

Mountain Island Lake Marine Commission Minutes

January 4, 2012 - 6:30 p.m.

Mount Holly City Hall

400 East Central Avenue, Mount Holly, NC



Commissioners Present: Chairman Cathy Roche (Mecklenburg County), Vice-Chairman Skip Hudspeth (Mecklenburg County), Commissioner Jerry Campbell (Gaston County), Commissioner Tim Eldridge (Gaston County), Commissioner Brian Weyeneth (Gaston County), Commissioner Meg Morgan (Mecklenburg County), Commissioner Meg Morgan (Mecklenburg County)

Commissioner Absent: Secretary/Treasurer Craig Wyant (Lincoln County)

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

Topic	Discussion Summary
Welcome & Introductions	Chairman Roche called the meeting to order and introduced Gaston County Police Chief Buie.
Approval of Agenda /Statement of Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The agenda was approved as submitted. • Chris Clark read the statement of purpose.
Approval of Meeting Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The November 2011 and December 2011 minutes were approved as submitted.
Public Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alice Battle informed the commission that maps of the lake are available at Latta Plantation nature center for sale to the public.
Public Safety Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officer Turner – They carried out 8 zone checks at Latta Plantation and 8 at Neck Road access. Two larcenies from automobiles on 12/17/11. Two hunters found what appeared to be a freshly dug grave. After further examination it was likely dug by UNCC students conducting soil samples. • Officer Hord – Gaston County is officially off the water. They have been preparing buoys used in sonar. He will receive the award at the International Boater Safety Summit in March. • Kermitt Taylor – The lake level is 97.2’ with current drought conditions still supporting Stage 1 of the Low Inflow Protocol. No new permits have been issued since November. Commissioner Eldridge asked why Duke is running the water so hard. Mr. Taylor responded that is likely because of the higher demand for electricity and circulating heavy recent rains.

Topic	Discussion Summary
Environmental Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heather Davis, Mecklenburg County – Reviewed the latest Lake Use Support Index and Bacteriological Results. Nothing significant to report. Chairman Roche asked why the bacteriological results at the “Uplake CMU Water Intake” sampling location are so much higher than other locations. Ms. Davis stated there was no known source. One reason could be the location of the grab sample. It may have been near animal waste. Ms. Davis reviewed the new fish advisory for largemouth bass on Lake Wylie. Ms. Davis reviewed water quality projects for McDowell Creek watershed. Three stream restoration projects are scheduled for 2012. • Ron Smith of Gaston County Planning and Development Services introduced himself and briefly described his work in floodplain management. • Lakekeepers Report - Alice Battle reported – At their last meeting the Union of Concerned Scientists presented the publication of the findings concerning the usage of water resources by power plants. The report can be found on the Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation website. • Mountain Island Wildlife Stewards – The honey hole fish attractors have been placed. Six more will be placed in Nance Cove.
Finance Report	Ms. Dil reviewed the financial statements.
2012 Operating Plan	<p>Chairman Roche reviewed the achievements of 2011 given the time consuming nature of the stakeholder process.</p> <p>Short term goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TAC – Commissioner Wyant is working on this. • Communications with Other Agencies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chairman Roche to meet with Duke Energy’s Lake Management Department. ○ NC Wildlife – Commissioner Campbell has spoken with Dave Hoyle, Jr. ○ Public Safety – Commissioner Weyeneth has met with Gaston County police and will meet with Mecklenburg County in February. ○ Parks and Recreation – Commissioner Hudspeth will meet with Mike Kirschman of Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation. ○ Transportation – this contact has not been made. <p>Long term goals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake Management Plan - Chairman Roche stated that without available funds it will be difficult to move forward with a science-based plan. Commissioner Hudspeth recommended looking towards the universities for partnership. He also stated that taking on little items might be less daunting. Commissioner Campbell stated that a plan will come together once the TAC and other committees start moving forward. This will take some time to complete. Commissioner Campbell recommended revising the BOP report from previous years to help track the process.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Safety – Commissioner Eldridge has scheduled two boat safety classes (March 19/20 and April 9/10). He is working with NC Wildlife, who will conduct the classes. MILMC will promote the event. • Commissioner Weyeneth stated that the Facebook page has been created and will go live when the website is completed. It will supplement the website. • Chairman Roche stated that the website is in its final stages of design. She hopes to have link for internal review by the end of the week. • Commissioner Morgan is looking for direction for her area of wildlife and property. • Commissioner Campbell provided an update about the joint meeting. He stated that Gaston Country Club has agreed to host the meeting and quoted \$700 for 25 people to attend.
Chairman’s Report	Chairman Roche will provide an update to Gaston County Commissioners January 12 and Mecklenburg County Commissioners February 7.
Executive Administrators Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Dil reviewed the report of tasks done by CCOG for the months of November and December 2011. • Ms Dil reviewed the upcoming meeting location for Mecklenburg County. Barry Gullet of CMUD stated the Brookshire Blvd location should be available for us to return to in June. The commission will continue to use the Lee Dukes Wastewater Treatment Plant until then. Since the Lincoln County facility will begin charging \$50 for use of its meeting space, Ms. Dil is looking for alternative locations. Officer Turner recommended East Lincoln Fire Department. Commissioner Weyeneth recommended Hills Methodist Church as another option.
Commission Counsel Report	Legal Counsel Chris Clark reported that he received a letter from NC Wildlife regarding including the no wake zones in the administrative code. He proposes to review the letter and meet with the Chairman to discuss and will give an in depth report to the commission.
Commissioner Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Hudspeth installed two buoys – one at the Garr Creek submerged rocks and the other at Highway 16 Bridge. • Commissioner Campbell thanked the guests and their support. • Commissioner Morgan thanked Mr. Hord and wished him well.
Public Comment	None
Adjournment	There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

Topic	Discussion Summary
Next Business Meeting Date and Location	The next MILMC business meeting will be held on February 1, 2012 beginning at 6:30pm at a Lincoln County location.

Diane Dil, Executive Administrator