

Mountain Island Lake Marine Commission



**Cowan's Ford Country Club
761 Club Drive
Stanley, NC**

**April 1, 2009
Meeting Minutes**

Commissioners Present: Chairman Pam Beck (Gaston County), Vice Chairman Alice Battle (Mecklenburg County), Secretary/Treasurer Ann Danzi (Gaston County), Commissioner Chris Watson (Lincoln County), Commissioner Dan DuVall (Mecklenburg County), Commissioner Tim Bishop (Mecklenburg County), Commissioner Tim Eldridge (Gaston County)

MILMC Staff Present: Executive Administrator Annette Lawing, Legal Counsel Chris Clark

Topic	Discussion Summary	Action
Welcome & Introductions	Chairman Pam Beck called the meeting to order at 6:29 pm.	
Approval of the April 1, 2009 Agenda	The April 1, 2009 meeting agenda stand as submitted	
Approval of the March 4, 2009 Meeting Minutes	The March 4, 2009 meeting minutes stand as submitted with the following revision: <input type="checkbox"/> Page 3, MI Wildlife Stewards – Commissioner Eldridge stated that the installation would be in at least 14' of water. Change: <i>should be in at least 20' of water.</i>	
Statement of Purpose	Legal Counsel, Chris Clark read the Statement of Purpose into the record.	
Public Comments	Public Comments - None	

Topic	Discussion Summary	Action
Consent Agenda	Consent Agenda – None	
Public Safety Reports	<p>Charlotte – Mecklenburg Police Department – Officer Turner reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ (16) Calls for service – 8 were zone checks at Neck Rd and 8 were at Latta Plantation <p>Gaston County Police Department – Officer Hord reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Only on the lake during weekends only through May <p>Lincoln County Sheriff’s Office</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ No one was present to give report <p>N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ No one was present to give report <p>Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ No one was present to give report <p>Duke Energy of the Carolinas – Kermitt Taylor reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ (2) Pier Applications – (1) in Mt. Isle Harbor, (1) in Mountain Point □ Lake level is 97.4 	
Environmental Reports	<p>Mecklenburg County Land Use and Environmental Services – Heather Davis reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Water Quality Conditions (January 2009) – Results were all in the Good/Excellent range. The quality index in McDowell Creek Cove improved by 28 points from 2008. This is due to a decrease in Nitrate/Nitrite & Total Phosphorus. □ Bacteriological Results (January 2009) – Results were all excellent excluding Middle McDowell Creek Cove. The results in this cove were 220 units of fecal coliform colonies. This alerted samplers therefore, they went back to this site a week later to resample. At that sampling, the results decreased to 3. If this area would have continued to show signs of high fecal coliform colonies, the public would have been notified and swimming would have been prohibited until the problem was resolved. 	

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<p>Environmental Reports (continued)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Garr Creek – Continuing to monitor this area due to the results of high phosphorus. A large plant farm in the nearby area most likely contributes to these results. Commissioner Dan DuVall added that the bait population in this area seems to be high this year. <p>Secretary Treasurer Ann Danzi asked Ms. Davis if she had any involvement with testing the water for Mercury. Ms. Davis responded that Mercury testing on the lake generally takes place annually however; Commissioner DuVall stated that it was his understanding that testing for Mercury (in fish) hasn't been done in 12 years. Duke Energy's Kermitt Taylor added that Duke conducts a variety of tests on a regular basis but wasn't sure how often they tested for Mercury. He will research this and report back to the Commission at their May 6th meeting.</p> <p>Lakekeepers Report – Alice Battle reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ HB 39 has been referred to go before the Standing Judiciary III Committee. No date has been scheduled to hear this bill. The Commission should continue to contact these committee members to express their support of this bill. □ The Covekeepers have officially adopted the island at Duck Cove as part of the Island Habitat program. □ Pending IBT Applications – <u>Brunswick County</u>: Brunswick County has a grandfathered transfer amount of 10.44 MGD from the Cape Fear River Basin to the Shallotte and Waccamaw River Basins. The water system is currently requesting to increase its authorized transfer to approximately 19 MGD. These transfer amounts are based on water use projections through the year 2040. <u>Kerr Lake</u>: The Kerr Lake Regional Water System (KLRSW) has a grandfathered transfer amount of 10 MGD from the Roanoke River basin to the Tar River and Fishing Creek River basins. The water system is currently requesting to increase its authorized transfer to approximately 24 MGD. In addition, they are requesting a 2.4 MGD transfer from the Roanoke to the Neuse River Basin. These transfer amounts are based on water use projections to the year 2040. 	

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Environmental Reports (continued)	<p>Catawba Riverkeeper David Merryman also reported for the Lakekeepers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Attended the Clean Water Lobby Day in Raleigh on March 24th – a day to voice your support for legislation and funding that protects the Catawba River. □ The FERC Draft Environmental Impact Study has been released for review and comments. The Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation will read through the 500+ page study and will prepare to comment on it. Secretary Treasurer Danzi asked Mr. Merryman if he thought the current lawsuit between North Carolina and South Carolina regarding the Concord / Kannapolis IBT would have any affect on the Environmental Impact Study. Mr. Merryman replied that at this point, he wasn't sure if the lawsuit would have an impact or not on the EIS. <p>Quality of Natural Resources (QNRC) – Pam Beck reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Invasive Aquatic Species Education – Ms. Beck to inform the QNRC committee that the MILMC is committed to helping on the effort of educating the public on invasive aquatic species. <p>MI Wildlife Stewards – Tim Eldridge and Alice Battle reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ 250 fish attractors were installed in Mountain Island Lake in March. □ Met with Duke Energy on March 12th to discuss enforcement at the islands on Mountain Island Lake. Suggested signage to be posted on all of the adopted islands. To date, 2 islands have officially been adopted. □ Meeting was held at the Carolina Raptor Center where Veterinarian Dr. Dave Scott presented a very interesting program to the Wildlife Stewards. 	

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<p>Environmental</p>	<p>LIP Trigger Status Summary – Ed Bruce, Civil Engineer in the Hydro Licensing Group at Duke Energy, gave a Power Point presentation on the current status of the LIP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Currently, the LIP is in Stage 2 but could possibly be moved to Stage 1 within the next month or so due to the abundance of rainfall around the Catawba River. ▪ Essentially, Duke Energy monitors three trigger points: storage in all of the reservoirs, four significant tributary streams that flow into the system, and the US Drought monitoring. Mr. Bruce provided an update on the Storage Index which showed the fluctuations from June 2007 to April 2009. The US Drought Monitoring 3-month numeric average from January – March 2009 continues to support a stage 2 condition. ▪ A very interesting presentation slide that Mr. Bruce provided was of the average precipitation history for February and March 1999 – 2009. It seems as if our area has received a tremendous amount of rainfall during March 2009 but actually, we are below the average for this particular month. ▪ Monitored USGS Streamflow Gages: Actual six-month versus historical six-month ratio as of March 29, 2009 = 63.1%. This ratio supports the Stage 2 condition. This ratio needs to be at 65% to support a Stage 1 condition. Mr. Bruce informed the Commission that within the next 5 years, 7 additional groundwater monitors will be installed. These monitors gage the upper part of the ground instead of deeper levels. This is because groundwaters that affect tributaries usually are in the upper part of the ground. ▪ Mr. Bruce concluded his presentation by thanking the citizens for their conservation of water during this drought. 	
<p>Public Safety</p>	<p>Request for Approval - No Wake Zone request in Tiger Cove (near Riverside Drive) Follow up</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ As a follow up from the February 4th MILMC business meeting where applicant Jeff LeVie reported that the problem facing this cove is that fishermen, visiting boaters and residents accelerate out of the cove at high rates of speed. This behavior has created a danger zone for swimmers and other boaters. The Commission suggested that Mr. LeVie gather other area resident’s opinions of this No Wake Zone request and follow up with Commission. As requested, Mr. LeVie provided the Commission with a petition of cove residents in favor of the 	<p>A motion was made by Commissioner Eldridge to approve a No Wake buoy at Tiger Cove with the understanding that the Commission will purchase supplies and installation and the</p>

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Public Safety (continued)	<p>No Wake Zone. Commissioner Alice Battle made a site visit to see if this cove was narrow enough to fall under the 100' No Wake Buffer. After taking the necessary measurements, Commissioner Battle reported that this cove does indeed fall under the 100' buffer.</p> <p>The Commission agreed to allow a buoy to be installed in this cove but asked the applicant if he would be willing to pay for the cost of the buoy. Mr. LeVie agreed that he would be responsible for the purchase of the buoy and the future maintenance if the Commission would purchase the supplies and installation.</p>	<p>homeowners to purchase the buoy and future maintenance. Seconded by Commissioner Watson. The motion was approved.</p>
Base Operating Plan	<p>Update on the Base Operating Plan (BOP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Boating Safety – HB 39 has been referred to go before the Standing Judiciary III Committee. No date has been scheduled to hear this bill. □ River Tour with Elected Officials – Secretary Treasurer Ann Danzi and Vice Chairman Alice Battle volunteered to help with this effort. The Commission would like to schedule this river tour around May or June 2009. □ Lake Management Plan – Bill Duston at Centralina COG has completed his review of this plan and submitted his suggestions to the Commission. Commissioner Battle is in the process of rewriting several parts of this document. 	
Chairman's Report	<p>Chairman's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ No new information to report 	
Executive Administrator's Report	<p>Executive Administrator's Report – Executive Administrator Annette Lawing reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Finance report – Lawing distributed a current finance report to the commissioners for their review. □ FY09-10 Budget Preparation - The commission was provided a draft copy of the FY09-10 budget to review at its February meeting. The Commission will hold a public hearing at its May 6th meeting to approve the proposed budget ordinance. 	
Commission Counsel Report	<p>Commission Counsel Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ No report 	
Commissioner's	Commissioner's Comments	

Topic	Discussion Summary	Action
Comments	☐ No Comments	
Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 pm.	
Next Business Meeting Date and Location	The next MILMC business meeting will be held on May 6, 2009 at 6:30 pm at Charlotte Mecklenburg Utilities, 5100 Brookshire Blvd, Charlotte, NC.	

Annette Lawing, Executive Administrator