Lower Neuse Basin Association®/Neuse River Compliance Association®
September 3, 2026 Meeting Minutes
City of Wilson, N. C.

Attending:

Chuck Smithwick (Chair)	Contentnea MSD	Jonathan Bulla (Treas)	Town of Cary
Richard Hamilton	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	Darrell Crews	City of Raleigh
David White	Town of Clayton	Dan Wall	Johnston County
Jim Wrenn	Smith Anderson Law	Corrie Bondar	Town of Cary
William Beattie	Town of Apex	Mary Sadler	Hazen & Sawyer
Laura Pruitt	City of Wilson	David Stadd	City of Wilson
Rob Boquist	Waypoint Anal.	James Blalock	Town of Clayton
Luke Cowley	City of New Bern	Jeff Mahagan (web)	Town of Hillsborough
Mike Graham (web)	Duke Energy	T. J. Lynch	Hazen & Sawyer
Mike Wagner	Town of Fuquay-Varina	Heather Thomas	Town of Fuquay-Varina
David Hill (web)	DWR	Jonathan Lucas	Aqua, N.C.
Marcus A. Lucas	City of Kinston	Zachary Johnson	City of Kinston
Brian Pridgen	Contentnea MSD	Swindell Flowers	City of Kinston
Justin Smith (web)	CovationBio	Adam Stephenson	Town of Fuquay-Varina
Adam Waters (web)	TPBA	Hope Woolard (web)	TPBA
Dan McLawhorn	Smith Anderson Law	Haywood Phthisic	LNBA/NRCA

The Chair, Chuck Smithwick, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. The roll was called and there were 14 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 May 7, 2026 and June 30, 2026 were presented for approval. Being no revisions, Dan Wall made the motion to approve, seconded by Corrie Bondor, and approved by the Boards.

LNBA/NRCA Financials – *Treasurer's Reports* – Jonathan presented the Treasurer's Report for the period of May, June, and July, 2026 to the Boards. As of July 31st, the LNBA account balance is $280,412.15 and NRCA account balance is $406,969.12. Following discussion, Jimmy Pridgen made the motion to approve as presented, seconded by Dan Wall, and approved, respectively, by the Boards. Haywood noted that the membership dues for both associations had been received in August with a couple still outstanding.

2025 990 Tax Returns – Haywood noted that the draft 2025 990 tax returns were emailed to the Boards on September 1st for review and comment. Haywood asked if any board member has any questions or comment to email him by September 15th. If no comments are received are received then the returns will be submitted to the IRS.

Executive Director Agreement Amendment #2 – Chuck presented an amendment to the Executive Director's Agreement to the Boards for consideration. The current agreement is a 3-year agreement that ends in May, 2027. The amendment will extend the current agreement until June 30, 2028. Following discussion, Brian Pridgen made the motion to approve the amendment, seconded by Reggie Hicks, and

approved by the Boards, respectively.

Request for Membership in NRCA, Fuquay-Varina – Chuck told the NRCA Board the Town of Fuquay-Varina has requested membership in the NRCA. Staff with Fuquay contacted the Haywood the first of July expressing interest in joining the NRCA and requested information. Adam Stephenson, facility manager, provide DMR information for the past three (3) years and completed membership request form. A site visit was scheduled on August 12th with Chuck Smithwick, Jimmy Pridgen, Jonathan Bulla, and Haywood Phthisic attending. Adam and Heather Adams gave the group a tour of the facility noting it was being expanded from 3.0 mgd (2019 completion) to 6.0 mgd. The expansion is scheduled to be completed by the first quarter of 2027. Following the tour the group met to discuss the total nitrogen data provided to the NRCA. While the facility was compliant with its nitrogen allocation, members of the NRCA member expressed concerns regarding the yearly total nitrogen concentration (2023, 4.9 mg/L; 2024, 8.2 mg/L; 2025, 6.8 mg/L). For a new facility these values were higher than expected. Fuquay staff indicated there were issues with the original mixer installed in the phase I construction (which have been replaced) plus the ongoing phase 2 expansion.

The Executive Committee recommends the Board approve the membership request by the Town of Fuquay-Varina with a 36 months probationary period so the facility can demonstrate performance at maintaining a 3.5 mg/L total nitrogen yearly average. Following discussion, Dan Wall made the motion to approve the executive committee's recommendation, seconded by James Blalock, and approved by the NRCA Board.

Guest Speaker – Quaternary Ammonium Compounds, Mary Sadler, Hazen & Sawyer – Mary Sadler with Hazen & Sawyer presented on Quaternary Ammonium Compounds (QAC) that can disrupt the nitrification process in wastewater facilities if concentrations of the QACs. These products came out of the covid pandemic when chlorine base disinfectants came into short supply. The presentation can be reviewed at this link: Quaternary Ammonium Compounds

Neuse River Basin Modeling Update – Haywood presented information illustrating how the new water shed transport factors may be applied. He noted that there was much uncertainty in how or if this will move forward. A summary was provided to demonstrate the current workload DWR has in the next several years.

2026 LNBA/NRCA Operator Training Workshop – Haywood presented a summary on the annual workshops: Raleigh session had 37 registered attendees with 31 receiving CEU certificates; Kinston session had 38 registered with 33 receiving CEU certificates; registers were submitted to the Certification Administration on August 17th; and snacks and lunch expenses were $1,764.97.

LNBA Updates –

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

May 2026

05/04/26 - J6055000 (Mosley Creek Tributary at SR-1327 nr Kinston) - Too shallow to sample; parameters only
05/05/26 - J4080000 (Poplar Creek at SR-2049 nr Knightdale) - Too shallow to sample; parameters only
05/05/26 - J2230000 (Smith Creek at SR-2045 nr Wake Forest) - Too shallow to sample, parameters only
05/05/26 - J4580000 (Swift Creek at SR-1501 (Swift Crk Rd) nr Smithfield) - Too shallow to sample; parameters only
05/21/26 - J5790000 (Buffalo Creek at Lake Glad Rd at Wendell) - Site inaccessible due to road work

June 2026

06/11/26 - J4080000 (Poplar Creek at SR-2049 nr Knightdale) - Too shallow to sample; parameters only
06/11/26 - J2230000 (Smith Creek at SR-2045 nr Wake Forest) - Too shallow to sample, parameters only
06/11/26 - J4115000 (Marks Creek at Neuse River Trail nr Archer Lodge) - Too shallow to sample, parameters only
06/05/26 - J4511000 (White Oak Creek at Hwy 42 nr Clayton) - Removed from sampling list due to safety concerns
06/15/26 - J6250000 (Neuse River at Hwy 55 nr Graingers) - Access blocked due to road work

July 2026

07/01/26 - J6250000 (Neuse River at Hwy 55 nr Graingers) - Access blocked due to road work
07/01/26 - J4511000 (White Oak Creek at Hwy 42 nr Clayton) - Site no longer sampled due to safety concerns
07/02/06 - J6450000 (Little Creek at Hwy 39 at Zebulon) - Too low to sample, parameters only
07/02/26 - J6765000 (Contentnea Creek at Willow Springs Dr. near Dixie) - No access due to road work
07/06/26 - J2230000 (Smith Creek at SR-2045 nr Wake Forest) - Too shallow to sample, parameters only
07/06/26 - J4080000 (Poplar Creek at SR-2049 nr Knightdale) - Too shallow to sample; parameters only
07/31/26 - J4670000 (Middle Creek at Holly Springs Greenway Bridge off Anchor Creek Way) - Access blocked due to road work.

August 2026 (through 8/17)

08/10/26 - J6044500 (Bear Creek at SR-1311 near Kinston) - Too shallow to sample; parameters only
08/10/26 - J6250000 (Neuse River at Hwy 55 nr Graingers) - Access blocked due to road work
08/11/26 - J4670000 (Middle Creek at Holly Springs Greenway Bridge off Anchor Creek Way) - Access blocked due to road work.
08/11/26 - J4511000 (White Oak Creek at Hwy 42 nr Clayton) - Site no longer sampled due to safety concerns
08/11/26 - J2230000 (Smith Creek at SR-2045 nr Wake Forest) - Too shallow to sample, parameters only
08/11/26 - J4080000 (Poplar Creek at SR-2049 nr Knightdale) - Too shallow to sample; parameters only
08/17/26 - J7210000 (Contentnea Creek at Hwy 58 nr Stantonsburg) - No access due to road work

All sampling reports through May 2026. All invoices have been processed and paid through July, 2026.

I was notified in August that Eurofins was acquiring Waypoint Analytical with the transition to occur in the fall.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for November 5, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. and the host will be the City of Goldsboro. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

DRAFT