

Mountain Island Lake Marine Commission Minutes

July 6, 2011 - 6:30 p.m.

Cowan's Ford Country Club, Stanley, NC



Commissioners Present: Chairman Cathy Roche (Mecklenburg County), Vice-Chairman Skip Hudspeth (Mecklenburg County), Secretary/Treasurer Pam Beck (Gaston County), Commissioner Craig R. Wyant (Lincoln County), Commissioner Meg Morgan (Mecklenburg County), Commissioner Jerry Campbell (Gaston County), Commissioner Tim Eldridge (Gaston County)

Commissioner Absent: None

MILMC Staff Present: Diane Dil, Executive Administrator; Chris Clark, Legal Counsel

Topic	Discussion Summary
Welcome & Introductions	Chairman Roche called the meeting to order.
Approval of June 1, 2011 Meeting Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commissioner Wyant stated that the minutes should say NC Wildlife “Federation” not Foundation. The minutes shall be amended to reflect the requested change. They were approved as amended.
Approval of Agenda /Statement of Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Agenda was approved as submitted The statement of purpose was read by Chris Clark.
Public Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peter Woodham from the Overlook Community requested the commission to install no wake buoys at the end of his cove. Boaters are using the cove to turn around and causing erosion. Much discussion about the actual location of the cove. <u>Chairman Roche made a motion for Commissioners Hudspeth and Eldridge to visit the location and determine if there is a need for buoys. Commissioner Hudspeth seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.</u>
Public Safety Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Officer Long – recently appointed as liaison to the commission and is getting to know the area and the commission. Commissioner Wyant asked about the availability of jet skis. Officer Long reported that the previous rental agreement was no longer available. Kermitt Taylor – As reported by Chairman Roche. Lake level is 96.9’ with current drought conditions still supporting Stage 1 of the Low Inflow Protocol. No pier or shoreline stabilization applications have been approved since the last meeting. 500 sterile grass carps were released on June 8th at a cost of approximately \$2500. Duke has hired additional off-duty law enforcement officers to address use of Riverbend Access Area. Law enforcement is being coordinated with Mt.

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	Holly police, Gaston County Police, NC Wildlife resources and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Lake Patrol.
Environmental Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heather Davis, Mecklenburg County – A printed report on water sampling results was presented. Arsenic was recorded above state allowed level. The level should not exceed 10 and was recorded at 22. Testing 50’-70’ from discharge point of the ash basin. NC DWQ will be sampling the following fish: crappie, white perch, and blue catfish for PCB, mercury, arsenic and selenium. • Lakekeepers Report, Commissioner Beck gave Alice Battle’s report – 140 participants on the Open Challenge Swim on June 4. Annual Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation is Saturday, July 23, 2011 at the Energy Explorium. The Secchi Dip-in occurred June 30th and July 7th. • Mountain Island Wildlife Stewards – The June 13th full-moon paddle was cancelled due to the weather. The July date has not been announced.
Discussion of Stakeholders Group’s Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This item was continued to the next week as the commissioners did not receive the report via email.
Habitat Enhancement Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Wyant provided an overview of the grant’s requirement. As discussed at the June meeting, the proposed grant money will be used on the Big Island. The grant consists of three components: an informative kiosk, trail with interpretive signage and a small-scale erosion control BMP. <u>Commissioner Hudspeth made a motion to approve that Commissioner Wyant submit the grant as proposed. It was seconded by Commission Beck. Commissioner Hudspeth stated that he believes the grant is a good balance of projects and fits the stakeholder’s goals. The motion passed unanimously (Commissioner Eldridge abstained).</u>
Finance Report	Commissioner Beck reviewed the financial statements. A significant amount of at least \$5,000 will be entered into the fund balance.
Chairman’s Report	Chairman Roche noted that a budget amendment is necessary to recognize Lincoln County’s lower contribution amount. It will be made once all counties have submitted their final agreements. The Charlotte Rotary is fine with moving money previously donated for hydrilla control to water safety. Commissioner Roche reviewed the schedule of the upcoming dam tours.
Reports from Committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications – Chairman Roche reported that the committee has begun researching potential vendors to update the website. Chairman Roche requested authority to continue the process. <u>Commissioner Beck made a motion to support the communications committee moving forward with process. Commissioner Hudspeth seconded and the motion passed unanimously.</u> Commissioner Campbell will provide an additional contact. • TAC - Commissioner Wyant requested that commissioners provide additional members for the

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	<p>committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buoy/Safety – Commissioner Eldridge spoke with wildlife about setting buoys. Currently they do not have the manpower to assist in this task. Commissioner Eldridge is not sure if the commission is the right group to move and set buoys. It may not be a good long term plan. Commissioner Hudspeth will continue to do regular inspections. • Shoreline Environment – Commissioner Morgan is seeking direction of how to move forward with Friends of Mountain Island. Will this require joining fees or is it simply a volunteer group? Commissioner Campbell recommended that the goals of the group should be defined before seeking members. • Water Quality – Commissioner Beck provided an update of the secchi disk program. • Watershed – Commissioner Campbell reviewed the watershed map of Gaston County.
Executive Administrators Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Dil reviewed the burgess price quote. The embroidered burgess are \$54 each for 25 pieces. A digital screen printed version is available for \$18 for 25 pieces. This is the smallest quantity currently quoted. <u>Commissioner Beck made a motion to purchase 25 pieces to sell. The motion did not receive a second. The motion failed.</u>
Commissioner Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Eldridge asked about the report promised from CCOG about how the hours were spent during the last quarter. Ms. Dil stated the information was not available to provide an accurate record of the previous quarter as detailed records were not maintained. However, the report will be given quarterly going forward beginning in October 2011. • Commissioner Beck commented about the tragic accident on Lake Norman and was amazed with the size of the wakes on that lake. • Commissioner Hudspeth recommended that there needs to be a consensus among the commissioners about how to prioritize the stakeholders’ recommendations and how to move forward.
Commission Counsel Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Commissioner Campbell made a motion to go into closed session to consult with their attorney. Commissioner Morgan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.</u> • According to the bylaws the commission is required to have a fidelity bond in place for those persons responsible for handling the commission’s finances. • Mr. Clark discussed the potential liability scenarios that the commission could encounter. Commissioner Eldridge expressed concern about situations were accidents may occur and not sure who would cover the costs. Commissioner Beck would like written proposals from various insurance companies. Ms. Dil recommended a subcommittee could be formed to meet with a few insurance agencies to determine the needed insurance coverage. Commissioner Campbell

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	<p>recommended that Mr. Clark speak with each county manager and attorney about their insurance policy for the commission.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Chairman Roche made a motion to come out of closed session. Commissioner Hudspeth seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Beck made a motion that Ms. Dil move forward with securing the required fidelity bond. It was seconded by Commissioner Campbell and the motion passed unanimously.</u> • Chairman Roche appointed a subcommittee of herself, Commissioner Beck and Commissioner Hudspeth to investigate insurance requirements.
Adjournment	There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 9:45.
Next Business Meeting Date and Location	The next MILMC business meeting will be held on August 3, 2011 beginning at 6:30pm at Mecklenburg County location to be determined.

Diane Dil, Executive Administrator