

Lake Wylie Marine Commission
June 27, 2011 7:00 p.m.
CMC Steele Creek Healthcare Pavilion
Meeting Minutes



Commissioners Present: Chair Smitty Hanks (Gaston County)
Vice Chair Terry Everhart (Mecklenburg County)
Commissioner Ron Wanless (York County)
Commissioner Bill Campbell (Gaston County)
Commissioner Vernon Peers (York County)
Commissioner Brad Thomas (Gaston County)
Commissioner Ed Hull (York County)

LWMC Staff Present: Joe Stowe, Executive Director, Chris Clark, Legal Counsel,
Diane Dil, Commission Clerk

Item 1 – Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Hanks called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Item 2 – Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Wanless to approve the May 23, 2011 minutes, Commissioner Hull seconded and it passed unanimously.

Item 3 - Approval of the Agenda

A motion was made by Commissioner Peers to approve the agenda as submitted Commissioner Everhart seconded and it passed unanimously.

Item 4 – Consent Agenda

No items were submitted for the consent agenda.

Item 5 – Public Comment

There was nobody signed up for public comment.

Item 6 – Stakeholders Reports

Mecklenburg County – Commissioner Everhart reported

- All is well. Charlotte fire department will be on the water to help over the July 4th holiday

Gaston County Police Department – Officer Hamrick reported

- During the month of May there were 2 minor accidents and 13 citations.
- A dock at Harbortown floated away after one of the bad storms. It has been reattached.
- Helped direct traffic for the funeral of Mt Holly marine killed in action.
- Participated in this year's Gaston County commissioner's school.

York County Sheriff's Office – Sgt Mabry reported

- Spoke with 170 cub scouts about water safety
- Gearing up for the July 4th fireworks
- 20 officers will be working Lake Wylie. Will set up a command post at the old McDonalds. There will be 2 boats with 3 officers on each and a paramedic on duty.

Mecklenburg County Land Use and Environmental Service Agency (LUESA) – David Buetow reported

- Reviewed monthly sampling reports.
- Still no reaction or comments about the fish eating notifications

Duke Energy of the Carolinas – Ronnie Lawson reported

- Lake level – 97% - Storage capacity is 106% of target
- Drought Management Group – Low Inflow Protocol (LIP) is at Stage 1 (voluntary conservation).
- RST Communications is doing a directional bore for cables at the 74 Bridge. Will be applying for after the fact permits.

Lakekeeper – Ellen Goff reported

- Receiving calls on algae blooms that look like oil slicks
- Received a report on discharge in Dam Creek that looks like detergent. Currently being investigated.
- The nationwide secchi disc dip in program has begun
- Riversweep planning is moving along. Should hear soon about a grant from the York County hospitality tax to help cover costs
- Made a formal request for funds from the commission to help pay for t-shirts.

Item 7 – Discussion of Non-native Plants in Lake Wylie

Mr. Frase of the Carolina Show Ski Team discusses the request to construct permanent performance platforms. They have been dragging the platforms back and forth from their storage place for years. Mr. Stowe and Commissioner Hull agreed to meet with Mr. Frase onsite and report back to the commission at the July meeting.

Item 8 – Discussion of Lake Wylie Map

Mr. Mike Aldridge of Pilot Media discussed the meeting held with Mr. Stowe and Ms. Goff about printing a new map of Lake Wylie. They would add the US National Grid System which will make it easier for locate for 911 calls. They would also add buoy and pump out locations.

Mr. Aldridge stated that preliminary estimates for 1000 maps are \$3.82 a piece. This could be split between the marine commission, Riverkeeper and Pilot. Logos could be added. This is a one sided map that floats, the ink does not bleed and it won't tear. Mr. Stowe asked that commissioners provide input so that a sample could be available at the next meeting.

Commissioner Everhart made a motion to allow Mr. Aldridge to continue moving forward with creating a new map and to bring a mock-up to the July 2011 meeting. Commissioner Wanless seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Item 9 – Treasurer's Report

Secretary Treasurer Howard Virkler was not present to report.

Item 10 – Executive Director's Report – Executive Director Joe Stowe reported

- **Law Enforcement Center** – clean up of the fallen trees was less expensive than anticipated at only \$800. The stumps were not removed.
- **Fireworks** – Commissioner Thomas made a motion to donate \$1,000 to Camp Thunderbird for the July 4th Fireworks. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- **Riversweep** – met with T-shirt manufacturer to discuss logo and pricing of the t-shirts for Riversweep. The price is around \$4 each for 1000 shirts. Currently grey with black writing. Possibly use a different color for leaders. Commissioner Wanless asked how they were going to handle it if 2000 people pre-registered? Chairman Hanks stated that was doubtful and they would make that call at the time. However, t-shirts are first available only for the folks who pre-register. Chairman Hanks continued that the commission could apply for Duke's Habitat Enhancement grant to help pay for the shirts. Commissioner Wanless made a motion to apply for the Duke grant to help offset the costs of the t-shirts. Commissioner Everhart seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Chairman hanks recommended looking to the high schools for potential volunteers.
- **Contract with Council of Governments** – Mr. Stowe stated that it was time to consider renewal of the COG contract. At \$15,000, the fee remains the same as last year. Mr. Clark stated that he has reviewed the contract and it is the same as last year's contract. Commissioner Wanless made a motion to accept the CCOG as written. It was seconded by Commissioner Campbell and passed unanimously.
- **Public Hearing for the Consideration of the FY 11-12 Budget Ordinance** – Commissioner Everhart mad a motion to open the public hearing. Commissioner Peers seconded it and it passes unanimously. Mr. Stowe asked for public comments. Having heard none, Commissioner Everhart made a motion to close the public hearing. Commissioner Hull seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Item 10 – Chairman's Report - Chairman Smitty Hanks reported

- **Buoy Update** – another has broken loose. May need to consider going to stainless steel.
- **Buoy Lights** – agrees not to replace lost lights but to move to new light mounting system when available.

- **Lake Management Society Meeting** – dredging was a theme of the meeting. May see more as sedimentation increases. Discussion of introducing native plants to increase shoreline stabilization. Requested Ronnie Lawson to get more information. Possible project for wildlife enhancement grant.

Item 11 – Old/New Business and Commission Project Reports

- **Buoy Update** - Chairman Hanks discussed this during his report.
- **Clean Marina** – Commission Campbell reviewed the workshop. Felt good information was gathered. Stated that we should be proud to have this program in NC as no other program exists. He continues to work with 2-3 other marinas to become certified. Encourages current SC marinas to get state certification. Pursue grants and loans for financial assistance of becoming a clean marina.
- **Garden Parkway** – Commissioner Wanless stated that the follow-up study of the economic impact and visualizations as requested have not been delivered from the Turnpike Authority. Mr. Stowe, Chairman Hanks and Commissioner Wanless to discuss concerns with Bob Clay.
- **Fireworks** – Commissioner Virkler reported that many buckets have been distributed to collect donations for fireworks. A letter from Camp Thunderbird to previous donors has gone out.
- **Grass Carp** – Commissioner Virkler believes the carp will be delivered to the lake this May.
- **Food for Riversweep** – Commissioner Everhart stated that Food Lion will donate \$2,000 for the food. It may be more with vendor donations. The group are currently finalizing logistics.
- **Buoy GIS** – Commissioner Everhart now has GPS coordinates for all official buoys in both North and South Carolina. The GIS maps are being finished up for SC.
- **Chemsticks** – The chemsticks need replacing. Commissioner Everhart made a motion to purchase 800 chemsticks to be distributed equally to all boats. Commissioner Peers seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- **Map** – Commissioner Everhart volunteered to organize the information for producing a new map.
- **Public Relations** – Commissioner Hull provided an update on the website. He is working with Wayne of Webwright Carolina to create a mobile version of the website. The proposal would be \$100 initial set-up charge, \$75 for changes, \$15/month hosting fee. Commissioner Hull made a motion to approve this service. Commissioner Virkler seconded. During discussion many commissioners wanted additional information. Commissioner Hull withdrew his motion. Commissioner Hull will arrange a meeting to discuss this project further.
- **Wild Turkey Federation – Jake Day** – Commissioner Peers discussed the fishing derby and requested for SPLASH to attend on June 11th. Commissioner Everhart will check calendar and let him know.
- **Dale’s Landing** – Chairman Hanks was asked if there was anything the commission can do about the trash and camping at Dale’s Landing. After much discussion Chairman Hanks will discuss with Belmont City Manager.

Item 12 – Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Everhart to adjourn the May 23, 2011 business meeting; seconded by Commissioner Peers. The motion was approved.

The next LWMC business meeting will be held on July 25, 2011 at the Gaston College East Campus and Textile Technology Center..