

# UNRBA Board of Directors September 19, 2007 Meeting Summary

Prepared September 21, 2007

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*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.*

**The next UNRBA Board of Directors' meeting will be  
November 28, 2007 at 11:00 a.m.**

## **Introductions and Meeting Objectives**

The Upper Neuse River Basin Association (UNRBA) Board of Directors met at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 19, 2007 at the Pergamon Restaurant in Creedmoor. Granville County hosted the meeting.

UNRBA Chair Durham County Commissioner Becky Heron welcomed attendees, who introduced themselves. Granville County Commissioner Ron Alligood welcomed everyone to southern Granville County, and briefly discussed the biotechnical facility that may potentially be located in Butler.

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

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Tom Altieri*	Orange County Planning	taltieri@co.orange.nc.us
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
Scott Miles*	Wake Forest	SMiles@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
Ron Alligood*	Granville County	grancomrs@granvillecounty.org
Barry Baker	Granville County	barry.baker@granvillecounty.org
Robert Rosenthal*	Soil & Water Conservation	rosenthal@mindspring.com
Max Rogers	Franklin County Planning	mrogers@franklincountync.us
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 Update
- Implementation Planning: Focus Areas
- Buffer Maintenance Postcard Mailing: Potential Collaboration with the NC Clean Water Education Partnership\*

## **Announcements**

Becky Heron welcomed two new Alternate Directors to the Board: Scott Miles for the Town of Wake Forest and Ellen Wilkins for the Town of Stem.

## **UNRBA Housekeeping**

The Board discussed the status of hiring a new Director for the UNRBA. Sarah Bruce will stay on as Interim Director until the new Director is chosen. The Executive Committee will review the applications and make a recommendation to the full Board at the next meeting. If action is needed prior to the next meeting, Becky Heron will contact Shelby Powell, who will then poll the Board regarding the recommended candidate.

Sarah Bruce indicated the August issue of the newsletter had been emailed at the beginning of September, and the next issue should be sent out in October. Board members were encouraged to share items of interest with Sarah for inclusion in future editions of the newsletter to get the word out about UNRBA activities and issues.

Sarah Bruce stated that new member notebooks would be prepared and distributed at the next Board meeting. The notebooks will include copies of the Watershed Management Plan, meeting materials, maps, and other items that would be useful for the Board.

## **Legislative Report**

### ***Interbasin Transfer Law***

Sarah Bruce provided some basic information on the S.L. 2007-518 Interbasin Transfer Law (for transfers of two million gallons per day or more, it requires public involvement and notification, as well as water conservation and drought management plans). Lindsay Mize added that the requirements also apply to requests for expanded transfers over two million gallons per day. The members agreed that this was an important issue that would need to be watched closely.

### ***Falls Lake Nutrient Management Strategy***

The Falls Nutrient Management Strategy stakeholder process could begin as early as November 2007. The Division of Water Quality is trying to develop a timeline for development of the strategy that will satisfy stakeholders and the requirements of Senate Bill 981.

Sarah Bruce reported that the water quality monitoring on the lake is wrapping up. The upper portion of Falls Lake is likely to be listed on the state's 2008 303(d) list under the Clean Water Act as impaired for turbidity, and the entire lake is likely to be listed as impaired for chlorophyll *a*.

## **UNRBA Projects Status**

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

Sarah Bruce reported that the proposal UNRBA submitted was not selected, but that she had spoken with EPA staff on how to strengthen the application for next time and anticipated re-applying in the future if the program is funded.

### ***Lick Creek/ NC EEP Phase IV Watershed Restoration Implementation Contract***

The Lick Creek Plan is close to wrapping up, and its findings will be incorporated into the EEP Phase IV project. This contract will be to identify and implement restoration projects in the Ellerbe, Lick, Little Lick, Lake Rogers and Swift Creek watersheds. Details of the contract are still under discussion. Sarah Bruce will keep the Board apprised of progress.

### ***Home Depot Tree Planting Grant***

The Center for Watershed Protection assisted with getting a grant to plant trees in Lick and Little Lick Creek watersheds and to educate land owners and help select sites for targeted tree planting. Details of the grant are still being worked out, and Sarah Bruce will keep the Board apprised of progress.

### **Implementation Planning: Focus Areas**

Sarah Bruce reminded the Board that a Focus Area is a geographic area of the basin where a given management strategy would be most applicable. Sarah then showed an example of how a Focus Area might be used for the sediment and erosion control strategy. Becky Heron stated that it was important for counties and cities to take control of managing sediment and erosion because the state did not have enough staff to adequately serve the entire state. Dale Crisp stated that DENR had asked for money for an incentive program to persuade counties to do their own sediment and erosion control, but that he didn't know the status of the legislation. Sarah agreed to check on that. Lindsay Mize stated that some programs were requiring that type of work as part of grant conditions.

Sarah Bruce updated the Board on Local Management Strategy Reviews, and discussed how these would work with Focus Areas to produce a Gap Analysis. The Gap Analysis will help UNRBA staff, local governments, and others working in the basin to target their efforts to the areas of greatest need and effectiveness.

### **UNRBA and CWEP Collaboration**

Sarah Bruce reported that the Clean Water Education Partnership was about to undertake a major postcard mailing to riparian land owners on buffer identification and maintenance. Since Kerr-Tar local governments in the Upper Neuse are not members of CWEP, Sarah proposed that UNRBA partner with CWEP to cover the \$2,250 cost of mailing postcards to riparian land owners in those areas. (The current UNRBA contingency fund contains \$63,651.) **Lindsay Mize moved, and Kent Ray seconded, to use UNRBA contingency funds to cover the \$2,250 to include Kerr-Tar areas in CWEP's postcard mailing.** There being no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

### **Next Meeting**

The next UNRBA Board of Directors' meeting will be hosted by the City of Durham on November 28, 2007 at 11:00 a.m. (The Board's usual meeting date fell on the day before Thanksgiving, so the Board changed it to this new date.) Becky Heron requested the Board meeting start 30 minutes earlier than usual; the Board also agreed to this change. Sarah Bruce will notify the Board of the new date and time, and will check on the meeting facility availability for the new date.