



UNRBA Board Meeting September 21, 2022

Hybrid Format: Butner Town Hall with Remote Option



Remote Access for UNRBA Board Meetings

Equipment Type	Access Information	Notes
Computers with microphones and speakers	Join Microsoft Teams Meeting Please mute your microphone unless you want to provide input.	Press control and click on this link to bring up Microsoft Teams through the internet. You can view the screen share and communicate through your computer's speakers and microphone.
Computers without audio capabilities, or audio that is not working	Join Microsoft Teams Meeting (888) 404-2493 Passcode: 981 714 577# Please mute your phone unless you want to provide input.	Follow instructions above. Turn down your computer speakers, mute your computer microphone, dial the number through your phone and enter the passcode.
Phone only	(888) 404-2493 Passcode: 981 714 577# Please mute your phone unless you want to provide input.	Dial the toll-free number and enter the passcode.

Remote Access Guidelines

- This meeting will open 30 minutes prior to the official meeting start time to allow users to test equipment and ensure communication methods are working
- If you dial in through your phone, mute your microphone and turn down your speakers to avoid feedback
- Unless you are speaking, please mute your computer or device microphone and phone microphone to minimize background noise
- UNRBA meetings are open meetings; however, for this remote access meeting, please limit the discussion to UNRBA Board Members to facilitate moving through action items

September 21, 2022, UNRBA Board Agenda

- **Opening—Sig Hutchinson, Chair**
- **Action Items of UNRBA Board of Directors**
 - Approval of June 15, 2022, Meeting Minutes
 - Approval of the Treasurer's Report
 - Review IRS Form 990
 - Board Decision on Surplus Property
- **Status Reports and Informational Items**
 - Update software for technical website
 - Interim Alternative Implementation Approach (IAIA)
 - EMC Approval of the High Rock Lake Site-specific Chlorophyll-a Standards
 - Modeling and Regulatory Support for the Re-examination of Stage II
 - Ongoing Development of the Revised Nutrient Management Strategy and Regulatory Options for the Chlorophyll-a Water Quality Standard
 - Communications
 - Ongoing Discussions/Issues
- **Closing Comments**

Opening—Sig Hutchinson

Opening

- Introductions, Board member changes, and announcements
- Roll call for quorum
- Identification of any conflicts
- Review and approval of agenda

Action Items of UNRBA Board of Directors

**Approval of June 15, 2022
Meeting Minutes**

Approval of the Treasurer's Report

Balance Forward: (per bank statement - 5/31/2022)	Checking	\$	305,504.74
	Savings		573,609.32
Debits:			
McGill Asso. (2022 Invs)		\$	69,391.91
Sauber Water Quality Consulting (2022 Invs)			8,568.00
Brown & Caldwell (MRS, FY 22, Invs)			108,250.44
Phthisic Consulting, Inc. (2022 Invs)			1,121.53
MFG Consulting, LLC (2022 Invs)			780.00
Total Debits		\$	188,111.88
Credits:			
Interest (checking)		\$	146.15
Interest (savings)			1,207.41
Membership Fees (FY 2023)			615,694.90
Account Balance (per bank statement - 8/31/2022)	Checking	\$	733,233.91
	Savings		574,816.73
Total UNRBA Account Balance :		\$	1,308,050.64
Outstanding invoices/deposits in process since the close of bank statement (8/31/2022):			
Debits:			
McGill Asso. (2022 Invs)		\$	15,161.82
Brown & Caldwell (MRS, FY 22, 2022 Invs)			39,136.91
MFG Consulting, LLC (2022 Invs)			300.00
Sauber Water Quality Consulting (2022 Invs)			1,470.00
Phthisic Consulting, Inc. (2022 Invs)			93.75
Brown & Caldwell (MRS, FY 23, 2022 Invs)			90,803.71
Barnes & Thornburg (Legal, 2022 Inv)			1,117.50
The Insurance Shoppe (O & D Insur. Inv)			1,186.00
Penn National (Gen Liability Ins Inv)			646.00
Credits:			
Transfer from Savings to Checking		\$	-
Current Account Balances:	Checking		677,071.43
	Savings		574,816.73
Total UNRBA Account Balance :		\$	1,251,888.16

Review IRS Form 990

Board Decision on Surplus Property

- The UNRBA purchased an inflatable boat during the UNRBA Monitoring Program to assist with collection of bathymetric data along the lake shoreline and lake arms.
- The purchase was made when the contract was with Cardno, Inc. and the boat was transferred to the care of Brown and Caldwell when the contract was executed with that firm.
- Since the monitoring program is no longer active, the boat is no longer needed.
- The PFC, MRSW, and the Board in March discussed options for transferring the property to a member government or non-profit organization
- In March, the Board declared the boat and associated equipment as surplus property
- In May, the Board discussed two potential organizations who had expressed interest in a boat
- Since May, the UNRBA has only been able to make contact with one of these parties, Granville County
- The Executive Director recommends transferring the property to Granville County who indicates the Sherriff's Department has need for the boat
- **The Board will vote on transferring the property to Granville County**

Status Reports and Informational Items

Update Software for Technical Website

Update Software for the Technical Website

- The technical website (unrba.org) was developed on a software version that is no longer being supported.
- The software needs to be updated to the latest version.
- This cost can be accommodated with the funds set aside in previous years for this purpose

Status of Interim Alternative Implementation Approach (IAIA)

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- Implementation of the IAIA began July 1, 2021
- Year one of the program ended June 30, 2022.
- Annual reports reflecting first-year investment commitments are due to DWR and the UNRBA Compliance Group Committee (CGC) by September 30, 2022.
- The CGC will submit a joint-compliance report to DWR by November 30, 2022.
- Reporting templates are available; please email the Executive Director if you need a copy of the template
- DWR presented the IAIA joint compliance program to the Water Quality Committee and Environmental Management Commission at the September 2022 meetings
- DWR also presented the one local program to the EMC for Roxboro
- DWR provided draft slides to the Executive Director for review prior to the presentations
- The EMC approved the IAIA. This is the final agency approval under the Falls Lake Rule for Existing Development.
- The EMC also approved Roxboro's local program

EMC Approval of the High Rock Lake Site-specific Chlorophyll-a Standards

EMC approval of the High Rock Lake Site-Specific Chlorophyll-a Standards (July 14, 2022)

- Previously, UNRBA Board authorized the Executive Director to submit a comment letter to DWR and the EMC. The Board also authorized the Executive Director to, if necessary, send a letter of objection to the Rules Review Commission (RRC) if the final EMC site-specific standard for High Rock Lake failed to adequately address UNRBA's concerns.
- In the final rule approved, some of the UNRBA concerns were addressed and others were not.
- The Yadkin-Pee Dee River Basin Association and the NC Water Quality Association, which include members directly affected by the site-specific standard, decided to accept the revised language and not file objection letters.
- DWR staff has informally said that the High Rock Lake site-specific standard does not directly affect the opportunities for a Falls Lake site-specific standard.
- The UNRBA Executive Director, in consultation with the Executive Committee, decided to not file an objection letter on behalf of the UNRBA. This was reported to the Board at the time this decision was made.

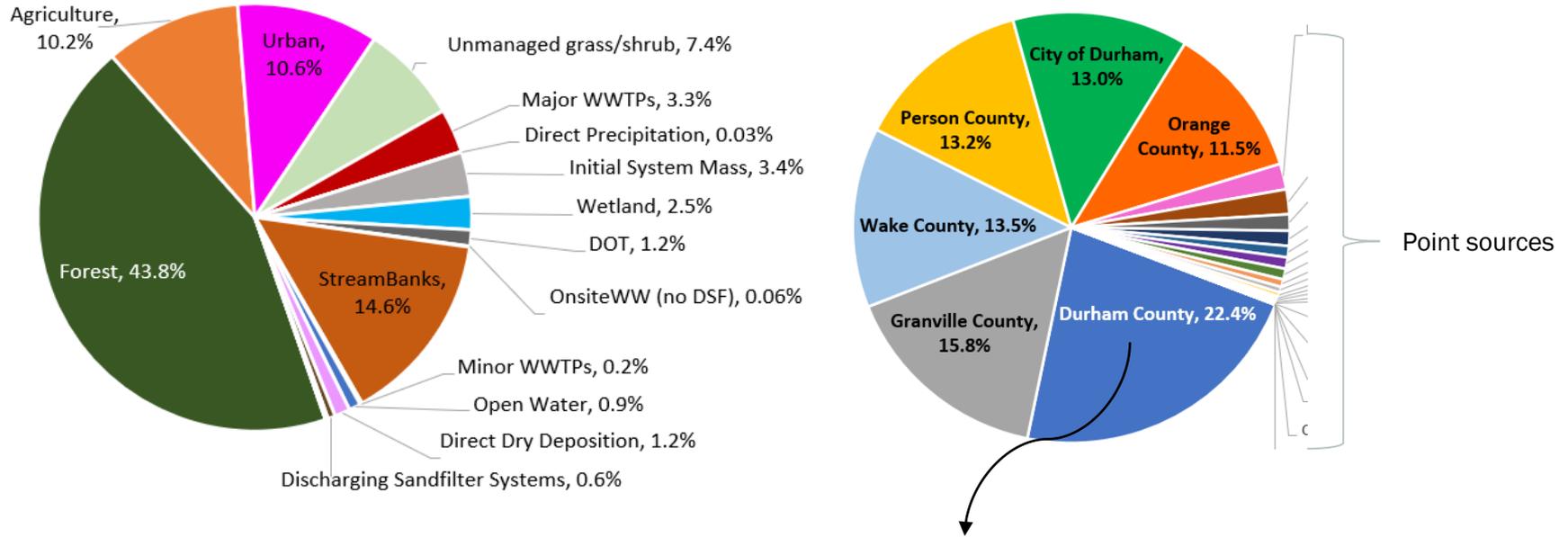
Modeling and Regulatory Support for the Re-examination of Stage II

Watershed Modeling Report Status

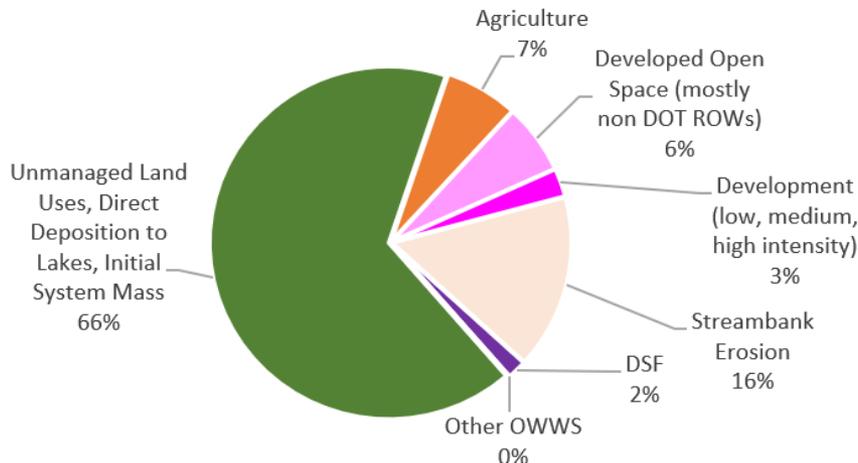
- The Watershed Analysis Risk Management Framework (WARMF) model for the Falls Lake watershed has been calibrated for stream flows and water quality
- The draft modeling report has been submitted to the Modeling and Regulatory Support Workgroup (MRSW) and DWR for review.
- The modeling team is compiling and responding to comments to prepare a final draft for review by the PFC followed by formal submittal to DWR.
- Appendix I of the report summarizes the nutrient loads delivered to Falls Lake for each jurisdiction by source (see example for total phosphorus on next slides).
- The final report and appendices will be distributed to the Board later this year.

Example Jurisdictional Loading, Total Phosphorus, Durham County

Total Phosphorus Delivered to Falls Lake (184,000 pounds per year) by source and jurisdiction:



Nonpoint sources in Durham County contribute 41,200 pounds per year (22.4%)



The Durham County allocations do not include land in the City of Durham or permitted dischargers.

Lake Modeling Status

- The three lake models are being developed
 - Water quality (WQ):
 - WARMF Lake
 - Environmental Fluid Dynamics Code (EFDC)
 - WQ and designated uses:
 - Statistical/Bayesian model
- The modeling team is coordinating local and national researchers to supplement the extensive database developed by the UNRBA, our members, and DWR.
 - Example: algal toxin data sets from the Center for Disease Control and Collaboratory-funded researchers
 - Both data sets indicate that concentrations in Falls Lake are relatively low
- Extensive vetting through identified SMEs, third-party reviewers, our membership representatives, and DWR

WARMF Lake Modeling Status

- At the August 2, 2022, MRSW meeting, draft calibration of the WARMF Lake model was presented and a potential list of sensitivity analyses were presented.
- Revised calibration statistics were presented during the September 6, 2022, PFC meeting.
- Updated statistics will be presented at the October MRSW meeting (near-final model)
- This model will be described and documented in the Lake Modeling Report for review internally and externally
- The modeling team is planning a workshop with DWR and UNRBA members interested in running the WARMF model to train users on the new model interface and the set up for Falls Lake.

EFDC Lake Modeling Status

- The model team is also working with the SMEs and DWR to continue to develop the EFDC model.
- Discussions in June and July focused on
 - Comparisons with algal biovolume data, chlorophyll-a concentrations, and Secchi depth collected in Falls Lake
 - Calibration of the model to chlorophyll-a concentrations
- Additional comparisons requested by DWR and the SMEs have been drafted into an appendix for inclusion in the lake modeling report

Statistical/Bayesian Lake Model Status

- The team is continuing to compile data and build statistical/Bayesian lake model
- On July 8, 2022, the Technical Advisors Workgroup (TAW) met to review some of the compiled data and to discuss potential categories to support decision making
- Categories are currently for discussion purposes only. Additional category discussions needed with topic experts
- The TAW meeting was to ensure the team's understanding of how different users and managers evaluate and apply these data and how potential categories may facilitate decision making (what matters to you or your organization)
- We anticipate revisions to the categories as the model is developed

Ongoing Development of the Revised Nutrient Management Strategy and Regulatory Options for the Chlorophyll-a Water Quality Standard

Ongoing Development of the Revised Nutrient Management Strategy and Regulatory Options for the Chlorophyll-a Water Quality Standard

- The Executive Director met with the DWR Director on June 17th
- The Executive Director and UNRBA subject matter experts met with the DWR Director and the leadership team on July 25th
- Both meetings discussed the goal of developing and following a collaborative approach to
 - Finalize the models
 - Develop a revised nutrient management strategy
 - Develop a petition for site specific criteria
- DWR will identify a contact for standards development
- The UNRBA will continue to work with other stakeholders on these items
- The subject matter experts continue to evaluate other State's site-specific standards for chlorophyll-a and nutrient-related standards as well as developing scientific reference materials
- Coordinate with Dr. Marty Lebo to integrate his work into the statistical modeling and regulatory support efforts

Communications

Upcoming Communication Efforts

- UNRBA technical stakeholders' workshop for Winter 2022: status of the modeling efforts, hear input on a revised nutrient management strategy
- Joint symposium with NC Policy Collaboratory in Spring/Summer 2023
- UNRBA stakeholders workshop in Fall 2023 to review final draft strategy—new initiative planned
- Coordination with communications staff from the local governments to leverage existing platforms, accounts, and distribution lists to reach the general public regarding the UNRBA's goals, objectives, and revised recommendations
- Recent staff changes at member local governments highlight the need for UNRBA engagement from multiple staff across the levels of each local government. The Executive Director will continue to reach out to local government staff to identify needs and support staff with implementation of the IAIA Program and participation in developing the revised nutrient management strategy.
- The “open” nature of all of the UNRBA meetings is a key component of a transparent communications approach.
- We continue to emphasize the importance of seeking Board member input to help identify their needs related to communicating the work of the UNRBA to their jurisdictions and the citizens of their local governments.

External Stakeholder Communication Needs

- Objectives continue to be reviewed relative to communication opportunities with stakeholders.
- To support the re-examination process and achieve broad support for the UNRBA recommendations, additional outreach to external stakeholders including DWR, DEQ, NGOs and other interested stakeholders is needed;
- Coordination with local leaders to convey messages and facilitate outreach will be necessary.
- This effort will require the support of the UNRBA membership, staff and Board representatives.
- As a reminder, the [Infographic](#) and [Fast Facts](#) are available online <https://upperneuse.org/resource-library>
- An [Overview of the Work of the UNRBA](#) provided to the UNC Collaboratory for inclusion in their reporting is available online <https://nutrients.web.unc.edu/resources/>

Ongoing Discussions/Issues

Ongoing Discussions/Issues

- Management of expectations and resources—A lot to do between now and recommendations in 2023—We need to move the effort forward efficiently and focus on the objective of making our recommendations
- Consideration of reengaging DEQ about the MOA
- Neuse Watershed Model Information Session / Delivery Factors for WWTP

Closing Comments

**Next UNRBA Board Meeting is Scheduled
for November 16, 2022**

**This meeting may have a hybrid format
pending meeting protocol decisions by
the Board**