

UNRBA Implementation Steering Committee June 22, 2007 (Meeting 4) Summary

Prepared June 22, 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.

Meeting Objectives

The Implementation Steering Committee (ISC) of the Upper Neuse River Basin Association (UNRBA) met at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, June 22, 2007 in the Triangle J Council of Governments conference room.

Meeting agenda:

- Local involvement update
- Internal Education and Communication
- Next ISC Meeting

Meeting attendees are listed below.

Name	Organization	E-mail address
Nancy Newell	City of Durham, Water Management	nancy.newell@durhamnc.gov
Barry Baker	Granville County, Planning	planning@granvillecounty.org
George Rogers	City of Raleigh, Public Utilities	george.rogers@ci.raleigh.nc.us
Melinda Clark	Wake County, Environmental Services	melinda.clark@co.wake.nc.us
Sarah Bruce	Upper Neuse River Basin Association	sbruce@tjcog.org
Shelby Powell	Kerr-Tar Council of Governments	spowell@kerrtarco.org

Local Involvement Update

Sarah informed the group most presentations to local governments had been conducted. However, there was quite a bit of variation in how much time we had to present, the body we presented to, and who else attended. We did invite local governments to participate in the implementation planning effort and give them all a "heads-up" about the upcoming Falls Lake Nutrient Management Strategy ("Falls NMS").

Internal Education and Communication

The ISC then discussed how these presentations should be followed up on. The Board of Directors had expressed that they should be responsible for identifying appropriate staff to involve in the effort; however, it is also the case that managers have a more direct role in providing staff with guidance on their responsibilities. One way to begin to work through "who should be involved" is to determine who should receive communications from the UNRBA on our work.

The ISC agreed that the Implementation Planning effort and communications with the UNRBA membership should leverage and be well integrated with the Falls NMS. The ISC said that UNRBA has a critical role to play in providing information to its membership in this regard. **The**

ISC therefore recommends to the UNRBA Board of Directors that staff develop and distribute a brief newsletter on Basin issues and regulations. The newsletter would contain information on the Falls NMS (timeline, modeling info), Implementation Planning, the Jordan Lake Nutrient Management Strategy, other applicable regulations (as space allows), a glossary of regulatory terms, a map of the Basin and Basin local governments, upcoming UNRBA meetings, and upcoming Falls NMS stakeholder meetings (once they commence). The newsletter should be distributed to the membership in time for them to forward it around to other staff and raise any issues with their UNRBA liaison before the next UNRBA Board of Directors meeting. Sarah will talk with Chris Dreps about the frequency of the newsletter and how it can be produced without affecting the timeliness of other deliverables.

The Board of Directors will consider this recommendation at their July meeting. The Board will also need to determine who UNRBA staff should send the newsletter to versus who UNRBA participants should be responsible for forwarding it to, such as other local elected officials, legal staff, clerks, public information officers, and other staff (via email, fax, or paper copy).

The ISC agreed that it would be appropriate to post the newsletters on the UNRBA website and to have past newsletters available there.

The ISC briefly discussed creating a listerv to disseminate the newsletter and/or conduct other business related to the Falls NMS. Sarah will talk with Sydney Miller (TJCOG Water Resources Program Manager) and find out what he has in mind for stakeholder group communication mechanisms.

The ISC also specifically discussed the need for information on

- regulatory watershed management basics (e.g., what is a TMDL)
- the implications of different requirements (e.g., with regard to minimum lot sizes)
- sources of costs of watershed management that would enable local governments to estimate the impacts of particular programs (similar to what is included in the Recommendation Sheets, but with more detail and examples)
- how the UNRBA membership can participate in these regulatory and planning processes
- what happens if statutory deadlines are not met (the “stick”)

Next ISC Meeting

The topic of the next meeting is to be determined. The group will meet after the Board of Directors’ July meeting.

Sarah Bruce will solicit dates for the next ISC meeting from the group via email.