

# Path Forward Committee (PFC) Meeting March 2, 2021, 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Remote Access Only (see last page of agenda for instructions)

Materials related to the <u>March PFC Meeting</u> have been placed on the UNRBA website unless noted otherwise on the <u>Meeting page</u>. There is no Modeling and Regulatory Support Workgroup Meeting scheduled in March.

- I. Opening Comments, Agenda Review/Revisions Co-Chairs Kenny Waldroup and Michelle Woolfolk
- II. Review and Support of the Final Draft Interim Alternative Implementation Approach (IAIA) Program

  Document and Revisions to the UNRBA Bylaws for Submittal to the Board for Action in March Action

  Item

Item Summary (Forrest Westall): The UNRBA PFC was provided an updated copy of the IAIA Program Document on January 27<sup>th</sup> ahead of the February 2<sup>nd</sup> PFC Meeting. Comments were due on February 12<sup>th</sup>. The PFC provided comments on the January draft and revisions have been made in the Final Draft document distributed to the PFC ahead of this PFC meeting. The PFC and the Board have also been previously provided for review the proposed revisions to the UNRBA Bylaws; no additional comments have been received since a draft was submitted for review by the Board in November 2020. At the March 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, the PFC will vote to submit the final drafts of both documents for action at the March 17<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

- III. Status of the Draft 2021 Falls Lake Status Report Informational Item

  Item Summary (Forrest Westall): DWR is drafting its 5-year status report for Falls Lake and has indicated they will reference the summaries and findings from the 2019 UNRBA Monitoring Report. John Huisman has reached out to the Executive Director and the consulting team for clarifications as he drafts the report.

  DWR plans to deliver a draft report for UNRBA review in mid-March for review and input.
- IV. Modeling and Regulatory Support Status Informational Item
  - Item Summary (Alix Matos and Michelle Woolfolk): The modeling team is continuing work on the WARMF watershed model for water quality simulations/calibration and beginning model development of the simple lake model (WARMF Lake). The modeling team is refining the hydrodynamic calibration of the complex lake model (EFDC). A draft of the WARMF watershed hydrologic model report is being revised in response to comments from the Executive Director. The final 319 report has been submitted to DWR to fulfill the contract deliverable requirements. The final Transition Monitoring Technical Memorandum has been posted to the UNRBA website. The two scenario workgroups (Scenario Output Group and the Scenario Screening Workgroups) are continuing to develop a process to select scenarios to evaluate and to develop documentation to describe and compare output.
- V. Development of a Statistical Model and Evaluation of Regulatory Options Relative to the Water Quality Standard

The importance of establishing a site-specific standard for Falls Lake has been reviewed a number of times over the last two years. Because of the flexibility that will be built into the Statistical Model, this effort is being coordinated with the work of the Legal Group and the UNRBA's legal subject matter expert. Additional coordination sessions with the Statistical Modeling Team and the Legal Group will be scheduled in the coming months. Because development of a site-specific chlorophyll-a standard represents an important consideration for a revised Falls Lake management strategy, a Technical Advisors' Workgroup to



support these efforts was formed during the January PFC meeting and will provide input to the statistical modelers and the legal group and provide recommendations to the MRSW and PFC. Planning for a kickoff meeting with this workgroup is underway.

#### VI. Update - DWR 2020 Integrated Report and 303(d) Assessments

Item Summary (Jay Sauber): The DWR draft Integrated Water Quality Assessment Report and the 303(d) list for 2020 have been released. The UNRBA subject matter experts provided a preliminary review of the assessment at the February PFC meeting and continues to review the assessment. A status update will be provided.

VII. Status of UNRBA Comments on the Proposed High Rock Lake Site-Specific Chlorophyll-a Criteria Item Summary (Jay Sauber): At the January 2021 Board meeting, the Board authorized the Executive Director and the UNRBA subject matter experts to comment on the proposed High Rock Lake (HRL) site specific chlorophyll-a criteria. The HRL site specific standard proposal was expected to be put before the EMC Water Quality Committee (WQC) in March and the full EMC in May. However, word reached us at the time of developing this agenda that the proposal would not come to the March WQC meeting. The delay was described as additional time to consider the comments received on the information presented to the Compliance Implementation Committee (CIC). We hope that this additional consideration will address the UNRBA's comments provided to the CIC. We anticipate that the EMC WQC will consider the DWR proposal at the May meeting and the Full EMC will review it in July to determine if the proposed site-specific standard will go to public notice.

#### VIII. Communications Support

Item Summary (Alix Matos): At the January 2021 Board meeting, the new Board members requested a summary of the UNRBA communications efforts. The PFC will review the topics being developed to support this presentation to the Board for the March 17<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. The Executive Director and communications team continues planning efforts with the Collaboratory on the joint symposium, and a "save the date" has been distributed for May 19, 2021. The May Board meeting has been cancelled to accommodate this event and maximize participation by UNRBA Board members and those in the PFC. This decision was based on the May 19<sup>th</sup> already being set for the Board meeting. The purpose of the symposium is to inform Falls Lake stakeholders of recent UNC Collaboratory research and how those study results will be referenced and incorporated into the UNRBA efforts to re-examine the Falls Nutrient Management Strategy. The UNRBA Technical Stakeholder Workshop has been postponed until FY2022 due to COVID-19 and the Collaboratory/UNRBA Symposium. The PFC will continue to discuss external stakeholder communication needs.

#### IX. Other Status Items—Information Item

Item Summary (Forrest Westall): Brief statements on several ongoing activities:

- Communication Outreach Efforts: February 11<sup>th</sup> briefing with Person County, February 23<sup>rd</sup> Zoom meeting sponsored by Interfaith Creation Care Groups (Orange-Chatham and Triangle organizations)
- Intensive workgroup activity and management of expectations and resources—A lot to do between now and recommendations in 2023
- Leadership and organizational changes at NCDEQ and EPA
- Coordination with the Collaboratory on Falls Lake studies



- Ongoing DEQ/DWR Items—MOA, DWR 2020 Integrated Report and 303(d) Assessments, High Rock Lake Site Specific Chlorophyll-a Criteria, UNRBA/DWR meeting to review data collected/compiled from the Association's study, Neuse Watershed Model Information Session / Delivery Factors for WWTP, etc.
- X. Closing Comments— Co-Chairs Kenny Waldroup and Michelle Woolfolk

Next BOD Meeting: March 17, 2021, 9:30 AM to Noon, Remote Access Next PFC Meeting: April 6, 2021, 11:30 AM to 1:15 PM, Remote Access Next MRSW Meeting: May 4, 2021, 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM, Remote Access

## **Remote Access Instructions for the MRSW and PFC Meetings**

This meeting will open 10 minutes prior to the official meeting start time to allow for users to test equipment and ensure communication methods are functioning.

Equipment Type	Access Information	Notes
Computers with microphones and speakers	Join Microsoft Teams Meeting Please mute your microphone unless you want to provide input.	Press control and click on this link to bring up Microsoft Teams through the internet. You can view the screen share and communicate through your computer's speakers and microphone.
Computers without audio capabilities, or audio that is not working	Join Microsoft Teams Meeting (888) 404-2493 Passcode: 371 817 961# Please mute your phone unless you want to provide input.	Follow instructions above. <b>Turn down your computer speakers, mute your computer microphone,</b> dial the number through your phone and enter the passcode.
Phone only	(888) 404-2493 Passcode: 371 817 961#	Dial the toll-free number and enter the passcode.  Please mute your phone unless you want to provide input.

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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