



**MINUTES
PIEDMONT TRIAD REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY
September 8, 2026**

The Piedmont Triad Regional Water Authority (PTRWA) met Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at 12:00 pm in the PTRWA Conference Room, 7297 Adams Farm Road, Randleman, NC. Chairman Rich Glover called the meeting to order.

Present: Mr. Robert Bald
Mr. John Bencini
Ms. Melissa Allred Blalock
Mr. Lewis Dorsett
Mr. Darrell Frye
Mr. Rich Glover
Mr. Dennis Mabe - Virtual
Mr. David Parrish
Mr. Thomas Phillips
Mr. John Thomas

Welcome, by PTRWA Chairman Rich Glover

Mr. Glover welcomed the PTRWA Board members, and two consultants supporting staff presentations.

1. Approval of August 11, 2026 PTRWA minutes

Mr. Glover asked if there were any revisions to be made in the August 11, 2026 minutes.

Motion was made by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Bald, and carried unanimously to approve the August 11, 2026, PTRWA minutes as presented.

**2. Approval Amendment to PTRWA Bylaws – Article III
Gregory Flory, Executive Director**

Mr. Flory reported that pursuant to Article X of the PTRWA Bylaws, the proposed changes to the PTRWA Bylaws were provided to the member Directors at least (7) seven days prior to the September 8, 2026 Board Meeting. The text changes (proposed changes are underlined) to the PTRWA Bylaws are as follows:

Article III – Meetings

Annual Meetings – Annual meetings of the Authority shall be held on the second Tuesday in October of each year at the hour and place designated in the notice of same. Written notice of the time and place of Annual meetings shall be given by the Secretary or Executive Director by mailing such notice to each Director at his or her residential or business address not less than twenty (20) days prior to the date of such meeting.

The term mailing and direct delivery as used in this document shall mean either electronic email delivery and/or physical mail delivery.

Mr. Flory explained that the changes were being made to align with the way the Authority had been conducting business since at least 2008. Motion was made by Mr. Bald, seconded by Mr. Phillips, and carried unanimously to amend the PTRWA Bylaws as presented.

3. Deep River Trail – High Point Blueway, Kayak Launch
Gregory Flory, Executive Director

Mr. Flory reported that the City of High Point is applying for a PART grant to support the Blueway portion of the Deep River Trail through City Lake and has requested a letter of support from the Authority. The Board previously expressed support for the Blueway segment through the reservoir, and no objections were raised to providing a letter endorsing the City's grant application.

Board members discussed the long-term vision of the Deep River Trail as a designated state trail and acknowledged that questions remain regarding how the trail will ultimately connect through certain areas of the reservoir and PTRWA property and comply with existing buffer requirements. Mr. Flory noted that the section between City Lake and Southwest Park has not yet been fully evaluated, although Authority-owned property in the area could potentially be considered for future trail development. Discussion also included the proposed City Lake dam replacement project. Mr. Flory advised that construction is not expected to negatively affect reservoir flows and increase downstream flow post construction as it is expected that the new dam will include a minimum discharge which is not currently required with the existing dam.

Mr. Flory also provided an update on the proposed kayak launch project associated with the Deep River Trail. Mr. Flory reported that grant funding for the project was awarded earlier in the year. The next step is execution of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission regarding installation of the kayak launch on Authority property and ongoing maintenance responsibilities. Mr. Flory indicated that revisions to the proposed MOU are needed before it will be brought to the Board for consideration.

Mr. Flory further explained that progress on the kayak launch is being coordinated with planning efforts for disposal of concentrate from the proposed reverse osmosis (RO) system. The preferred disposal option currently involves a discharge below the dam, requiring installation of a pipeline from the water treatment plant to the dam and an application for a new outfall on NPDES permit. Mr. Flory stated that it was important to advance those plans before finalizing the kayak launch MOU and design due to public comment provisions that will be opened under the NPDES additional outfall application.

Mr. Flory reported meeting with representatives of the Deep Riverkeeper organization, the Town of Jamestown, and Deep River Trail representatives to discuss the anticipated wastewater permit application and the kayak launch project. A follow-up meeting has

been scheduled for September 23 at 3:00 p.m., and Board members were invited to participate in the discussion if interested.

4. Regionalization Updates **Gregory Flory, Executive Director**

Mr. Flory provided an update on regionalization efforts and reported that responses had been received from the Cities of High Point and Greensboro concerning the Authority's regionalization proposal. Mr. Flory has responded to clarify several points raised in those communications and is awaiting further feedback.

Mr. Flory also reported reaching out to the City of Asheboro after learning informally that Asheboro may be supportive of regionalization efforts. Clarification has been requested regarding the City's position, and Mr. Flory has informed the Asheboro Manager that the Board will most likely require a resolution of support for PTRWA serving as the facilitator to regionalization to continue evaluating the Asheboro site for a regional solution. No response has been received to date.

The Executive Committee met to discuss a path forward for evaluating regional wastewater treatment options. The proposed approach is to develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the City of Randleman to conduct a more detailed engineering evaluation of the Randleman wastewater treatment facility as a potential site for a regional wastewater plant. The MOU would outline, at a high level, the intended framework of a future asset purchase agreement should the site prove suitable. Funding for the study is expected to come from the \$500,000 appropriated by the State for regionalization efforts. Any cost exceeding the allocated amount would be brought to the Board for consideration.

Mr. Flory noted that the MOU would require approval only from the Authority and the City of Randleman. This approach would allow the evaluation process to proceed and provide information regarding the site's capacity and suitability before any asset acquisition decisions are made.

Mr. Flory stated that Asheboro will be advised that state funding creates a timeline for participation and that a response will be needed by October in order for the City to be included in the scope of the state-funded study. Mr. Flory further indicated that if Asheboro wishes to participate and study costs exceed available state funding, the City would be expected to contribute proportionally based on its anticipated contribution to a regional facility. Board members reiterated that a formal resolution of support from Asheboro would be required before moving forward with its participation.

Board discussion emphasized that selecting and evaluating a site in Randleman would not preclude Asheboro or other municipalities from participating in a future regional wastewater system. Members noted that the proposed study is intended to determine whether the Randleman site can accommodate a facility of sufficient size to support regionalization goals and determine at a preliminary level what proposed permit limits would be for the facility.

Discussion also addressed the potential acquisition of adjacent property that may be necessary for future expansion at the Randleman site. Mr. Flory indicated that preliminary conversations with the property owner would be more appropriate once an MOU is in place.

The Board discussed the anticipated timeline and scope of the engineering study, with Mr. Flory estimating approximately six months for completion. Members also discussed the potential for initiating portions of the permitting process concurrently with the engineering evaluation in order to avoid delays. Mr. Flory agreed to explore whether permitting and site evaluation activities can proceed simultaneously and to report back to the Board with recommendations.

Board members expressed support for continuing to advance the regionalization initiative and encouraged Mr. Flory to proceed with due diligence efforts while maintaining communication with potential regional partners.

5. Construction Updates

Gregory Flory, Executive Director

Mr. Flory reported that the Water Treatment Plant Expansion Project remains on schedule and is progressing as planned. Mr. Flory has advised project partners, including Greensboro, that billing for expansion participants will likely begin in July 2028, when the master agreement is anticipated to be updated to reflect the availability of the additional treatment capacity. Construction is currently scheduled to reach substantial completion by the end of 2027, with final completion anticipated in August 2028.

Mr. Flory reported that all recent structural testing has been completed, including evaluation of previously identified concrete concerns. Test results confirmed that no significant structural deficiencies exist, and construction activities continue to progress satisfactorily.

During construction, several previously undocumented conditions have been encountered that have presented conflicts with the proposed construction activities. Mr. Flory noted that the design-build delivery method has allowed the project team to make necessary modifications and design adjustments efficiently as these issues are identified, minimizing impacts to the project schedule.

Mr. Flory provided an update on the sludge-handling portion of the project that was previously removed from the expansion scope. Additional information and direction have now been provided to the design team, and design work is proceeding. Crowder is expected to provide a 15% cost estimate by the end of October. Once that estimate is received, Mr. Flory will meet with project partners to review costs and determine whether the project should move forward. A meeting with partners has been scheduled for late November, with a more detailed board update anticipated in December.

Mr. Flory also reported that design work for the reverse osmosis (RO) project remains underway. One of the primary outstanding issues continues to be the RO concentrate waste discharge component of the project. Mr. Flory expects to meet with the North

Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) within the next one to two months to discuss discharge permitting options. Preliminary discussions held earlier this year indicated support for discharging the concentrate below the dam.

Mr. Flory noted that future RO concentrate discharge permitting considerations will likely include treatment requirements for emerging contaminants, particularly PFAS and 1,4-Dioxane. While DEQ has indicated that any regulatory limits for these contaminants may be implemented during future permit cycles, those requirements remain a key consideration in project planning. Mr. Flory explained that one long-term option under evaluation is the potential to convey wastewater to a future regional treatment facility in Randleman, if developed, where treatment for emerging contaminants could be incorporated into facility design. This approach could provide a more cost-effective solution for project partners while avoiding the need for additional treatment infrastructure at the Authority's water treatment facility.

6. Executive Director's Report

Gregory Flory, Executive Director

Mr. Flory reported that the Authority recently hosted a site visit for approximately 30 attendees from the Association of State Dam Safety Professionals during the organization's annual conference in Raleigh. At the request of the association, participants toured the Authority's dam facilities and received an overview presentation in the conference room. Mr. Flory reported receiving positive feedback from attendees and noted that the Authority's dam was selected for the tour based on recommendations from state officials.

Clearwell Rehabilitation – Mr. Flory provided an update on the offline clearwell, noting that significant structural issues have been identified. Mr. Flory continues to evaluate repair alternatives and has consulted with multiple specialty contractors to determine the most effective long-term solution. Due to the anticipated cost of repairs, Mr. Flory is conducting a thorough review of all available options before presenting a recommendation to the Board.

Finished Water System Repairs – Mr. Flory reported that a recent repair was required on a leaking connection within the finished water system. During the repair process, it was discovered that a valve had been damaged during previous construction activities, preventing proper isolation of the pipeline. As a result, water backflowed through the system before isolation could be achieved, causing significant sediment disturbance within the line.

To facilitate repairs and system cleanup, water service to High Point was temporarily suspended for approximately five days, while Greensboro service was interrupted for approximately 24 hours. The Authority's storage tank at Highway 62 was cleaned by the Authority's tank maintenance contractor, and normal operations have since resumed. Mr. Flory noted that despite operational challenges, communication with wholesale customers was effective and customer impacts were minimal.

Additional investigation revealed extensive corrosion of threaded components

associated with the repaired connection, requiring further repairs. Mr. Flory anticipates completing the next phase of work in the coming weeks. Mr. Flory also noted that the installation of an additional isolation valve will likely be necessary in the future to improve system operability, reliability, and redundancy and to reduce the need for large-scale shutdowns during maintenance activities.

Filter Rehabilitation – Mr. Flory reported that rehabilitation of Dual Media Filter No. 4, previously approved by the Board, has been completed and the filter has been returned to service. Staff is continuing to work with the contractor and equipment vendor to address a remaining vibration issue associated with the filter backwash process; this is an issue that can also be traced back to original construction.

Crowder Construction is scheduled to replace the granular activated carbon (GAC) media as part of the ongoing expansion project and is intending to use the same contractor that was used by PTRWA for the Filter No. 4 project. Upon completion of that work, Mr. Flory anticipates discussing rehabilitation of the Authority's remaining dual media filters as this has been previously identified as a routine capital improvement maintenance project that the Board has restricted funds for.

7. Old Business

There was no old business.

8. New Business

Mr. Flory presented a resolution authorizing the Authority to apply for a state merger and regionalization grant. Mr. Flory explained that the grant opportunity, in the amount of \$75,000, would be used to support ongoing regional wastewater planning efforts, including permit application activities and site evaluation studies. The grant application is due at the end of September, necessitating Board action at this meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. Bald, seconded by Mr. Phillips, and carried unanimously to approve the Resolution authorizing submission of the grant application.

Cybersecurity Discussion – Mr. Thomas inquired about the Authority's cybersecurity preparedness and protections for critical infrastructure systems.

Mr. Flory reported that he continues to actively monitor cybersecurity risks and vulnerabilities associated with the Authority's operational technology and information technology systems. HDR provides support for the Authority's SCADA and operational technology infrastructure, and both HDR and Authority staff monitor cybersecurity alerts and advisories through industry security networks. Mr. Flory noted that recent vulnerabilities affecting programmable logic controllers (PLCs) were identified and addressed promptly, including isolation of affected equipment used in a pilot project.

Mr. Flory stated that access to industrial control systems is tightly restricted and that the Authority remains proactive in addressing cybersecurity concerns. Mr. Flory is also working to fill a budgeted information technology position that will provide additional

dedicated support for cybersecurity and network management functions.

As part of ongoing security enhancements, Mr. Flory is evaluating the possibility of creating a private cellular network for communications with remote facilities rather than relying on public cellular infrastructure. While the use of the public cellular infrastructure is a secure isolated network, the creation of a private network would introduce another layer of security. Mr. Flory also noted that the Authority continues to utilize a licensed radio communications system for certain operations, which provides an additional secure and reliable communications pathway.

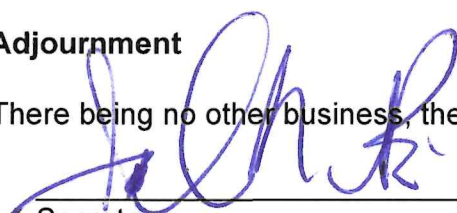
Mr. Flory expressed confidence that the Authority remains well-positioned from a cybersecurity standpoint and indicated that he will continue implementing industry-recommended security measures as technology and threats evolve.

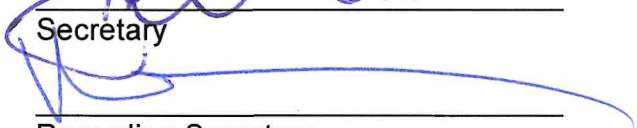
9. Next PTRWA meeting date – Tuesday, October 13, 2026 Annual Meeting

The next meeting date was set for Tuesday, October 13, 2026 at 12:00 noon in the PTRWA conference room.

10. Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 12:39 p.m.



Secretary

Recording Secretary