UNRBA website has been updated to include a separate tab for IAIA which includes a copy of the UNRBA Bylaws, IAIA Program Document, IAIA press releases, and the Year 1 annual report.

A [UNRBA status update for 2022](#) has been posted to the UNRBA website. Coordination with the NC Policy Collaboratory and their Falls Lake researchers is very important and will need to expand during 2023. The Collaboratory's report on their Falls Lake work is due at the end of 2023.

The "open" nature of all of the UNRBA meetings remains a key component of a transparent communications approach. We continue to emphasize the importance of seeking member input to help identify needs related to communicating the work of the UNRBA to their jurisdictions and the citizens of their local governments.

E. Ongoing Discussions/Issues:

Item Summary (Forrest Westall):

- Intensive workgroup activity and management of expectations and resources—A lot to do between now and recommendations at the end of 2023
- Ongoing DEQ/DWR Items—MOA, Neuse Watershed Model Information Session / Delivery Factors for WWTP, etc.—we plan to address in our follow-up meetings with DEQ/DWR

F. Closing Comments—Board Members and Chair

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Computers without audio capabilities, or audio that is not working	Join Microsoft Teams Meeting (888) 404-2493 Passcode: 344 451 285# Please mute your phone unless you want to provide input.	Follow instructions above. Turn down your computer speakers, mute your computer microphone , dial the number through your phone and enter the passcode. See note below on pass code
Phone only	(888) 404-2493 Passcode: 344 451 285# Please mute your phone unless you want to provide input.	Dial the toll-free number and enter the passcode. The system continues to update the passcode without warning. We will check the passcode the morning of the meeting and resend if needed via email.

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- If you dial in through your phone, mute your microphone and turn down your speakers to **avoid feedback**
- Unless you are speaking, please mute your computer/device microphone or phone microphone to **minimize background noise**
- UNRBA meetings are open meetings; however, for this remote access meeting, please **limit the discussion to UNRBA Board Members** to facilitate moving through action items