

# Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Program

Coordinating Council Meeting  
Archdale Building  
October 16, 1998

## Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am, by Bill Holman, Assistant Secretary for Environmental Protection and designee of the Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Wayne McDevitt. Self-introductions were made. (Please see Attachment A). The minutes of the previous meeting (March 31, 1998) we approved as mailed through a motion by Bill Ritchie and a second by Earl Bell.

The first order of business pertained to organizational matters: adoption of the by-laws and the establishment of various subcommittees. Joan Giordano, DWQ staff, guided the membership through the by-laws making changes when suggested by the group. Lengthy discussion ensued. The following motions for changing the by-laws were duly voted upon and passed:

**ARTICLE IV, Subcommittees, Section 1: Subcommittees-(remove all reference to subcommittees and substitute "committees")-motion by Bellis, seconded by Ellis.**

Delete the membership and nominating committees as standing committees, (assigning them ad hoc status), and leave the issues and public outreach subcommittees as standing committees.

**ARTICLE IV, Subcommittees, Section 1: Subcommittees-** motion by Bellis, seconded by Costlow- All appointments to Council committees and subcommittees will be made by the Chair. Additionally the Executive Committee will be confirmed by the full Coordinating Council.

**ARTICLE IV, Subcommittees, Section 1: Subcommittees-**motion by Ellis, seconded by Parker to have an Executive Committee (as a standing committee) consisting of 5 Regional Council Chairs, the Coordinating Council Chair and the Coordinating Council Vice-Chair.

**ARTICLE VI, Coordinating Council Positions, Section 2: Representing Coordinating Council Positions in Public Forums-** In a public forum, Coordinating Council members shall not present their personal views or positions as views or positions of the Coordinating Council.

By motion of Bill Ritchie, seconded by Dr. Costlow, the group tentatively approved the by-laws with the discussed changes. Chairman Holman requested that staff distribute a second draft of the by-laws with the next mailing to the members.

The next order of business was a discussion of the Memorandum of Agreement (mandated by Governor Hunt's Executive Order #75) between the States of North Carolina and Virginia for purposes of ensuring continued cooperation and coordination in implementing the CCMP. Through this agreement it is intended that a partnership for the coordination of environmental management of the resources of the Albemarle-Pamlico sounds region will occur. Using a large study area map, Guy Stefanski, APNEP staff, outlined the commonality between the two states in terms of river basins (Chowan and Pasquotank) and added that this commonality directly influences the Albemarle, Pamlico and (parts of the) Currituck sounds. He reported that there are Virginia representatives on the Chowan River Basin Regional Council and that Virginia representatives to the Pasquotank Regional Council have been identified.

Mr. Stefanski referenced the Chesapeake Bay Agreement (Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland, the District of Columbia, the Chesapeake Bay Commission, and EPA) stating that NC has identified many of the same issues contained in that Agreement. For example, the restoration and protection of living resources and their habitats; seeking to reduce and control point and nonpoint sources of pollution to improve water quality; concern with managing human population growth and the impacts and effects this has on our natural resources; and promoting a greater citizen understanding of environmental management in the Albemarle-Pamlico sounds.

Upon concluding his presentation on the MOA, Mr. Stefanski called upon David Brickley, Director of the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, to say a few words to the group. He expressed Virginia's commitment to partnering and to environmental management on a watershed basis. He added that he was most pleased to accept North Carolina's hospitality by participating in the Coordinating Council meeting. Mr. Brickley then briefly outlined the structure and organization of the Chesapeake Bay Agreement expressing the fact that multi-state agreements can work, and that he believed North Carolina and Virginia would not be an exception to that. Although he pointed out that our operating agreement was oriented to North Carolina, "as it should be", he felt that mutual respect for each other's interest would prove to be the key to success. He added that the consensus method of decision-making employed by Virginia, Pennsylvania and Maryland with respect to the Chesapeake Bay Agreement worked very well. In closing, Mr. Brickley committed to having his staff work with the APNEP staff in developing the MOA. Discussion ensued.

The next agenda item was Guy Stefanski's presentation on Regional Council demonstration projects. He reported that because the RCs' primary role is demonstrating implementation of the CCMP and garnering support for that at the local level, their membership consists of representatives of local government and various stakeholder interests. Based on their role, the RCs have been asked to develop demonstration projects in their respective river basins, and have been working on this for approximately the past 7 months. Each RC has developed a 2-year program of work to aid them in reaching their goals. Presently, each RC's project is in a different phase of development, although approximately \$26K is being made available to each of them by EPA through APNEP grant moneys.

He requested the Coordinating Council's involvement in developing criteria and guidelines for developing and evaluating the RC proposals. These guidelines would 1) assist the RCs in developing their demonstration projects, and 2) create an internal ranking system so that a project selection team of CC members could be convened to evaluate the proposals and select those which would be funded. This team could also serve in an advisory capacity to strengthen the proposals where necessary. He added that as an example, the guidelines used by the Clean Water Management Trust Fund were mailed to CC members with their meeting packet, and then asked for discussion of the topic.

It was emphasized that the RC demonstration projects should reflect the management strategies contained in the CCMP and that partnering with other entities, agencies, and organizations is encouraged. It was pointed out that the CCMP has, in addition to a focus on water quality, three other important foci: habitats, fisheries, and stewardship.

Chairman Holman stated that he would appoint a committee that would come back to the CC with a draft set of guidelines. Fred McManus (EPA), Guy Stefanski, and Dr. John Costlow volunteered to be involved with this committee. Chairman Holman indicated that he would select others to assist with this task as well. It was pointed out that time was of the essence for developing the criteria.

The group then adjourned for lunch.

Upon reconvening, the next item on the agenda were updates on Regional Council activity presented by RC Chairs. A summary of these updates is as follows:

**Neuse River Basin Regional Council- Bill Ritchie**

- \* Attendance has been good
- \* Several resolutions have been forwarded to the CC for action

**Tar-Pamlico River Basin Regional Council - Earl Bell**

- \* There have been 3 meetings since March
- \* Priorities have been set
- \* A site visit was made to an upgraded municipal wastewater treatment plant that received EPA's national award and was publicly supported tax increases to pay for the upgrades
- \* Received briefing on history of stream water quality in the watershed which was described as generally good, and needs to be maintained
- \* Briefed on the Environmental Management Commission's plan to develop a nutrient strategy (modeled after the Neuse) for this basin. It involves a rulemaking process which will be presented at the next RC meeting.

**Chowan River Basin Regional Council - Brewster Brown, Vice Chairman**

- \* Chair resigned
- \* in June, Governor Hunt and the Dept. of Commerce (DOC) announced the siting of a steel mill (Nucor) in the area
- \* the CRBRC voted to recommend to DENR that an EIS be done relative to this siting
- \* the CRBRC co-sponsored an educational forum, with the Pasquotank River Basin Regional Council and others, to communicate to the public, the process necessary for such a siting
- \* the CRBRC recommended that future sitings and expansions need better coordination between DENR and the DOC
- \* the CRBRC advised the Roanoke RC that they should be aware of these issues relative to the possible siting of a cardboard recycling plant which received a tax incentive in the recently passed legislative tax bill. The Roanoke river is the only river that is not at or exceeding effluent limits which preclude siting of such a facility.

**Roanoke River Basin Regional Council - Jerry Holloman**

- \* recommended Congressional funding for an Army Corps. of Engineers "216 study" to evaluate flow modifications for a multipurpose reservoir to re-evaluate operation of the project. Stakeholders included Va. Power & Light and NC Power.
- \* RC attendance is low and vacancies are an issue
- \* there are competing watershed organizations so there is a need to modify their Program of Work.

**Pasquotank River Basin Regional Council - Yates Barber (for Erie Haste, Jr.)**

- \* there have been 2 meetings since March, one was held jointly with the Chowan RC
- \* a 6/18/98 letter regarding identification of new members needs followup action by the Chair
- \* the PRBRC recommends \$100K for a Currituck Sound salinity model/study
- \* exotic species concerns (hydrilla, rice eel, grass carp - introduced through ballast water)
- \* freshwater diversion/saltwater intrusion concerns

Discussion ensued following the RC updates with other items of interest and concern identified. They are:

- the EMC is working on changes to the Tar-Pamlico nutrient management strategy
- the status of the clean water budget is unresolved
- the General Assembly will reconvene in January
- the RCs can advise DENR on FERC re-licensing issues and development of river basin nutrient strategies/rulemakings.

Chairman Holman set the next Coordinating Council for January 15, 1999 in River Bend, NC. Staff will send a meeting notice and appropriate preparation materials.

# COORDINATING COUNCIL

for the  
Albemarle-Pamlico Sounds Region

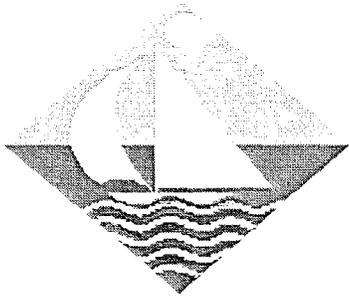
Wildlife Resources Commission Conference Room  
3rd Floor -- Archdale Building  
512 N. Salisbury Street  
Raleigh, North Carolina

OCTOBER 16, 1998

## AGENDA

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|-------|--|--|
| 9:30  | Refreshments (coffee/donuts)   |  |
| 10:00 | Welcome  | Bill Holman<br>Assistant Secretary for Environmental<br>Protection, NCDENR |
| 10:05 | Introductions  | ALL  |
| 10:10 | Acceptance of Minutes<br>from March 31, 1998 Meeting   | Bill Holman  |
| 10:15 | Organizational Matters<br>- by-laws (see draft)<br>- establishment of various subcommittees                                    | Joan Giordano, NEP staff<br>NC Division of Water Quality                   |
| 11:00 | BREAK  |  |
| 11:10 | Resume Organizational Matters discussion   |  |
| 11:45 | Discussion:<br>- Memorandum of Agreement between<br>North Carolina and Virginia<br>- Regional Councils' Demonstration Projects | Guy Stefanski, NEP staff<br>NC Division of Water Quality                   |
| 12:00 | LUNCH (working lunch -- provided)<br>(continue discussion items)   |  |
| 12:45 | Regional Council Updates:<br>- status of Programs of Work  | Regional Councils  |
| 1:45  | Presentation of Resolutions passed by the<br>Neuse River Basin Regional Council  | Bill Ritchie, Chair<br>NRBRC   |
| 2:15  | New Business:<br>- APES/CCMP Conference in November<br>- plans for next meeting<br>- open discussion                           | Bill Holman  |
| 2:30  | Adjourn  | Bill Holman  |





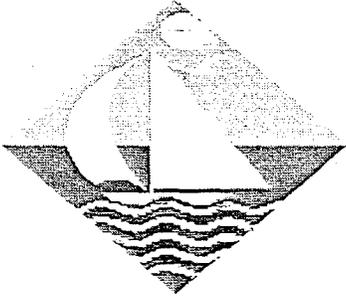
# Coordinating Council for the Albemarle-Pamlico Sounds Region Meeting

October 16, 1998  
Raleigh, North Carolina

----- Attendees -----

1.	Guy Stefanski - NEP Staff DWQ	733-5083 ext. 585
2.	David Brickley - VA. DCR	804-786-2123
3.	<del>ERNE BROWN</del> VA DCR	<del>804</del> 925-2468
4.	Joan Giordano - NEP Staff DWQ	(252) 946-6481
5.	Ron Fascher Corps of Engineers	910 251-4926
6.	Buzz Bryson - Sed. Control Comm.	919 362-3551
7.	Margaret "Peggy" Griffin - CRC	919-796-8971
8.	Frank McBride NCRWC	919-733-3633 x288
9.	Bill Ritchie NRBBC	252 637-2396
10.	Marianne Friesler DCA	733-2850
11.	John M. Barber Pam RBC	252 338-3557
12.	Tom Holloman USFWS/PAW	252-794-5326
13.	Mike Wick USFWS	919-856-4526 ext 22
14.	Caroline Parker NRB Council	919-731-1600
15.	John Holman DENR	919-715-4142
16.	John F. LENTZ CH. Forestry Council	910-652-5061
17.	John W. Callender Neuse	(252) 728-4027
18.	Vince Belli Greenville	252-755-1479
19.	Bob Cream EPA Region 4	404-562-9352
20.	Margaret Holton NRB Council	919-929-1339
21.	Andy Coburn NEP Staff Support	919-598-8489
22.	Betsy Salter EPA/HQ	202/260-6466
23.	Tom Ellis NCD A+CS	919 733-7125
24.	Greg Torgue DWQ	919 733-5082
25.	Don Hoss NOAA	252-728-8746
26.	Coleman Long Corps of Engineers	910 - 251-4505





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----- Attendees -----

1.	Brewster Brown	Chowan River Council
2.	Matt Blev	VA DCR
3.	Earl Bell	Tar-Pamlico Regional Council
4.	Don Ell	NC DWQ
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