Triangle J Mission Statement
To serve as an intergovernmental organization for local elected officials that works proactively on regional issues in order to sustain and improve the quality of life for our citizens.
Welcome:
Mayor Pam Hemminger and Chair Ed Harrison of the Triangle J Board of Delegates gave introductions to the meeting. There has been overwhelming response from the water resources community regarding a need to look at water management in the Jordan Lake watershed from a regional perspective, and our area is poised to develop a collaborative entity that convenes stakeholders from across the spectrum to work together in integrated and innovative ways. This group will focus on integrated water management in the watershed and not just water quantity or supply, and thus will be separate from, but inclusive of, the Jordan Lake Partnership.

Presentations:
Jen Schmitz (TJCOG) gave a presentation on Integrated Water Management, the importance of regional collaboration, and the application of a One Water mentality in the region.

Sarah Collins (NC League of Municipalities) and Grady McCallie (NC Conservation Network) gave an overview of the state of the legislative environment in relation to proposed upcoming legislature impacting the Jordan Lake watershed and beyond.

Ed Kerwin (OWASA) gave a presentation on the past, present, and future of the Jordan Lake Partnership. The JLP has received approval from the EMC for their Round 4 Allocations and will be embarking on additional drinking water supply, demand, and interconnections modeling, as well as agreement processes.

General Discussion:
The audience discussed what an integrated, regional watershed management group should look like, work on, and would want to see in the future. Several questions were posed among attendees. Main points of the discussion were:

- Realization that the federal/state government will not protect the watershed – falls to us as stakeholders to collaborate and shift our paradigm
- Need to formulate goals, outcomes, and structure, and formulate subcommittees over time to pursue specific tasks.
- What conservation projects will be needed to protect the watershed?
- Could the group work on a regional conservation/restoration plan?
- Sharing best practices among entities throughout the region is critical
- Need to look at emerging technologies, emerging contaminants, and consider both upstream and downstream communities
- Need to have a central entity to keep track of research, monitoring, and other efforts in and around the watershed
- Ensuring efforts are not duplicated in the region will also be critical. (audience members shared several potentially overlapping projects; some materials are attached to this email)
- Will need to work closely with everyone in the room, including the Collaboratory, the JLP, small/rural jurisdictions, etc.
- Will need to think beyond the JL nutrient rules and consider the economic, social, and environmental impact of better regional water management.

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In general, we need to determine which elements of other collaborative models can be utilized by this group. (UNCWI, UNRBA, Raleigh’s conservation partnerships, LID/Cost Sharing, etc.)

Also need to think of a name to differentiate from the JLP but encompass the collaborative nature of the group.

**Next Steps:**

The group agreed that meeting again soon would be beneficial to continue moving forward, and that the same location, day, and time would be best. The next meeting will be held in the same location at the Frontier from 11:30am to 2pm on **Thursday, August 24th**.

Please mark your calendars and look for a formal invitation soon. Additional information will be provided closer to the meeting date.

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