

**Board of Directors Meeting Agenda**  
January 15, 2020, 9:30 AM to Noon  
Butner Town Hall

Materials related to this BOD Meeting have been placed on the UNRBA website unless noted otherwise on the [Meeting page](#).

See items under the January 15, 2020 meeting date. A direct link to the meeting presentation is provided [here](#).

- I. **Opening—Sig Hutchinson, Chair**
  - A. **Introductions and Announcements**
  - B. **Roll Call for Quorum**
  - C. **Identification of any Conflicts**
  - D. **Review agenda**
- II. **Action Items**
  - A. **Approval of [November 20, 2019 Meeting Minutes](#)**
  - B. **Approval of the [Treasurer’s Report](#)**
  - C. **FY 2021 Budget Setting Schedule and Perspective UNRBA Membership Fee Schedule for FY2020-21**
  - D. **Officer Elections for 2020: Nominating Committee Recommendations**

Item Summary (Bill McKellar, Committee Chair): The Bylaws for the UNRBA call for its Annual Meeting to be held in January and provides for the election of Association Officers for the calendar year. The Board appointed a Nominating Committee during the November 20, 2019 Board Meeting to make recommendations at the January Meeting. A summary of the recommendations will be provided.
  - E. **Personnel Committee Report:**

Item Summary (Don O’Toole, Committee Chair)

The annual review of Executive Director Services was done at a meeting on December 17, 2020. This is done every year. A summary of the meetings and findings of the Committee will be presented to the Board. If there are specific recommendations from the Committee, a request for Board action will be made.
  - F. **Interim Alternative Implementation Approach for Stage I Existing Development**

Item Summary (Forrest Westall, Executive Director): A summary of the status of the UNRBA’s work to develop a [Program Description](#) will be presented during the Status Reports portion of the meeting. Following that presentation, the Board will be asked to provide authorization to move forward with developing program specifics as well as reviewing options for implementation for a report to the Board in March.
  - G. **[UNRBA Decision Framework](#) Guidance Document**

Item Summary (Forrest Westall): Details on this will be presented in the Status Reports portion of the meeting. Following review of the process, this guidance document will be presented and the PFC and Executive Director will present a recommendation for Board action.

**H. Use of Project Match to Support Application for Grant Funds to Support Model Code Development**

Item Summary (Forrest Westall): A summary of the status of the UNRBA's application for grant funds to support development of model code to simulate many types of onsite wastewater treatment systems will be presented during the Status Reports portion of the meeting. Following that presentation, the Board will be asked to approve use of project task 321 as a match for the grant application.

**III. Status Reports and Informational Items**

**A. Review of the Stage I Existing Development Interim Alternative Implementation Approach (IAIA) [Program Description](#):**

Item Summary (Forrest Westall): The UNRBA PFC and the IAIA Workgroup provided the Board with an IAIA Framework document at the November 2019 Board meeting during which the Board authorized continued work on a Program Description. The Draft IAIA Program Description was distributed to the Board on January 8, 2020. The Program Description provides additional details about how the program would be implemented and focuses on providing flexibility in the program components. Next steps, should the Board decide to continue to further develop the Program, would be the review and evaluation of available regulatory pathways to put a specific program in place. Staff from DWR participate in the IAIA Workgroup meetings, and discussions continue to identify the best option for moving forward if the Board decides to continue developing this option. It is requested that on the basis of the Program Description, the Board authorize the PFC and the Executive Director to proceed with exploring regulatory options and to bring an updated report and recommendation to the March Board meeting. Board action is not approval of a final IAIA nor is it a commitment by member(s) to participate in the IAIA. This authorization would allow us to move forward with developing additional program detail and identify the implementation approach that will be necessary to put such a program in place. The Board will have final approval on the actual program provisions, authorize putting the program in place, and, if a program is approved and put in place, the UNRBA members individually would then determine if they are to participate in the program.

**B. Review of the [UNRBA Decision Framework](#):**

Item Summary (Forrest Westall): The PFC has been evaluating the decision-making processes used by the UNRBA and has documented the process already used by the UNRBA for decision making. That process was incorporated in a Framework document and distributed to the Board on January 8, 2020. This decision-making framework document supports this process, and the PFC supports the UNRBA's consensus-based approach for making decisions in the future. Those participating in the sessions consider this process as being a very transparent and effective process. The last of three focused sessions took place during the December PFC meeting during which the Decision Framework document was finalized. The PFC approved the final document on January 7, 2020 during the January PFC meeting and approved submittal for review by the Board. The Decision Framework was provided to the Board for their review, and we will be seeking approval of the Framework document as UNRBA guidance moving forward.

**C. Review of the RRC Meeting Results**

Item Summary (Forrest Westall): The Executive Director, Don O’Toole and Dan McLawhorn attended the December 19, 2019 Meeting of the RRC and presented the UNRBA’s comments and objection to the provision in the nutrient offset rule to reference Falls Lake specifically. This addition to the rule is in conflict with the Session Law and represents a potential cost to jurisdictionally owned WWTPs in the watershed in the future implementation of the provisions of the Falls Lake Nutrient Management Strategy. The results of this meeting and the decision of the RRC will be reviewed.

**D. Modeling and Regulatory Support (MRS) Status:**

Item Summary (Alix Matos): The UNRBA is in the process of re-examining the Falls Lake Nutrient Management Strategy that was adopted by the State in 2011. This Strategy requires the most costly nutrient load reductions passed in North Carolina. The multi-year timeline for the re-examination will be provided to the Board to orient the new members. The interactions between 303(d) listing procedures, site specific chlorophyll-a criteria, and the re-examination are being tracked by the legal workgroup and subject matter experts (to be discussed in Section III F). The status of the watershed modeling efforts will be summarized:

- The Modeling Team is finalizing the land use data for input into the recent modeling period (2014 to 2018). This data includes agricultural data provided by the NC Department of Agriculture, DOT-maintained roads data provided by NC Department of Transportation, and designated of developed areas into existing development, new development, and interim development.
- Preliminary hydrologic calibration of simulated river flows compared to observations recorded by the US Geologic Survey indicate the model is performing well. This work continues to improve model performance.
- The Modeling Team is working with DWR to secure grant funding to support revisions to the watershed model code to expand the types of onsite wastewater treatment systems that can be simulated by the model. The Board will consider using part of the current year Modeling and Regulatory Support project as project match for the grant application.
- The next Modeling and Regulatory Support Workgroup meeting is scheduled for February 4<sup>th</sup> before the PFC meeting during which preliminary calibration results will be shared.

**E. Monitoring Program Status:**

Item Summary (Alix Matos): The UNRBA currently implements a scaled-back Transition Monitoring program which includes monthly nutrient sampling at 12 locations and total organic carbon sampling at 6 of these stations. Data from other organizations including DWR provides additional data in the watershed. The PFC has discussed potential changes to the program for FY2021 at the past several PFC meetings. During the January PFC meeting, PFC members voted to recommend that the Board discontinue the Transition Monitoring Program for budget considerations for Fiscal Year 2021.

**F. Ongoing DEQ Discussions/Issues:**

Item Summary (Forrest Westall):

- In June, the Board suggested that the UNRBA schedule a meeting with DEQ to review the findings of the 2019 Annual Monitoring Report. DWR has been contacted and the meeting will be scheduled within the next couple of months.
- The relationships among the re-examination, 303(d) assessment procedures, need for a site-specific chlorophyll-a criterion(a), NC Numeric Nutrient Criteria Development Plan, the work of the Scientific Advisory Council, and the evaluation by the UNC Collaboratory.
- Depending on outcome of UNRBA discussions, continue to engage DEQ/DWR on the IAIA and seek agreement on the provisions of such an approach and how best to put such a program in place
- Continue to engage DEQ in the technical stakeholder sessions and secure input to modeling as it is being developed
- Continue discussions with DEQ on the Memorandum of Agreement/ Understanding—provide additional input on regulatory conditions for the Reexamination

**G. Communications Support Status:**

Item Summary (Forrest Westall): Based on input from the PFC and the Board, the Stakeholder Forum on Falls Lake Regulatory Considerations has been planned for the afternoon of February 12, 2020. The target audience for this Forum will be management leadership at the local government level. A “save the date” communication was distributed November, and invitations to jurisdictional leaders and elected officials were emailed in December (additional invitations will be emailed after newly elected officials take office). Board and PFC Members are encouraged to follow-up with your decision-makers. We already have several folks registered, but some have not.

As a reminder, presentation support materials are available for review on the [Resource Library page](#). If you use any of these presentation materials, please complete the communication tool use tracking survey : <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/UNRBA>.

**H. Release of Final Report on Jordan Lake by the UNC Collaboratory**

As required under NC General Assembly Session Law, the Policy Collaboratory at UNC has released its final report on Jordan Lake. This report summarizes policy recommendations and the research work performed to evaluate the Lake and the nutrient management strategy. The North Carolina Policy Collaboratory was established in the summer of 2016 by the North Carolina General Assembly for the purposes of facilitating the dissemination of the policy and research expertise of the University of North Carolina for practical use by state and local government. The Collaboratory’s Final Jordan Lake Report and supporting research provides some helpful insights for the Falls Lake Reexamination. We will provide a brief update on the report with a more thorough review planned for the March Board meeting.

**IV. Closing Comments—Chair Sig Hutchinson**

**Next MRSW Meeting: February 4, 2020, 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM, Butner Town Hall**

**Next PFC Meeting: February 4, 2020, 10:40 AM to 1:00 PM, Butner Town Hall**

**Next BOD Meeting: March 18, 2020, 9:30 AM to Noon, Butner Town Hall**