

# UNRBA Board of Directors July 25, 2007 Meeting Summary

Prepared July 26, 2007

---

*UNRBA 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.*

## **Introductions and Meeting Objectives**

The Upper Neuse River Basin Association (UNRBA) Board of Directors met at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, July 25, 2007 at the Falls Lake Operation Center. Wake Forest hosted the meeting.

UNRBA Chair Durham County Commissioner Becky Heron welcomed attendees, who then introduced themselves. Wake Forest Mayor Vivian Jones welcomed everyone to Wake Forest.

Meeting attendees are listed below (\* denotes UNRBA Director or Alternate Director).

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Tom McGee*	Town of Butner	tom.mcgee@ncmail.net
Kent Ray*	City of Creedmoor	klasics1@verizon.net
Becky Heron*	Durham County	beckymheron@nc.rr.com
Jimmy Clayton*	Person County	jimmyb31@juno.com
Ellen Wilkins*	Town of Stem	rejwilkins@aol.com
Vivian Jones*	Wake Forest	Mayor@wakeforestnc.gov
Nancy Newell	City of Durham Water Mgmt.	Nancy.Newell@durhamnc.gov
Dale Crisp*	Raleigh	Dale.Crisp@ci.raleigh.nc.us
Lindsay Mize*	SGWASA	sgwasa@granvillecounty.org
Kenn Gardner*	Wake County	Kenn.Gardner@county.wake.nc.us
Barry Baker	Granville County	barry.baker@granvillecounty.org
Holly Spring	Wake Forest	hspring@wakeforestnc.gov
Lee Squires	Wake County	lee.squires@co.wake.nc.us
Martin Stankus	Raleigh	martin.stankus@ci.raleigh.nc.us
Chris Dreps	UNRBA	dreps@tjcog.org
Shelby Powell	Kerr-Tar COG	spowell@kerrtarco.org
Sarah Bruce	UNRBA	sbruce@tjcog.org

Meeting agenda (\*denotes decision item):

- Announcements
- Housekeeping
- Legislative Update
- UNRBA Project Status
- Implementation Planning Progress Report\*
- UNRBA Staffing Changes\*

## **Announcements**

Fred Dancy, SGWASA Utilities Director, is the new UNRBA alternate Director from SGWASA.

Becky Heron encouraged all alternates to attend the BOD meetings.

Becky Heron announced a response letter from Jim Crawford stating to the UNRBA Board of Directors that the House Appropriations Committee provided full funding for CWMTF.

Chris Dreps announced his resignation effective in September.

### **UNRBA Housekeeping**

Tom Bellinger, a Ph.D. Candidate from the University of Phoenix, was to begin conducting a survey with the UNRBA last month. His nation-wide study examines leadership style and culture and their correlation with organizational effectiveness. The survey takes 15 minutes. Three Board members agreed to take the survey (Vivian Jones, Becky Heron, and Jack Day), and Chris Dreps will ask for TAC members and partners to take the survey. The condition is that Mr. Bellinger provides the UNRBA with a copy of the study and a summary of our group results.

Kenn Gardner agreed to take the survey.

### **Legislative Report**

#### **Deep Creek Reclassification**

Chris Dreps shared the UNRBA letter of support to the NC Division of Water Quality for the Deep Creek Reclassification (to Outstanding Resource Waters). The proposed effective date for the final rule is November 1, 2007 pending EPA approval.

#### **Falls Lake Nutrient Management Strategy (NMS)**

Chris Dreps reported that the entire Falls Lake Reservoir will be listed as impaired for chlorophyll *a* in the draft 2008 303(d) list. The upper portion of the lake may also be listed for turbidity.

The S981 timeline for adopting the NMS and rules will be impossible for the NCDWQ to meet. The UNRBA and TJCOG have begun meeting with NCDWQ to see if they have any strategies for meeting the July 2009 deadline. NCDWQ is trying to produce an approach to meet the timeline while allowing flexibility to create scientifically solid, sensible rules.

The Falls Lake Nutrient Management Strategy Stakeholder Process may begin as early as October 2007 (instead of March 2008). The UNRBA should complete the detailed management strategies and gap analysis prior to the stakeholder meeting where UNRBA findings are presented (March 2008).

The Board agreed that the TJCOG will host the NMS Stakeholder Process website. The Board gave the following guidance to UNRBA staff:

- TJCOG will host the website (as is done for Jordan Lake).
- The content of the web page as presented is acceptable
- The UNRBA must be front and center, both in content and visually...do not make this look too COG-driven.
- UNRBA should have page about the Falls Lake NMS and Stakeholder Process that links to the TJCOG-hosted Stakeholder website.
- The TJCOG site (and possibly the UNRBA page) should be "live" by the September 19 UNRBA Board meeting in Creedmoor.

Chris Dreps will send the draft stakeholder list to the UNRBA Board of Directors for their review and local vetting. Several Board members recommended that all UNRBA Directors should attend stakeholder meetings.

### **UNRBA Projects Status**

#### **Lick Creek**

Chris Dreps reported that the fieldwork, land use analysis, and watershed pollutant-loading model for the Lick Creek Watershed Restoration Plan have been completed. The Stakeholders and Project Partners will be working together to assess all this information during the fall and will begin to develop recommendations over the winter.

#### **NC EEP Phase IV Watershed Restoration Implementation Contract**

Chris announced the NC Ecosystem Enhancement Program Phase IV project discussed at the previous meeting is currently in a holding pattern as the UNRBA awaits the completion of the initial scope by the NC EEP and their consultant, Ecoscience, Inc. At that point the UNRBA will finalize its scope and contract and begin work on the project.

#### **EPA Targeted Watershed Grant Proposal**

Chris Dreps stated the UNRBA has not received word about our application for an EPA Targeted Watershed Grant to implement watershed restoration strategies in East Durham and land protection in the Little River watersheds. He will be following up with congressmen to determine if any contacts were made.

### **Implementation Planning Progress Report**

Sarah Bruce reported on progress regarding the approved implementation planning timeline (<ftp://ftp.tjcog.org/pub/unrba/unwmp/imptimeline.pdf>). Eleven recommendations have been approved by the Technical Advisory Committee, two are pending Board approval, four are under review, and three remain in the drafting process. Sarah also reported that the UNRBA has held 12 informational meetings about the Plan and implementation process with UNRBA member governments and SGWASA.

Sarah discussed approaches to increase local involvement in the implementation process. UNRBA directors confirmed their central role in communications between the UNRBA and local governments.

The Board discussed the Implementation Timeline and coordinating this timeline with the Nutrient Management Strategy Stakeholder process. Sarah requested that the next Implementation Steering Committee meeting focus on developing an approach to better coordinate Implementation Planning (particularly the prioritization process) with the Falls Lake Nutrient Management Strategy.

Sarah announced that the Focus Area analyses were beginning and that Local Management Strategy Review forms would be disseminated to local government partners; Board members and alternates will be carbon copied on the emails.

Sarah reported that the Implementation Steering Committee recommended the UNRBA staff create and disseminate a newsletter to all members of the UNRBA to provide updates, educate recipients, and stimulate discussion. Sarah shared a "dummy" copy of the newsletter. The

Board instructed the UNRBA to begin disseminating the bimonthly (every other month) newsletter in August. The Board member will be responsible for ensuring that the newsletter is disseminated to the appropriate people, departments, and programs. Board members present at the meeting gave Sarah contact information for their clerks, managers, and/or public information officers who will actually distribute the newsletter.

**UNRBA Staffing Changes\***

The Board held a closed discussion on Chris Dreps' resignation and steps that will need to be taken to replace the UNRBA Coordinator. The UNRBA Executive Committee will meet during the next two weeks to work out the details for hiring a new staff member and potential overlap between Chris Dreps and the new Coordinator.

**Next Meeting**

The next UNRBA Board of Directors' meeting will be hosted by the City of Creedmoor on September 19, 2007 at 11:30 a.m. at Pergamon Restaurant in Creedmoor.