

MEETING MINUTES

UPPER CAPE FEAR RIVER BASIN ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS/TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE JOINT MEETING

July 20, 2021
9:30 AM

Remote – Microsoft Teams

Attendees

NAME	AGENCY	CONTACT INFO
Grace Messinger	PTRC	gmessinger@ptrc.org
Maya Cough-Schulze	TJCOG	mcough-schulze@tjcog.org
Charlie Cocker	City of Durham	charlie.cocker@durhamnc.gov
Reginald Hicks	City of Durham	reginald.hicks@durhamnc.gov
Jennifer Hunter	OWASA	jhunter@owasa.org
Scott Bryan	City of Reidsville	sbryan@ci.reidsville.nc.us
Mark Vander Borgh	NC DWR	mark.vanderborgh@ncdenr.gov
Michael Rhoney	City of Asheboro	mrhoney@ci.asheboro.nc.us
Alicia Goots	City of Greensboro	alicia.goots@greensboro-nc.gov
Amanda Hancock	Meritech Labs	amanda.hancock@meritechlabs.org
Jonathan Baker	City of Durham (Stormwater)	jonathan.baker@durhamnc.gov
Morgan DeWitt	Town of Pittsboro	mdewitt@pittsboronc.gov
Bob Patterson	City of Burlington	bpatterson@ci.burlington.nc.us
Ben Bani	City of Burlington	bbani@ci.burlington.nc.us
Kent Jackson	Town of Pittsboro	Kjackson@pittsboronc.gov
Steve Tedder	TedderFarm Consulting	tedderfarmconsulting@gmail.com
Tim Smith	Chatham Park	tim@prestondev.com
Peter Raabe	American Rivers	praabe@americanrivers.org
Terry Houk	City of High Point	terry.houk@highpointnc.gov
Maria VanderLoop	Town of Cary	maria.vanderloop@townofcary.org
Sarah Braman	Town of Cary	sarah.braman@townofcary.org
Michael Glass	City of Randleman	mglass816@gmail.com
John Thomas	City of High Point	john.thomas@highpointnc.gov
Nora Deamer	NC DWR	Nora.deamer@ncdenr.gov
Tonya Mann	City of Graham	tmann@cityofgraham.com
Elijah Williams	City of Greensboro	elijah.williams@greensboro-nc.gov
Mike Templeton	NC DWR	Mtempleton@ncdenr.gov
Rebecca Murphy	Duke University	Rgm37@duke.edu

Maya Cough-Schulze opened meeting opened at 9:31am. No changes to the agenda were requested.

Open TAC, Maya Cough-Schulze, TJCOG

- Introductions were noted in Teams chat
- Maya reviewed agenda & invited any revisions

Organizational Report

- New PTRC Water Resources Planner- Grace Messinger

Grace introduced herself and gave brief background that she has experience in watershed restoration, management and planning projects. She formerly worked for Piedmont Conservation Council and worked in Upper Cape Fear River basin region over the last few years. She can be reached at gmessinger@ptrc.org or by 336-904-0300

Grace shared with the group that the insurance is up for renewal. It covers August 5, 2021 to August 5, 2022; the rates will change slightly compared to previous year; general liability will be about \$702 and public officials will be about \$1,797; Grace will submit application and coverage documents.

Grace shared that after today's meeting the current FY 2021-2022 dues will be sent out; noting any adjustments made during the Board meeting.

- New UCFRBA member Chatham Park

Tim Smith of Preston Development Company, which is leading the development of Chatham Park, introduced himself to the group. Chatham Park (CP) is a 7500-acre development being built in Pittsboro. The \$36m water reclamation facility is expected to be online as of September 1, 2021.

- Maya passed on from Meritech that Station B5390800 (downstream of Star WWTP) may be affected by a beaver dam above the sampling location. Mark Vander Borgh relayed that he talked with Wes more recently and the beaver dam is not impacting flow enough to compromise sampling.
- Maya reiterated that the QAQC subcommittee could use new members. They will be meeting in the next week or so – please email Dawn Molnar at dawn.molnar@highpointnc.gov to join!
- Maya led discussion regarding getting this group back together to meet in person in October. Regular location at Mebane Arts & Community Center does not have wi-fi/internet available for guests therefore cannot offer a hybrid meeting option. Members offered that we could bring a MiFi to the meeting so folks can still call/remote into meeting if not available or comfortable with in-person. As an additional option, Bob Patterson will investigate the use of the Impact Alamance meeting space that offers internet/hybrid option for UCFRBA's 1st in-person meeting to occur.
- UCFRBA By-Laws & Policy
Maya asked the TAC that if there needs to be any updates made to the Bylaws and/or policy in regard to bringing on/in new members to the Coalition?

Group discussed that since it happens so infrequently that the current Bylaws are fine for now. They stipulate new members can be introduced via intent in writing to the Coalition and fees be based on discharge volume ratio (current) or other factors set out in Bylaws.)

Updates from around the Upper Basin

- Durham- Construction project is winding down, phase 2 will start in August; will mostly focus on odor control facilities & redoing digester gas lines for a couple of our digesters
- Greensboro- Construction almost done; should be complete with our BNR system within next month; have some repairs to do on primary system and one of our final clarifiers
- OSWA- Late last year and early this year we replaced our gravity thickener with rotatory drum thickeners; we think we have worked out the details. We're in the very beginning stages of a wastewater master plan to re-evaluate the whole setup we have here.
- Pittsboro- New staff Morgan DeWitt
- Cary- No major construction; working on tabletop scenario planning exercises; Town celebrating 150th Anniversary; Cape Fear River Assembly in process of hiring new Executive Director; Town passed watershed protection fee
- City of High Point- Beginning design phase to upgrade for east side plant; targeted discharge is 6mgd discharge to be online about 2026-2027

Next Steps and Future Meeting Schedule, Maya Cough-Schulze, TJCOG

- Future meetings- regular space reserved for October 26th, final location option and offering of hybrid will be determined
- Maya asked group for ideas for future speakers/meeting topics
 - American Rescue Plan Acts funding- would it be useful for PTRC staff to present on use of funding or options at a regional and state level?
 - Nora Deamer (NCDWR) volunteered that she will be finishing the Haw chapter of River Basin plan update by late September/early October and could give a presentation on these updates
 - Michael Glass suggested a PFAS presentation

Please email Maya at mcough-schulze@tjcog.org with your preference between these topics, or any other speaker options you would find useful.

The meeting adjourned at 10:01am.

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Charlie Cocker opened the Board meeting at 10:06am.

Open Board Meeting, Charlie Cocker, City of Durham

- Meeting Minutes Review & Approval:
 - Terry Houk made a motion to approve the February 2021 meeting minutes with a 2nd from Elijah Williams; the motion pass unanimously.
- Agenda Review and Approval
 - Elijah Williams moved to approve today's agenda with a 2nd from Terry Houk; the motion pass unanimously.

Discuss Proposed Station Addition(s), Maya Cough-Schulze (TJCOG)

- Maya shared that NCDWR has requested the UCFRBA consider the establishment of two new monitoring stations, upstream and downstream of the new CP water resources recovery facility on Robeson Creek. This request was included in the permit renewal with the reasons of nutrient sensitive waters, phosphorus TMDL, Jordan Lake strategy, and impaired downstream benthos.
- Maya presented options for group discussion along with a map of the proposed new station locations. Mark Vander Borgh noted that currently there are no sampling locations along Robeson Creek.
- Information was shared that Chatham Park will add substantial development to Pittsboro area – 22,000 residential units and 60,000 people.
- A cost estimate from Meritech was reviewed. Maya presented options including costs of establishing one or both stations, with and without chlorophyll-a (due to expense.) Chatham Park is amenable to helping cover cost of new station as member dues have already been approved for FY21-22.
- Members were in general agreement that adding additional sampling/monitoring stations would be of benefit especially if no additional cost.
- DWR (Mark) volunteered to establish one station, if UCFRBA could cover the other. Which one-upstream or downstream?
- Discussion regarding funding/support of two new stations: Upstream would capture more non-point source issues; downstream would capture more direct effluent from discharge of plant
- Upstream station and is on public property so can be established readily – so Mark expressed that this would be beneficial if UCFRBA could establish.
- The group discussed when sampling could start in current FY 21-22. Answer: as soon as PTRC has amended the agreement with Meritech for additional services. (NCDWR MOA would also have to be revised to reflect addition/location of new station(s) once determined)
- NCDWR will investigate and work towards adding the one downstream sampling site to their monitoring program with final location TBD. Mark will connect with Tim Smith with option to access stream from CP property; an access agreement would have to be established.
- CP is willing to do their part however would like to work with Pittsboro on covering the cost of the new upstream station.
- If NCDWR is not able to cover cost/process for downstream station, Mark will revisit with UCFRBA but expects to be able to substantiate the need given UCFRBA willingness to cover cost of upstream station – thanks UCFRBA for their partnership!
- Recommendations, next steps
 - Motion made by Elijah Williams to establish one upstream station where sampling would start as soon as possible in current FY with the costs being split 50/50 between Chatham Park and Pittsboro to include Chlorophyll-a monthly sampling; the dues structure will be revisited and/or modified in the future as needed. Terry Houk seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
 - PTRC will work with Meritech to adjust contract for current FY 21-22
 - PTRC will adjust Pittsboro invoicing for FY21-22 based on new sampling location/charge
 - Dues structure and ongoing cost to cover station to be revisited prior to FY22-23 budget proposal

Next Steps, Closing Remarks and Future Meeting Schedule

The meeting adjourned at 10:56am.