

MINUTES
NORTH CAROLINA SEDIMENTATION CONTROL COMMISSION
May 20, 2025
GROUND FLOOR HEARING ROOM, ARCHDALE BUILDING
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

The North Carolina Sedimentation Control Commission met at 10 a.m. on February 6, 2025, remotely and in person in the Ground Floor Hearing Room of DEQ's Archdale Building located at 512 N Salisbury Street, Raleigh. The following persons were in attendance (either in-person or remotely) for all or part of the meeting.

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Dr. Susan White (Chair)
Mr. Benjamin Brown (Vice Chair)
Mr. Michael Taylor (absent)
Mr. James Lamb (absent)
Dr. Richard McLaughlin
Ms. Emily Sutton
Ms. Marion Deerhake
Mr. Ryan Carter
Mr. Steven Wilson
Mr. Michael Holder (absent)

OTHERS

D. Reid Wilson, Secretary, NCDEQ
Brad Cole, Regional Operations Chief, NCDEQ DEMLR
Graham Parrish, State Sedimentation Program Engineer, NCDEQ DEMLR
Rebecca Coppa, State Sedimentation Education Engineer, NCDEQ DEMLR
Kat Russell, Public Information Officer, NCDEQ DEMLR
Phillip Reynolds, Commission Counsel, NCDOJ
Josh Kastrinsky, Deputy Communications Director, NCDEQ
Dr. Christina Kranz, North Carolina State University
Brain North, NC Mining Commission
Mark Taylor, SCC's Commission Technical Committee
Julie Coco, Wake County
Jeevan Neupane, Wake County
Jeffrey Gunter, Wake County
Jason Guess, Buncombe County
Scott Reams, Wake County

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

Dr. White called the meeting to order at 10 am.

Dr. White read Executive Order No. 1 regarding avoidance of conflict of interest. She asked if anyone has a known conflict of interest or potential conflicts.

Those in attendance introduced themselves.

NC DEQ Secretary Ried Wilson gave opening remarks and thanked the Commission for the work they do.

Dr. White asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the February 26, 2025 meeting. Mr. Brown moved to approve the minutes. Dr. McLaughlin made a second. The motion passed.

ACTION ITEMS

Buncombe County Review:

Mr. Parrish presented an update on the status of the follow up review of this program. Due to the effects of Hurricane Helene on both DEMLR and County staff, staff's recommendation was to continue the review period with a follow up report to be presented at the 2025 Q3 meeting. Dr. McLaughlin made a motion to approve the recommendation made by DEMLR staff. Mr. Brown made a second. The motion passed.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Updates to the Memorandum of Agreement between Local Governments and the Commission:

Mr. Parrish presented a draft of proposed changes to the subject memorandum. A discussion ensued. Dr. McLaughlin asked when a formal proposed draft would be presented. Staff stated that a formal proposal would be presented at the 2025 Q3 meeting.

NCSU Soil Science Research Update:

Dr. Rich McLaughlin and Dr. Christina Kranz presented an update on research conducted by the NC State University Department of Crop and Soil Sciences. A discussion ensued. Dr. White commented that an update on research and application of drone usage would be of interest in the future.

NCDOT Report:

Mr. Parrish stated that no trout buffer waivers have been issued by the DEMLR to the DOT this quarter and reported on the two Immediate Corrective Actions (ICAs) that were issued by the NCDOT on their projects. Dr. White requested that the follow up report for the project that had not yet achieved compliance be included in the 2025 Q3 meeting report.

Commission Technical Committee Update:

Mr. Taylor provided an update on Committee Membership. Ms. Coco presented the common themes that the committee is addressing through their updates and provided a review of the final draft of Section 6.06. Final Drafts of sections 6.12, 6.15, 6.54, 6.55, 6.60, and 6.65 were also made available for review. Staff stated that any comments or recommendations from members on final drafts should be provided to DEMLR staff. A discussion ensued. Dr. White asked for an update on how the Committee plans to work on updating the remaining sections of the manual during the 2025 Q3 meeting.

Land Quality Section Active Sediment Cases and Enforcement:

Mr. Parrish reported on the status of civil penalty assessments and judicial actions.

Education Program Status Report:

Ms. Coppa provided an update on her activities related to education and outreach and solicited topic suggestions or articles for the Sediment's Newsletter. She mentioned the success of the Local Programs Workshop & Awards Banquet held in April and acknowledged the nominees and nominators of the annual local program's awards. Winners of this year's awards were Best All-Around (program award): Orange County, Overcoming Challenges (program award): Town of Boone, and MVP in E&SC (individual award): Cody Schmoyer. Ms. Deerhake requested a compilation of contact hours and geographic distribution of the educational events conducted over the past year.

Sediment Program Status Report:

Mr. Parrish presented data to the members on the activities of the regional offices. Data was compiled from the start of the fiscal year through the month of March.

Land Quality Section Report:

Mr. Parrish presented on the number of vacancies within DEMLR. A discussion ensued.

Legislative Update:

Mr. Parrish and Mr. Cole presented an overview of proposed bills which may have an impact on the Erosion and Sediment Control Program, Stormwater Programs, Local Governments, and NCDEQ. A discussion ensued.

CONCLUSION**Remarks by Commission Members:**

Ms. Deerhake mentioned that her term on the Commission would be ending before the next meeting and remarked that it had been a pleasure serving. Dr. White thanked Ms. Deerhake for her and other members whose terms would be expiring before the next meeting for their service. Dr. White reminded members that those whose terms were expiring are able to continue to attend until a new member has been appointed by the respective body.

Remarks by DEMLR Director:

Mr. Parrish passed along the Director's gratitude for the members time and efforts in conducting the business of the Commission.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 am.

Graham Parrish, State Sedimentation Engineer
Energy, Mineral, and Land Resources

Brad Cole, Chief of Regional Operations
Energy, Mineral, and Land Resources

Dr. Susan White, Chair
Sedimentation Control Commission