



**Rivanna River Basin Commission**  
**Draft Board Meeting Minutes March 19, 2024**

<b>Rivanna River Basin Commission</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Ann Mallek, Albemarle BOS Chair	x
Bea LaPisto-Kirtley, Albemarle BOS	
Lonnie Murray, Appointed Citizen	x
Lloyd Snook, Charlottesville City Council	
Michael Payne, Charlottesville City Council	x
Jason Halbert, Appointed Citizen	x
Timothy Hodge, Fluvanna County BOS	
Tony O'Brien, Fluvanna County BOS	x
Marvin Moss, Appointed Citizen	
Davis Lamb, Greene County BOS	x
Francis McGuigan, Greene County BOS	x
Alex Vidales, Appointed Citizen	
Steve Morris, Culpeper SWCD	
Angus Murdoch, Thomas Jefferson SWCD	x
<b>Staff/Public</b>	
David Sligh, WildVA	x
Jackie Goodrum, WildVA	
Ruth Emerick, TJPDC	x
Isabella O'Brien, TJPDC	x

Materials in Packet: March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Meeting Minutes, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 Meeting Minutes (Draft), Remote Electronic Participation Policy and All Virtual Meeting Policy

**1. Call to Order, Attendance, Determination of Quorum**

The Rivanna River Basin Commission (RRBC) Chair Ann Mallek, called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. A quorum was determined at 1:08 pm.

**2. Approval of Agenda & August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

**Motion/Action:** There was a motion to approve the Agenda and the August 22, 2023 meeting minutes by Tony O'Brien, which was seconded by Lonnie Murray, and unanimously approved by the Commission.

**3. Comments from Public**

David Sligh and Jackie Goodrum joined from WildVA to share information about Scottsville's Wastewater data, which reflects the presence of PFAS in their influent and effluent. However, mitigating PFAS was not addressed in DEQ's permit update for the facility.

**4. Presentation: RWSA Pump Station Update**

Bill Mawyer led the presentation from Rivanna Water and Sewer Authority to discuss the Rivanna pump station's submersion in wastewater in January of 2024 after a 3 inch rainstorm, causing a large overflow of wastewater into the Rivanna. RWSA has successfully built a bypass to stop the overflow, and continue



treating water at that location. The cause of the spill is being studied by an independent engineering firm and should be determined by the end of March 2024.

Questions:

- If river rise caused a backup into your piping system, leading to the overflow, what would stop this from happening again and again?
- Do you have any build up on methane in situations like this?
- Did some pumps continue to operate during the overflow?
- How fast were you alerted your control boards were down during the time of the event?
- Why did one pump station fail and the other did not?
- Do we know what the impact to rate payers will be following this event?

## 5. Bylaws Review

Staff reviewed the bylaws as they relate to elections, as well as proposed the formation of the executive committee (consisting of 2 non officer positions) to help carry out the functions of the RRBC outside of regular meeting dates.

## 6. Report of the Nominating Committee

Chair Mallek appointed Lonnie Murray, Jason Halbert, and Angus Murdoch as the election's nominating committee at the August Board Meeting.

The nominating committee proposed Ann Mallek as Chair, Lonnie Murray as treasurer, and Angus Murdoch as the Vice Chair.

## 7. Elections

After the report of the nominating committee, no additional members of the RRBC added themselves to the election slate. Tony O'Brien moved to vote for the slate, Chair Mallek seconded, and the commission unanimously approved the new officers. The RRBC Officers include:

- Chair: Supervisor Ann Mallek, Albemarle
- Vice Chair: Angus Murdoch, Fluvanna
- Treasurer: Lonnie Murray, Albemarle

Ann Mallek motioned to vote for Tony O'Brien and Jason Halbert as the two non-officer members of the Executive Committee. Jason Halbert seconded the motion and the commission unanimously approved.

## 8. Discussion Items

- a. **RRBC Recap and Continuity:** Staff led a discussion about the last two years of the RRBC conference, and what members would like to see for the upcoming conference. Key takeaways include: Valuable hearing from state and federal organizations, holding the conference in various parts of the watershed, interest in a LID/BMP tour, technical presentations as well as community based organizations
- b. **WildVA PFAS in Scottsville:** Staff shared the key findings from WILDVA and provided an additional opportunity for the board to discuss next steps.



- c. **Current Grant Opportunities:** Staff mentioned the RRBC's stated desire for the board and commissioners to review grant opportunities applicable to the values of the RRBC. Staff provided grant resources to the commission for the review.

## 9. Staff Updates

- a. Updated Orientation Packet: Staff updated the RRBC orientation packet for new and standing members.
- b. Stakeholder Advisory Group Meetings: Staff provided an update on the next topics for the Stakeholder Advisory Group, including the Stewardship Mapping and Assessment Project, and the Historical Timeline as designated in the 5 year work program.

## 10. Roundtable discussion: Each Commissioner was invited to share updates from their jurisdiction.

Angus Murdoch encourages everyone to get involved in the Virginia Conservation Assistance Program which addresses nonpoint source pollution and is incredibly well funded at this point in time. There are rolling applications.

Tony O'Brien noted the Rivanna River Rafters now have an operation in Fluvanna County as well. The James River Water Authority is pulling water, and is getting close to being finalized so there is additional water available for both Louisa and Fluvanna by 2025. Fluvanna County and other counties have petitioned the SCC regarding Aqua's proposed rate increase, which would take the average homeowner's water bill to around \$150 per month, about five times that of RWSA.

In Greene County, the meters are broken, and there are some residents receiving incredibly high water bills. The county is looking at \$160 million dollars worth of water projects in the next 5 years, for a service well only serving 1/3 of the county.

Where are the implementation plans associated with the Rivanna available? See below for more information. There are TMDL's being developed for the South Fork Rivanna, and a TMDL and an Implementation Plan being developed for the North Fork Rivanna.

Here are all TMDLs searchable by county: <https://www.deq.virginia.gov/our-programs/water/water-quality/tmdl-development/approved-tmdls>

A TMDL is currently being developed by DEQ for the South Fork Rivanna: <https://www.deq.virginia.gov/our-programs/water/water-quality/tmdl-development/tmdls-under-development>

Approved Implementation Plans: <https://www.deq.virginia.gov/our-programs/water/water-quality/implementation/approved-implementation-plans/>

Implementation Plans Under Development: <https://www.deq.virginia.gov/our-programs/water/water-quality/implementation/implementation-plans-under-development/>

Albemarle is finalizing a Riparian Buffer Overlay District to return the county to where they were in the early 2000s, removing the exemption for disturbances under 10,000 square feet.

Charlottesville has purchased the historical Circus Grounds, near the Rivanna River Company is located. How can it be utilized to best preserve the Rivanna and align with the Rivanna Corridor Plan. City Staff is also evaluating local environmental policies like critical slopes and floodplain regulations. This can be an



opportunity to model what Albemarle has done, and introduced many discretionary decision points as possible along the Rivanna River.

A cross jurisdictional environmental citizens committee, where great environmental ideas can be brought forward. This could be something the RRBC utilizes a quarterly meeting for.

- 11. Adjourn:** There was a motion to adjourn by Tony O'Brien. Seconded by Jason Halbert, and unanimously approved by the Commission at 2:44 pm.

Commission meeting materials may be found at <https://rivannariverbasin.org/meetings-events/>.