Lower Neuse Basin Association®/Neuse River Compliance Association®
May 7, 2026 Meeting Minutes
City of Kinston, N. C.

Attending:

Chuck Smithwick (Chair)	Contentnea MSD	Jonathan Bulla (Treas)	Town of Cary
Robert Sherman	City of Goldsboro	Jimmy Pridgen (V-Chair)	City of Wilson
Lori Avent (Sec)	Town of Apex	Jonathan Jacobs	Town of Apex
Reggie Hicks	City of Durham	Scott Smart	City of Raleigh
David White	Town of Clayton	Carolyn Bachl	City of Raleigh
Jim Wrenn	Smith Anderson Law	Corrie Bondar	Town of Cary
Shelby Arellano	CovationBio	Aaron Babson	Hazen & Sawyer
Rob Boquist	Waypoint Anal.	Salvidor Valdiviezo	Town of Benson
Luke Cowley	City of New Bern	Jeff Mahagan (web)	Town of Hillsborough
Mike Graham (web)	Duke Energy	Kelly Landry	Hazen & Sawyer
Martin Lebo (web)	WSP, Inc. (web)	David Hill (web)	DWR
Brian Pridgen	Contentnea MSD	Ben Overton	City of Kinston
Ray Burgos (web)	CovationBio	Adam Stephenson	Town of Fuquay-Varina
Adam Waters (web)	TPBA	Hope Woolard (web)	TPBA
Haywood Phthisic	LNBA/NRCA		

The Chair, Chuck Smithwick, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. The roll was called and there were 13 of 19 members (quorum present) representing the LNBA and 16 of 24 members (quorum present) representing the NRCA. The Chair welcomed the Board members and guests.

Board Minutes – The Board Minutes for the February 5, 2026 meeting were presented. Being no revisions, Jimmy Pridgen made the motion to approve, seconded by Robert Sherman, and approved by the Boards.

LNBA/NRCA Financials – *Treasurer's Reports* – Jonathan presented the Treasurer's Report for the period of February, March, and April, 2026 to the Boards. As of April 30th, the LNBA account balance is $285,553.92 and NRCA account balance is $398,158.61. Following discussion, Reggie Hicks made the motion to approve as presented, seconded by Jimmy Pridgen, and approved, respectively, by the Boards.

FY 2026-27 Contract Renewals – Haywood presented the annual contracts for renewal for the upcoming fiscal year. The LNBA and NRCA agreement with Sauber Water Quality Consulting is requested to be renewed for a period of 12 months from the end of the current agreements. The website maintenance agreement with River Delts Consulting is requested to be renewed for an additional 12 months. There is no change in the terms of either agreement (just time extension). Following discussion, Corrie Bondor (Cary) made the motion to approve the agreements as requested and seconded by Brian Pridgen (CMSD) and approved by the Boards, respectively.

Guest Speaker – City of Burlington's Success Controlling PFAS and 1-4 Dioxane, Dr. Kelly Landry, Hazen & Sawyer – Dr. Landry presented a case study to the Boards on how the City of Burlington identified and reduced the flow of PFAS and 1-4 dioxane in Burlington's the sewer system. The study can be reviewed at this link: City of Burlington PFAS Source Identification and Reduction

Approved

2026 LNBA/NRCA Operator Training Workshop – The Training Committee announced to annual operator training workshop will be held July 28th in Raleigh and July 30th in Kinston. Registration will begin on or around June 10th (email notification).

NRCA Annual Reports – Haywood reviewed the 2025 NRCA Annual Report noting the group delivered 3.07 mg/L of total nitrogen to the Neuse Estuary. The association also reached 50% of its total nitrogen allocation for the first time since 2003. There were several facilities that had new equipment processes coming on line that contributed the increase in 2025. A summary of each members' end of pipe total nitrogen concentration was also provided. In 2018 several projections of when the association may reach its total nitrogen cap were reviewed once again. A graph illustrating the accomplishments of the association in total nitrogen delivery to the estuary versus average daily flow from the member facilities reviewed.

LNBA Updates –

Work continues on the Lower Neuse River Monitoring Service Contract No. 6 with Waypoint Analytical. All sampling was completed by Waypoint in February, March, and April, 2026 with the following exceptions listed below:

March 2025

J2230000 - Smith Creek at SR-2045 near Wake Forest – Too shallow to collect sample, parameters only.
J4080000 – Poplar Creek at SR-2049 near Knightdale - Too shallow to collect sample, parameters only.
J7240000 – Toisnot Swamp at SR-1539 near Stantonsburg – Inaccessible due to construction.

April 2025

J2230000 - Smith Creek at SR-2045 near Wake Forest – Too shallow to collect sample, parameters only.

Sampling site J4511000 will be eliminated due to safety issued (traffic) at that site. There is no suitable location downstream to serve as a replacement (before that stream merges with Swift Creek. All sampling reports through February have been received. All invoices have been processed and paid through March, 2026.

Neuse River Basin Modeling Update – The Chair reported to the Board members there was no new information to report. Haywood noted a stake holder meeting may be held in the next few months.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for September 3, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. and the host will be the City of Wilson. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Approved