**MEETING MINUTES**

UPPER CAPE FEAR RIVER BASIN ASSOCIATION

**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

JOINT MEETING

April 27, 2021

9:30 AM

Remote – Microsoft Teams

**Attendees**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **NAME** | **AGENCY/JURISDICTION** | **CONTACT INFO** |
| Danica Heflin | PTRC | dheflin@ptrc.org |
| Loren Hendrickson | PTRC | lhendrickson@ptrc.org |
| Maya Cough-Schulze | TJCOG | mcough-schulze@tjcog.org |
| Emily Barrett | TJCOG | ebarrett@tjcog.org, Cell: 919-538-0001 (texts are fine) |
| Charlie Cocker | City of Durham | charlie.cocker@durhamnc.gov |
| Reginald Hicks | City of Durham | reginald.hicks@durhamnc.gov |
| Monica Dodson | WWT Mgr OWASA | mdodson@owasa.org |
| Mark Vander Borgh | NC DWR | mark.vanderborgh@ncdenr.gov |
| Michael Rhoney | City of Asheboro | mrhoney@ci.asheboro.nc.us |
| Martie Groome | City of Greensboro | martie.groome@greensboro-nc.gov |
| Amanda Hancock | Meritech Labs | amanda.hancock@meritechlabs.org |
| Jonathan Baker | City of Durham (Stormwater) | jonathan.baker@durhamnc.gov |
| Bob Patterson | City of Burlington | bpatterson@ci.burlington.nc.us |
| Ben Bani | City of Burlington | bbani@ci.burlington.nc.us |
| Sharon Wagoner | City of Burlington – Lab Mgr | swagoner@ci.burlington.nc.us |
| Steve Tedder | TedderFarm Consulting | tedderfarmconsulting@gmail.com |
| Terry Houk | City of High Point | terry.houk@highpointnc.gov |
| Maria VanderLoop | Town of Cary | maria.vanderloop@townofcary.org |
| Nick Coco | NC DWR | nick.coco@ncdenr.gov |
| Chris McCorquodale | Town of Siler City | cmccorquodale@silercity.org |
| Shelby Smith | City of Graham | ssmith@cityofgraham.com |
| Dennis Hodge | City of Mebane | dhodge@cityofmebane.com |
| Gregory Knight | Black & Veatch | KnightGJ@bv.com |
| Mike Osborne | Black & Veatch | OsbourneJM@bv.com |
| Chris deBarbadillo | Black & Veatch |  |
| Michael Glass | Randleman |  |
| Jamie McLaurin | Pittsboro |  |
| Steve Siletzky | (No Intro in Chat) |  |
| Tonya Mann | (No Intro in Chat) |  |
| Amy Varinoski | City of Mebane, Water Resources Compliance |  |
| Rich Gannon | DWR NPS Planning |  |
| Tim Baldwin | McKim & Creed |  |
| John Huisman | NCDENR DWR Nonpoint Source Planning Branch |  |
| Leon Downing | Black & Veatch |  |
| Jennifer Hunter | WWTP Lab Supervisor, OWASA |  |
| Kent Jackson | Town Engineer - Pittsboro |  |
| Patrick Beggs | DWR |  |
| Alicia Goots | City of Greensboro |  |
| Teresa Andrews | Guilford County |  |
| Joey Hester | (No Intro in Chat) |  |
| Derrick Boone | (No Intro in Chat) |  |

The meeting opened at 9:30am. No changes to the agenda were requested.

**Organizational Report, Maya Cough-Shulze, TJCOG**

1. Annual Report – Submitted April 2021 – See attachment to Teams Invitation
2. Recap of Jan BOD – no significant changes to member dues, budget
3. QAQC Report from Alicia Goots**: [Location & turbidity info inaudible]** Met in person Wed, 4/21: Seven transcription/calculation errors. Some sampling errors but overall a good review.
   1. Maya – Still accepting volunteers for QAQC program, correct?
   2. Alicia – Correct – We need at least four. We have four now.
4. Maya Introduced Emily Barrett w/ TJ-COG, started in November to begin working on Jen’s projects. Emily put her contact information in the chat.
5. Chatham Park and UCFRBA membership
   1. Maya - Chatham Park & Pittsboro are co-permittees on NPDES permit. DWR suggested last month to have Chatham Park join UCFRBA. Chatham adding WWT Plant. Introduced Nick Coco w/ DEQ to give an overview of permit; Tim Baldwin from Chatham Park for timeline and membership.
   2. Nick Coco– Pittsboro & Chatham Park growing and expecting higher wastewater treatment demand. One solution is a combination of building reinforced water main that will send 2 millions gallons per day of flow to Stanford for treatment, and decommissioning of existing WWT plant to rebuild at later date for discharge to Haw River. In the meantime, activation of the Chatham Park Water Recovery Center, constructed using nonpoint discharge permit but wasn’t given an ability to treat discharged wastewater. So we melded permits with interlocal agreement to get to the point where everyone can pursue their capacity goals. For the initial duration of permit, Pittsboro will continue to operate with same process, addition of Chatham Park operating their own treatment plant with their own collection system. Both will treat waste flows, combine flows, monitor before and after. Permit is in a good spot and should be issued next week.
   3. Maya – No new member has been on board in recent years, so we wanted to go into more detail about this particular permit so that we all understand how a new member comes on board.
   4. Tim Baldwin – This has been the plan for 8 years, just needed time to get local agreements in place first. Timeline. It’s been substantially complete for some time, but first we need WW to get to the plant, need a place for it to go. Final touches being put in place now, such as pumps. Ready to accept waste in August; hydroponics will go in after flow established. Some lag time given such a large new development. Plant would actually be generating treated discharge closer to the second quarter of next year. We may shunt over some flow to help with startup, but it would still be 1st/2nd quarter next year before the discharge would be permit-compliant. Thrilled to join the coalition; just looking for the logistics that need to happen.
   5. Mark Vander Borgh/DWR: Accepting Chatham Park as a new member is my [Mark’s] responsibility; process entails writing a MOA, officially getting approval for brining them on as a member. Once approved, Mark gets legal paperwork going, waiver of monitoring requirements, MOAs in place. Some concerns about establishing a station at Robson Creek. No monitoring at Robson Park. With growth expected, need second station upstream to get the data we need for NPDES process. Something to discuss at a future date.
   6. Maya – we will continue the discussions to make sure everyone’s needs are met.
   7. Kent Jackson, Pittsboro – CPI & Tim have been tremendous partners, working through complex permit modification & renewal. Wholeheartedly support & welcome them into membership.

**PRESENTATION: Doing More with Less - Driving Towards Efficient Nutrient Removal (Black and Veatch.** Greg Knight: Principal Process Engineer/ Leon Downing: Principal Process and Innovation Lead; Chris deBarbadillo. Updates on the latest industry practice for BNR including methods to make more efficient use of influent carbon for both nitrogen and phosphorus removal, as well as approaches for meeting low effluent limits.

**Presentation Q&A**

1. Michael Glass [in chat]: Could you do the same thing to supernat? [when talking about fermented RAS, supernat, from digester]. Does it lead to Nh3 problems?
   1. Greg – Yes, we’ve been feeding the fermenter with a portion of the RAS– feeding it with a portion of the RAS and supernat from the gravity thickeners to provide more carbon. Leon – you’ve probably been looking at how that impacts the reactor sizing for the RAS fermenter. We need a source of more readily available carbon.
   2. Leon – Really working on the carbon balance. If coming from biomass, how much do you need? If you’re having to ferment so much RAS, you’re going to get an ammonia load from that. Need a balance of nitrogen and phosphorus; you can get too big and have negative consequences.
2. Maya – Other Questions? [No response] We will share presentation with the group along with the meeting minutes. Presentation finished early. Take break or push through? [Five-minute break requested]

\*\*\* Break \*\*\*

**Messages in Chat During Break:**

[10:47 AM] Vander Borgh, Mark

I have to leave the meeting by10:55 Please let me know if there are any questions for DWR or the Monitoring Coalition Program. THank you and a good day to all

\*\*\* Meeting Resumes \*\*\*

**Updates from around the Upper Basin (All)**

1. Charlie/Durham – Current project has about two more months left, mostly roadwork and grading. Don’t get screens with 5mm holes or they will catch everything. 15mm would be better. Used to go to landfill every 3-4 weeks; now going every 5-6 days. UV System is up for several months now, fecal result averaging 1 or 2, new 160’ diameter clarifier in service now, avg flow about 9mgd and clarifier will habdle that. Phase II project opens Thursday. Finishing one, starting another.

**Next Steps, Closing Remarks, Future Meeting Schedule (Maya Cough-Schulze, TJCOG)**

1. We hope to have a new PTRC counterpart before next meeting.
2. Future Meeting Dates: Any dates we should avoid in July for next meeting? On track for last Tuesday in July.
   1. [10:56 AM] Kent Jackson - both 20 and 27 are good
   2. [10:55 AM] Goots, Alicia - 27th if you want QAQC
3. Call for Ideas for future speakers/meeting topics.
4. Suggestion on Speaker/Presentation for future TAC meeting: Dr. Rubin nutrient credit presentation - catch basin cleanup and nutrient reduction strategy.
   1. [10:59 AM] Baker, Jonathan - Thanks, Maya. As a stormwater person, the presentation that you mentioned sounds interesting.

\*\*\* ADJOURN \*\*\*