

# Triangle J Council of Governments

## Jordan Lake One Water Meeting Summary

March 27, 2019

9:30 am to 11:30 am

### Attendees:

Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Amy Cameron	Burlington	Julie Henshaw	NCDA - DSWC
Amy Galey	Alamance County Commissioner	Kristine Williams	Greensboro
Bill Holman	Conservation Fund	Mckenzie Gentry	Durham County
Bob Patterson	Burlington	Megan Walsh	Durham
Brian Baker	Alamance Parks	Morgan DeWitt	Chatham County
Carolyn Buckner	Burlington	Nora Deamer	DWR - Planning
Cindy Perry	Pittsboro	Pam Hemminger	Chapel Hill Mayor
Dan McLawhorn	Raleigh	Peter Raabe	American Rivers
David Phlegar	Greensboro	Phil Ross	AWCK
Diana Hales	Chatham County Commissioner	Reggie Hicks	Durham
Ed Kerwin	OWASA	Rich Gannon	DWR - Planning
Gavin Stevens	Alamance Community Foundation	Ruth Rouse	OWASA
J.V. Loperfido	Durham	Ryan Eaves	Durham County
Jamie Smedsmo	UNC-Chapel Hill	Ryan Parks	Triangle Land Conservancy
Jeff Adkins	Cary	Stan Fortier	Apex
Joey Hester	NC DACS	Sydney Miller	Durham
Josh Johnson	AWCK	Tonya Caddle	Alamance County

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**Presentations:**

*Commissioner Amy Galey* (Alamance County) opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to Burlington & Alamance County.

*Cameron Colvin (PTRC)* gave a brief presentation on the Jordan Lake One Water organization and developments that have occurred since the last JLOW meeting in November. This presentation is available on the JLOW website.

*Joey Hester (NC Division of Agriculture & Consumer Services)* kicked off our Stakeholder Perspectives series by providing an inside look at the agriculture sector and how they are addressing water quality throughout the basin. This presentation is available on the JLOW website.

*Leigh Ann Hammerbacher & Ryan Parks (Triangle Land Conservancy)* gave a presentation outlining the Upper Cape Fear Conservation Model, which is being developed to help prioritize land for conservation throughout the basin. This presentation is available on the JLOW website.

Stakeholders then participated in a workshop session where they had the opportunity to vote on various criteria that they thought was most important to consider in model development. Conservation provides several benefits to the Jordan Lake watershed, but does not currently help meet regulatory requirements. Our hope is that a One Water framework could help value other activities that benefit the watershed.

**Discussion:**

There were a few comments and questions regarding JLOW organizational updates:

- *Diana Hales (Chatham County Commissioner)* asked where the Jordan Lake Nutrient Management Study Research Symposium was being held.
- *Bill Holman* answered that it will be held on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 10am-3pm at the North Carolina Botanical Garden in Chapel Hill.

There were many comments and questions regarding agricultural initiatives presented by Joey Hester:

- Multiple participants were interested in data sources used in the presentation. *Joey Hester* explained that there are two major data sources: NC AgStats and the Census of Agriculture (USDA)
- *Amy Galey (Alamance County Commissioner)* asked if forestry was included in definition of agriculture.
- *Joey Hester* answered that it does not fall under the Agriculture Bill and is therefore not captured in their nutrient management reporting.
- *Julie Henshaw* noted that the EQIP program has greater funding because it is a federal program. However, state and federal programs occasionally work together on technical assistance and other aspects.
- *Peter Raabe (American Rivers)* asked if we track how much feed and waste is imported/exported.
- *Joey Hester* answered that this is not currently tracked.

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- *Julie Henshaw* also noted that agriculture is a dynamic system that can be impacted by weather. For example, western farmers supported eastern farms that flooded this year. So, this number could fluctuate greatly.
- *Peter Raabe* – Could this question be added to the Agricultural Census for tracking purposes? The more data the better.
- *Julie Henshaw* – We would be happy to submit a letter suggesting that.
- Some participants asked for an example of third party implementation. *Joey Hester* provided the example of NC DOT implementing BMPs, where Ag retains responsibility but does not receive credit.
- Some participants questioned the strength of the baseline measurements of BMPs. Questioned answered – Determining buffers is a collaborative effort with input from multiple stakeholders, part of a larger GIS project.
- Several participants noted the helpfulness of the presentation

There were a few comments and questions regarding the Upper Cape Fear Conservation Model outlined by TLC staff:

- *Bill Holman (Conservation Fund)* mentioned that there are opportunities to bring in other stakeholders and data points (city and county parks, etc), and refine the model at a local scale. The results from today are a starting point to determine watershed-wide priorities that can be tailored as needed.

#### **Next Steps:**

The Advisory Committee will meet Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup> and continue revising the second draft of the Work Plan. We will try and make this available to all participants and other interested stakeholders as soon as possible in order to allow for further feedback and comments.

The JLOW Elected Officials group will be meeting on Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>.

The results from the UCF Conservation Model Workshop will be shared with the group, along with meeting notes and presentations. Additionally, if anyone is interested in participating on a subcommittee or on any Tasks in the Work Plan, please contact Jen.

The next JLOW meeting will occur in June 2019. A date and invitation will be sent out soon.

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