

# Triangle J Council of Governments

## Jordan Lake One Water Association Meeting Summary

August 24, 2017

11:30am to 2:00pm

**Attendees:**

| <u>Name</u>     | <u>Affiliation</u> | <u>Name</u>        | <u>Affiliation</u> |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Alana Keegan    | TJCOG              | Jeff Hughes        | UNC EFC            |
| Alison Weakley  | Chapel Hill        | Jeff Warren        | UNC Collaboratory  |
| Allison Reinert | Orange County      | Jen Schmitz        | TJCOG              |
| Andrea Eilers   | TJCOG              | Jennifer Dean      | Wake Up Wake Co.   |
| Andy McDaniel   | NCDOT              | John Morris        | OWASA              |
| Bill Holman     | Conservation Fund  | Josh Baird         | Morrisville        |
| Bo Howes        | TLC                | Julie DeMeester    | TNC                |
| Brad Ives       | UNC Collaboratory  | Lee Worsley        | TJCOG              |
| Cameron Colvin  | PTRC               | Leigh Hammerbacher | TLC                |
| Caroline Loop   | Wake County        | Lori Bush          | Cary Town Council  |
| Chris Jensen    | Chapel Hill        | Kristine Williams  | Greensboro         |
| Chris Roberts   | Chapel Hill        | Martie Groome      | Greensboro         |
| Christy Perrin  | WRRI/NCSU          | McKenzie Gentry    | Durham County      |
| Cindy Perry     | Pittsboro Mayor    | Mick Noland        | PWC                |
| Cy Stober       | Mebane             | Mike Borches       | Greensboro         |
| Dan Lamontagne  | Chatham County     | Pam Hemminger      | Chapel Hill Mayor  |
| Dan McLawhorn   | Raleigh            | Peter Raabe        | American Rivers    |
| Danny Smith     | NCDWR              | Rich Gannon        | NCDWR              |
| David Hardin    | Apex               | Ruth Rouse         | OWASA              |
| David Phlegar   | Greensboro         | Ryan Eaves         | Durham County      |
| Diana Hales     | Chatham County BoC | Sandy Sweitzer     | TLC                |
| Don O'Toole     | Durham             | Sarah Braman       | Cary               |
| Ed Buchan       | Raleigh            | Shuyue Li          | TLC                |
| Ed Harrison     | Chapel Hill        | Steve Brown        | Cary               |
| Elaine Chiosso  | Haw River Assembly | Steve Kaltenbach   | Orange County      |
| Emily Sutton    | Haw River Assembly | Steve Wall         | UNC Collaboratory  |
| Forrest Westall | UNRBA              | Syd Miller         | Durham             |
| Fred Royal      | Pittsboro          | Teresa Andrews     | AWCK               |
| Grady McCallie  | NC ConNet          | Thomas Slusser     | NCDEQ              |
| Greg Jennings   | NCSU               | Todd St. John      | Withers Ravenel    |
| Harvey Seim     | UNC                | Tom Davis          | Orange County      |
| James Thomas    | Carrboro           | Tom Hoban          | CFRA               |
| Jamie Smedsmo   | UNC                | Trevor Clements    | TetraTech          |
| Jeff Adkins     | Cary               | Warren Miller      | FountainWorks      |

**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 (Chapel Hill) and Jen Schmitz* gave introductions to the meeting. This meeting is a continuation of discussions in response to 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 (“One Water”) in the watershed in order to bring economic, social, and environmental benefits to both upstream and downstream stakeholders. It will also continue to serve as a common ground to learn about concurrent and planned research and other efforts throughout the watershed.

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**Presentations:**

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

*Jeff Hughes (UNC Environmental Finance Center)* gave a presentation on several potential funding structures and options that the JLOWA organization could adopt moving forward. Sharing water resources protection costs brings maximum value to each participant in the watershed.

*Shuyue Li and Leigh Ann Hammerbacher (Triangle Land Conservancy)* outlined the results of preliminary runs of an Upper Cape Fear conservation model that mirrors the model used by the Upper Neuse to identify and prioritize parcels/areas for conservation and protection.

*Bill Holman (The Conservation Fund)* informed the group that his and several other organizations would be pursuing a Duke Energy Water Resources Fund grant opportunity to produce a watershed-wide conservation plan in the Upper Cape Fear. Matching funds are needed; potential project partners, funders, and supporters should contact him.

*Julie De Meester (The Nature Conservancy)* gave a presentation on the Sustainable Rivers program and the developments in the Cape Fear, including the involvement of the Wilmington district Army Corps of Engineers. This program focuses on managing and maximizing flows in and through dams along major rivers and waterways.

*Steve Wall and Dr. Harvey Seim (UNC)* gave an update on the Jordan Lake Nutrient Management Strategy research and data collection being performed in the lake, as well as preliminary results and statistics.

Results are uploaded to and available at:

<http://jordanlakeobservatory.unc.edu>.

**General Discussion:**

The attendees had an interactive discussion on the possible vision, mission, objectives, and structure of the group, as well as other stakeholders that should be invited to participate. They were encouraged to provide ideas, either in person or on leave-behind sticky notes. Jen will compile the points for discussion at the next meeting; however, several items rose to the surface:

- Many attendees suggested the name Jordan Lake One Water Association (JLOWA); this will be the adopted name going forward.
- The need for additional elected official support and participation (see 'next steps' below).

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- The need for a JLOWA website – this has been created and will be updated continuously (<http://www.tjcog.org/jordan-lake-one-water.aspx>).
- The need to ensure efforts around the watershed are not duplicated via a project 'clearinghouse' – this will be developed with the website above.

**Next Steps:**

Mayor Hemminger, Mayor Perry, Chairman Hutchinson, Councilmember Bush, and Commissioner Hales are five of the elected officials in the region who are active with the JLOWA group; they will be developing a 'call to action' letter to send to mayors, managers, and chairs in the watershed to urge them to participate in the group. Mayor Hemminger will be convening interested individuals that respond in early November.

The next meeting for the greater JLOWA group will be held on Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>. This will be a breakfast meeting around 9:30am. Location and precise time TBD.

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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