

# Mountain Island Lake Marine Commission Minutes (*revised*)

February 6, 2013 · 6:30 pm

East Lincoln Fire Department

Stanley, North Carolina



**Commissioners Present:** Chairman Kari Lanning (Lincoln County), Vice-Chairman Skip Hudspeth (Mecklenburg County), Secretary/Treasurer Brian Weyeneth (Gaston County), Commissioner Cathy Roche (Mecklenburg County), Commissioner Murray Nixon (Gaston County), Commissioner Meg Morgan (Mecklenburg County), Commissioner Jerry Campbell (Gaston County)

**Commissioner Absent:** None

**MILMC Staff Present:** Diane Dil, Executive Administrator

**MILMC Staff Absent:** Chris Clark, Legal Counsel

Topic	Discussion Summary
<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b>	Chairman Lanning called the meeting to order.
<b>Consideration of Agenda</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>No items for the Consent Agenda.</li></ul>
<b>Approval of Meeting Minutes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><u>Commissioner Weyeneth made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 2013 meeting as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hudspeth and approved unanimously.</u></li></ul>
<b>Public Comments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None.</li></ul>
<b>Public Safety Reports</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Officer Turner of the CMPD reported. He gave three months (November 2012-January 2013) worth of updates.</li><li>Officer Hord of Gaston County reported. The Gaston County Police Chief requested the Commission's support for the purchase of a new boat.</li><li>Kermitt Taylor of Duke Energy reported. The lake level is 96.4' with current drought conditions supporting Stage Zero of the Low Inflow Protocol (LIP). No permits were issued during the previous month. Riverbend announced to retire in April; still studying how this will happen. The MILMC will be updated as the process moves forward.</li></ul>
<b>Environmental Reports</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Alice Battle, Lakekeeper, reported. At their January 14 meeting, R. Bowman presented an investigation of coal ash ponds. Sam Perkins also made a presentation about coal ash ponds. Shannon Jordan discussed heavy duty earth moving equipment used on Nance Cove Road, possible sediment issues,</li></ul>

Topic	Discussion Summary
	<p>and the issue of city vs. county responsibility. <del>The Covekeepers have volunteered to help a citizen mark trees with No Trespassing signs—trees must be marked every 100 yards.</del> <i>The Covekeepers volunteered to help Laura Shidal, the Mountain Island Lake State Educational Forest Supervisor, mark the trees on the forest shoreline with the 4"x8" No Trespassing purple slash every 100 yards.</i> Kay Killian sent dates that she is available for the annual hike around her conservancy property. Possible dates are in March (16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, or 30<sup>th</sup>).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heather Davis, Mecklenburg County LUESA, only could provide an update on bacteriological reports, as she had not yet received other reports (e.g., metals report). However, the results of the bacteriological reports are all good and below set limits. She reviewed the various new watershed reports. Ms. Davis also reported on bio- and bug assessments conducted. Commissioner Weyeneth asked how often this information is collected, and that it would be good for the water quality committee to have previous year's data to refer to.</li> </ul>
<b>Riverbend Access Area Upgrades</b>	<p>Steadman Sugg reported. Mr. Sugg provided photographs of stewardship signs that have been posted around the lake for general knowledge. Mr. Sugg met with Officer Hord to discuss issues at public access areas around the lake and the needs of the public. Angling trails have been built along the public access areas to make it easier for people to recreate. Issues to be addressed are deep woods loitering and other illegal activities. Steps to address these issues included removing old signs and posting new signs that address what one can and cannot do, and where. Stewardship signs and no trespassing signs have also been posted. Commissioner Campbell asked about the status of no swimming signs and Commissioner Hudspeth asked how this – sign removal and replacement – has been communicated to NC Wildlife. Mr. Sugg continued that MILMC can help by providing additional eyes on the lake, helping to identify issues. Scott Jolly will serve as interim replacement as he moves to a new position within Duke Energy.</p>
<b>Presentation of 2012 Blue Fin Award</b>	<p>Chairman Lanning presented the 2012 Blue Fin Award to Steadman Sugg for his services to the Lake and he thanked the group.</p>
<b>Finance Report</b>	<p>Commissioner Weyeneth reviewed the latest financial statements. <u>Commissioner Hudspeth made a motion to renew membership with the NC Lake Management Society. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Roche and approved unanimously.</u></p>
<b>Committee Reports</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Buoys – Commissioner Hudspeth heard from Tim Eldridge about marking some low/shallow areas.</li> <li>• Communications – Commissioner Roche completed a press release about Steadman Sugg receiving the 2012 Blue Fin Award.</li> <li>• Shoreline Protection – Commissioner Morgan noted that measuring results from the stewardship program is the next step in the program.</li> <li>• Watershed/Water Quality – Commissioner Campbell is developing information on watersheds and is working with Ed Cross (Gastonia) and Ron Smith (Gaston County) to do so.</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Safety – Commissioner Nixon is working on education on fire and trash, boater/water safety education, and community education programming around the lake. Ms. Nixon also met with NC Wildlife.</li> <li>• TAC – Commissioner Weyeneth reviewed the TAC list provided by former MIL Marine Commissioner Craig Wyant. Mr. Wyant wanted good representation from all counties. He is looking to the Commission to help add and/or confirm people for the TAC. Mr. Wyant discussed the winner of the Gaston County Science program. The winner’s project focused on measuring pollution in wetlands. It would be good to have a presentation on this project at the March meeting.</li> </ul>
<b>Chairman’s Report</b>	Chairman Lanning thanked all Commissioners for participating in the planning session. There will be a presentation to Mecklenburg County on March 5. Chairman Lanning is working with Commissioner Weyeneth to set a date for Gaston County. The Chairman also discussed Duke Energy’s press release about coal plant. It was noted that the Chairman met with Legal Counsel Chris Clark to discuss document retention – reviewing old files and looking at ways to organize them.
<b>Executive Administrator’s Report</b>	Ms. Dil reviewed the report of tasks done by CCOG staff for the month of January 2013.
<b>Commission Counsel Report</b>	Not present to report.
<b>Public Comment (limited to 3 minutes)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pam Beck of Gaston County thanked Duke Energy for improvements made to Riverbend. She also expressed concerns that the Big Island has proper signage, to ensure no overnight camping.</li> <li>• Ron Smith of Gaston County Development Services provided plan on Mountain Island Charter School. These plans have been submitted and are being reviewed.</li> </ul>
<b>Commissioner Comments</b>	The Commissioners offered thanks for participation, for Steadman Sugg and Duke Energy, and for Kermitt Taylor and his work on Riverbend.
<b>Adjournment</b>	The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.
<b>Next Business Meeting Date and Location</b>	The next MILMC business meeting will be held on March 6, 2013 at the Mecklenburg County location (5100 Brookshire Boulevard, Charlotte).

Emily Parker, Executive Administrator