

UNRBA Board of Directors April 29, 2003 Meeting Summary

Prepared May 1, 2003

Our mission: To preserve and protect the water quality in the Upper Neuse River Basin through innovative, cost effective and environmentally sound strategies and to create a coalition of local governments and stakeholders in a water resources partnership.

The Board of Directors of the Upper Neuse River Basin Association (UNRBA) met at 10:00 A.M. on Tuesday, April 29, 2003 in the Triangle J Council of Governments conference room. The objectives of the meeting were to:

- UNRBA Update;
- Budget;
- Watershed Management Plan Endorsement; and
- Next steps toward Plan implementation.

Meeting attendees are listed below.

Name	Organization	E-mail address or phone
Board Members		
Tom McGee	Town of Butner	tom.mcgee@ncmail.net
Jack Day	Town of Stem	jackielday@aol.com
Vivian Jones	Wake Forest	joyce.wilson@ci.wake-forest.nc.us
Tom Davidson	Durham Soil & Water	tcdavidson@nc.rr.com
Janet Cowell	Raleigh	jrcowell@mindspring.com
Joe Phelps	Hillsborough	mayorjoephelps@mindspring.com
Cora Cole-McFadden	City of Durham	cocomac27@cs.com
Kenn Gardner	Wake County	citizens4kenn@aol.com
Jimmy Clayton	Person County	336-364-8520
Ellen Reckhow	Durham County	ereckhow@aol.com
Joel Cross	Creedmoor	jcross4620@aol.com
Becky Heron	Durham County	919-489-4402
Ron Allgood	Granville County	919-693-4761
Tom Altieri (for Barry Jacobs)	Orange County	taltieri@co.orange.nc.us
Others		
George Norris	NCWRP	George.Norris@ncmail.net
Paula Murphy	Person County	PMurphy@personcounty.net
Chris Dreps	UNRBA	dreps@tjcoq.org
Derek Day	Person County	336-364-8520
H. Dale Crisp	City of Raleigh	crispd@raleigh-nc.org
Nancy Newell	City of Durham	
Matthew Winslow	Franklin County	mwinslow@co.franklin.nc.us
Syd Miller	TJCOG	Smiller@tjcoq.org
Kimberly Brewer	Tetra Tech Inc.	kimberly.brewer@tetrattech.com

Introductions and Meeting Objectives

Chris Dreps began the meeting by asking participants to introduce themselves. He then presented the meeting objectives:

- UNRBA Update;
- Budget; and
- Watershed Management Plan Endorsement.

UNRBA Update

Ellerbe Creek Watershed Management Plan will be presented to Durham City Council in May 2003. This plan is consistent with UNRBA Plan.

Site Evaluation Tool: Looking at steps necessary to modify Huntersville & Mecklenburg County model. Possible NPS funds from state to fund it.

Becky Heron (Durham County) stated that she would like Tetra Tech to provide a presentation to the Board of the Site Evaluation Tool model (similar to report made to TAC). Potentially, some implementation funding could go for to providing set model for local government to use in the Upper Neuse.

LID Projects: Wake County Schools would be the lead on the East Millbrook Middle School project. UNRBA will assist in writing grants to fund this.

Watershed Wide Monitoring: USGS proposal to UNRBA and local governments to create watershed assessment tool using National Hydrography Dataset.

Cost \$150,000

USGS will commit \$75,000, and NC Wetland Restoration Program may contribute funding for this.

FY 2004 Budget

Projected dues needed for 2004	\$86,242.
Extra funds needed for implantation work	\$18,340.
Total Project Cost	\$104,582.

Dues paid in FY 2003: \$70,961. (of total \$76,125 invoiced)

Chris Dreps presented three options for meeting the additional budget needs.

- 1) Hold dues at adjusted FY 2003 level and meet additional implementation expenses with up to \$26,000 from State Appropriation funding (from \$90,000 remaining in State Appropriation). \$64,000 of Appropriation available for consultant support.
- 2) Increase dues to \$86,242 and meet additional implementation costs with up to \$18,500 from State Appropriation (from \$90,000 remaining in State Appropriation). \$71,500 of Appropriation available for consultant support.
- 3) Increase dues to meet full \$106,800. Leave remaining 90,000 in State Appropriation for consulting services.

The Board moved to limit the use of the State Appropriation to \$18,400. The UNRBA Coordinator may use up to this amount for implementation activities. This amount may be reduced subject to any grant monies won.

The Board also moved that the \$86,242 in expenses come from the dues revenue. UNRBA Board members will refer back to local governments, and dues increases will be contingent on local budget approval.

The Board motion passed unanimously.

Watershed Management Plan Endorsement

Chris reviewed timetable and the definition for endorsement. Ron Alligood (Granville County) asked if Chris had discussed Plan endorsement with the appropriate TAC members. Chris answered that he had talked with TAC and other appropriate staff and received responses.

Discussion:

Jimmy Clayton (Person County) – Said doesn't mind presenting to local board. Feels uncomfortable "endorsing" plan. Despite the reviewed definition of endorsement, the common view of endorsement is "approved". Can't "approve" without approval of his local board.

Cora Cole-McFadden (City of Durham) – Recommended strategies of UNRBA would have to be endorsed as part of the local process and are not binding. Similar to Zoning or Planning Board recommendation. Finds that UNRBA endorsement does not bind local government.

Chris – Wake County in its Watershed Management Plan used the term "accepts"

Kenn Gardner (Wake County) suggested the UNRBA accept this report and direct it to local staff for further review and comment and then on to local board for their consideration.

Terry Rolan (Durham City Staff/Alternate to UNRBA Board) – Local government will only be voting on recommendations for its jurisdiction. Recommendations for other jurisdictions are not part of our decisionmaking process. Regional recommendations will have to be decided by future consensus.

Vivian Jones (Wake Forest) – One of the concerns is presenting it to the state. Is "accepting as good as "endorsement." Chris responded that the State agencies that have worked with us on the plan will be happy to see an acceptance of the plan for local consideration. This has been the understood mechanism for implementation all along.

Joe Phelps (Hillsborough) - Concerned that the growth projections in Hillsborough & Orange County are overrated. Feels that most of the impacts from urbanization are from the larger cities downstream.

Ellen Reckhow (Durham County) – Should there be incentives for upstream communities for implementing the plan? Chris responded that we can look into such approaches at balancing benefits and burdens. Some of implementation planning effort should be focused in this direction.

The Board moved that the language for a cover memo to accompany the Plan read that "the Upper Neuse River Basin Association Board of Directors accepts the Upper Neuse River Watershed Management Plan for the purpose of forwarding the Plan to local jurisdictions for their local government review and endorsement."

The final motion passed unanimously.

The Board accepts the Plan as delivered and authorizes Chris to take the Plan to local jurisdictions for their review and consideration.

Next Steps

The Board discussed taking the Plan to the State.

The Board recommended that Chris seek endorsement from key DENR Divisions (Soil and Water, Water Quality)

Tom Davidson (Soil and Water Conservation Districts) - Recommended taking Plan to Soil & Water Conservation Commission first.

Becky Heron (Durham County) – Requested an implementation schedule. Chris will work on scheduling right away.

Chris reviewed a general set of objectives and steps after endorsement, including the creation of "implementation teams" of key staff in each jurisdiction.

Adjourned at 12:00 P.M.