The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 162A-67(a) is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

"(2a) Upon the expansion of the district into another county so that the district lies in two counties, the three board members appointed by the county in which the largest portion of the district lies (determined with reference to the land area of the district lying within the county as a percentage of the land area of the entire district at the time such appointment or reappointment is made) shall continue to serve on the district board, and the board of commissioners of the county in which the largest portion of the district lies shall, upon completion of their respective terms, reappoint such members or appoint other qualified voters residing in the county and district as their successors such that the county in which the largest portion of the district lies shall always have three members on the district board. The board of commissioners of the county in which the lesser portion of the district lies (determined with reference to the land area of the district lying within the county as a percentage of land area of the entire district at the time such appointment or reappointment is made) shall appoint to the district board two qualified voters residing in the county and district to serve for a term of three years and shall, upon completion of the board members’ respective terms, reappoint such members or appoint other qualified voters residing in the county and district as their successors such that the county in which the lesser portion of the district lies shall always have two members on the district board."

SECTION 2. The prefatory language of G.S. 162A-67(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) Appointment of Board for District Lying Wholly or Partly outside City or Town Limits. – The district board of a metropolitan sewerage district lying in whole or in part outside
the corporate limits of a city or town shall be appointed immediately after the creation of the district, in the following manner:"

SECTION 3. G.S. 162A-67(a)(4) reads as rewritten:

"(4) The governing body of each political subdivision, other than counties, lying in whole or in part within the district, shall appoint one member of the district board, except that no appointment shall be made by or in behalf of a political subdivision which has not appointed a member to the district board as of July 1, 2012, and which does not own or operate a public system for the collection of wastewater at the time of such appointment. No appointment of a member of the district board shall be made by or in behalf of any political subdivision of which the board or boards of commissioners shall be the governing body. If any city or town within the district shall have a population, as determined from the latest decennial census, greater than that of all other political subdivisions (other than counties) and unincorporated areas within the district, more than one-half the combined population of all other political subdivisions (other than counties) and unincorporated areas within the district, the governing body of any such city or town shall appoint three members. For purposes of determining district board representation of political subdivisions other than counties, population shall be determined by reference to the most recent decennial census population of such political subdivisions and unincorporated areas of counties within the district which have district board representation at the time of such appointment and not merely that portion of the population residing within the district boundary itself. All members and their successors appointed by the governing bodies of political subdivisions other than counties shall serve for a term of three years and shall be qualified voters residing in the district and the political subdivision from which they are appointed."

SECTION 4. G.S. 162A-69 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

"§ 162A-69. Powers generally; fiscal year.
Each district shall be deemed to be a public body and body politic and corporate exercising public and essential governmental functions to provide for the preservation and promotion of the public health and welfare, and each district is hereby authorized and empowered:

…
(13c) To exercise all the powers of a Metropolitan Water District under Article 4 of this Chapter.

…"

SECTION 5. This act becomes effective July 1, 2012.