

UNRBA Board of Directors: September 18, 2019 Board Minutes

The Board of Directors of the Upper Neuse River Basin Association (UNRBA) met at 9:30 A.M. on Wednesday, September 18, 2019 at the Town of Butner's Town Hall. Meeting attendees are listed below.

Name	Affiliation
Ryan Eaves (Treasurer)	Durham County
Jimmy Clayton (Vice Chair)	Person County
Jenn Weaver (Secretary)	Town of Hillsborough
Terry Hackett	Town of Hillsborough
Reggie Hicks	City of Durham
Michelle Woolfolk	City of Durham
Barry Baker	Granville County
Carolyn Bachl	City of Raleigh (call in)
Scott Schroyer	SGWASA
Nena Nowell	City of Creedmoor
Ellen Reckhow	Durham County
Michael Frangos	City of Creedmoor
Jim Wrenn	Representing Granville Co., Person Co., Butner, Creedmoor & SGWASA
Don O'Toole	City of Durham
Sally Greene	Orange County
David Stancil	Orange County
Jay Sauber	Water Quality Consultant
Dan McLawhorn	City of Raleigh
Natalie Murdock	Durham Soil & Water Conservation
Bob Hornik	Town of Hillsborough
Lori Oakley	Person County
Jennifer Tavantzis	Representing Granville Co., Person Co., Stem, Butner, & Creedmoor
Katie Cromwell	Representing Granville Co., Person Co., Stem, Butner, & Creedmoor
James Bryan	Orange County
Alix Matos	Brown & Caldwell
Melinda Clark	Wake County
Forrest Westall	UNRBA
Haywood Phthisic	UNRBA

Welcome and Recognition -

The Vice Chair, Jimmy Clayton, called the meeting of the UNRBA to order, welcomed all attendees, and asked each attendee to introduce themselves. The Vice Chair presided at the meeting because the Chair was unable to attend. The Vice Chair asked if any of the Board Directors had any conflict of interest issues with any agenda items and no conflicts were identified. The Vice Chair called the roll and 9 of 13 members were present for a quorum. Jimmy then asked if there were any revisions to the agenda. Forrest requested the Board approve Jimmy Clayton to execute the HDR Contract Amendment #3 as the Chair, Sig Hutchinson, had been approved in June. Ellen Reckhow made the motion to authorize Jimmy to execute the HDR Amendment #3, seconded by Jenn Weaver, and approved by the Board.

Action Items -

Approval of Minutes from June 19, 2019 Board Meeting - The Vice Chair asked the Board if there were any edits or corrections to the draft minutes provided. Being none, Ellen Reckhow made the motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Jenn Weaver, and approved by the Board.

Treasurer's Report – Ryan Eaves presented the Treasurer's Report for the period ending August 26, 2019. The checking account balance less invoices in process is \$524,197.06 and the savings account balance is \$408,971.60. Ryan reported all membership fees for the current year had been received. Following discussion, Jenn Weaver made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, seconded by Sally Green, and approved by the Board.

Haywood Phthisic reported the Executive Committee has selected Civic Federal Credit Union to replace Local Government Federal Credit Union as the UNRBA's banking resource. The Board had earlier delegated this decision to the Executive Committee. Steps are being taken to expedite this transition.

Forrest Westall reported a prospective budget for FY 2020-21 will be presented at the November 20th Board meeting.

Approval of the UNRBA Media Engagement Protocol – Forrest presented the Media Engagement Protocol that has been created as part of the communication contract with HDR. The protocol creates a pathway for communicating with the news media and will allow timely responses to issue with the Executive Committee as the reviewing authority. Following discussion, Ellen Reckhow made the motion to approve the protocol, seconded by Neena Nowell, and approved by the Board.

Informational Items -

Site Specific Standard for Chlorophyll-a: Jay Sauber, reported to the Board on the action by the NCDP Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) and the chlorophyll-a standard. Jay reviewed the SAC work, proposed Chlorophyll-a standard that is proposed, and the effect this proposed standard may have on the Stage II reexamination. To review the technical information go to the meeting presentation: [Sept 18 Meeting Presentation](#) . Forrest discussed contact with the NC Policy Collaboratory at UNC-Chapel Hill concerning the role of the chlorophyll-a standard in the reexamination effort. He indicated it may be possible that the Collaboratory would consider doing a project, as part of their evaluation of the nutrient management strategies for Jordan and Falls Lake, to review the research and work available on the chlorophyll-a standard development process underway at DWR.

Interim Alternative Implementation Approach – Forrest reported that on September 24th the PFC will discuss an alternative approach "strawman," or preliminary draft of a framework document, on the interim alternative implementation approach strategy. The Board discussion that followed demonstrated a continued general interest in developing additional information on this optional approach. Forrest pointed out that the evaluation process has moved through this option as a concept and now is working through the framework document toward a more detailed program description. The timeline for further consideration looks toward bringing more detailed information to the Board at its January 15, 2020 meeting. Work on this alternative approach will continue over the next three months as part of the PFC.

UNRBA Decision Framework – Forrest reported that the PFC is developing a decision framework for the UNRBA. This effort will review the current decision-making process used by the UNRBA in making operational, programmatic and reexamination process decisions. The PFC will continue to work on developing this review and come to the Board with a report at the January 15, 2020 meeting. A status report on the process will be provided at the November 20, 2019 Board Meeting.

Modeling and Regulatory Support (MRS) – Alix Matos with Brown & Caldwell updated the Board on the tasks the modeling group is working on in the modeling and regulatory support (MRS) effort. The work is focused on the historic modeling period (2005-07). Precipitation data is being reviewed and compiled, work on croplands are being analyzed, and working with NCDOT to update the road database. The transitional monitoring program was briefly discussed.

Ongoing Discussions with DEQ – Forrest updated the Board on the ongoing discussions with Department of Environmental Quality and the Division of Water Resources. The items being discussed include: setting up a meeting to review the comprehensive UNRBA Monitoring Report, a site-specific chlorophyll-a standard for Falls, the Alternative Implementation Approach, 303(d) evaluations of Falls Lake, and a memorandum of agreement with DWR related to the agency's review and consideration of the UNRBA's Falls Lake reexamination effort. Forrest also noted the EMC recently approved the nutrient rules for waters other than Falls and Jordan which included the nutrient trading or offset rule. That package will be provided to the Rules Review Commission (RRC). The EMC in the approved trading rule specifically included Falls and Jordan. These changes would supersede the trading guidance already in the Falls Lake Rules. The nutrient rules would establish a more costly trading ratio for Falls and the inclusion of the Falls watershed was not included in the public notice. In addition, the General Assembly passed session law that prevents any changes in the Falls and Jordan nutrient rules until the work of the Collaboratory and for the Falls, the UNRBA Reexamination. Following discussion, Forrest recommended the Board authorize the Executive Director, in consultation with the Legal Workgroup, to develop a comment letter to the RRC pointing out these issues with the trading rule. Barry Baker made the motion to approve the recommendation of the Executive Director, seconded by Sally Green, and approved by the Board.

Communication Support Status – Forrest reported the UNRBA timeline graphic has been finalized. The timeline graphically illustrates what has been accomplished by the UNRBA and the tasks yet to be completed. The UNRBA Stakeholder Forum will be scheduled in late January or early February 2020. Work continues on an "Elected Officials Orientation" package. He referenced the availability of materials for communication about the UNRBA at the informational website:
<https://upperneuse.org/>.

The next scheduled Board meeting will be November 20, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. With no other business, the meeting was adjourned.