

**Lake Wylie Marine Commission**  
**October 22, 2012 7:00 p.m.**  
**CMC Healthcare Pavilion**  
**Meeting Minutes**



**Commissioners Present:** Chairman Terry Everhart (Mecklenburg County)  
Vice Chairman Brad Thomas (Gaston County)  
Secretary/Treasurer Ron Wanless (York County)  
Commissioner Ed Hull (York County)  
Commissioner George Medler (York County)  
Commissioner Smitty Hanks (Gaston County)  
Commissioner Robert Biggerstaff (Gaston County)  
Commissioner Lynn Smith (Mecklenburg County)  
Commissioner Howard Virkler (Mecklenburg County)

**Commissioners Absent:** None

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

**Item 1 – Welcome and Introductions**

Chairman Everhart called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Item 2 – Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Commissioner Hanks to approve the September 24, 2012 minutes as submitted. Commissioner Hull seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Item 3 - Approval of the Agenda**

A motion was made by Commissioner Virkler to approve the October 22, 2012 agenda as submitted. Commissioner Biggerstaff seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Item 4 – Consent Agenda**

No items were submitted for the consent agenda.

**Item 5 – Public Comment**

No one was present for public comments.

**Item 6 – Stakeholders Reports**

Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department – Officer Everhart reported

- Officer Everhart reviewed the recent activity of CMPD. He reported that training continues and their time on the water has reduced. They have three officers and all boats are in the water and running.

Gaston County Police Department – No one was present to report.

York County Sheriff – Sergeant Mabry reported

- They will conduct a boating safety class on November 17<sup>th</sup>.
- They have finished prepping their new dive truck.
- They attended a dive training seminar on Lake Murray.
- There are a few maintenance issues at the Law Enforcement Center and he will work with Mr. Stowe on organizing repairs.

South Carolina DNR – Officer Ferrell reported

- He reported on new duck hunting laws that go into effect this season. The law requires the hunter to be located 200 yards from any residence or business. The hunter can shoot away from or towards a building. It is believed the 200 yard distance will reduce the noise level from guns being fired close to a home.

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

- Mr. Buetow reviewed the September sampling results. All Lake Use Support Index samples are either “supporting” or “supporting +”. All bacteriological results were in the “supporting +” range.
- Commissioner Biggerstaff asked Mr. Buetow if he knew what causes the higher sampling number in the South Fork. Mr. Buetow stated that watershed is very large and captures lots of runoff making it difficult to pinpoint the actual cause.

Duke Energy of the Carolinas – Ronnie Lawson reported

- Lake level – 96.8’
- Drought Management Group – Low Inflow Protocol (LIP) is at Stage 0.
- Mr. Lawson stated that the lake level in Lake Norman was recently dropped to allow work on the dam. He discussed the protocol for public notification when lake levels are dropped.

Lake Wylie Riverkeeper report – CD Collins reported

- CD Collins thanked all those that worked on this year’s Riversweep. It was another huge success. The next step is to debrief with site captains and determine takeaways for next year.

### **Item 7 – Installation of Dock at Duke Energy Power Plant**

- Dock Masters has been hired to install a courtesy dock at the existing boat ramps for their recreational facility at 4800 Concord Road York, SC. This will be a fixed pier located between the boat ramps at the employee park. Dock Masters is requesting a letter of support from the Marine Commission as part of the Special Use Permit process. Commissioner Hanks made a motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wanless and approved unanimously. Chairman Everhart will write the letter of approval.

### **Item 8 – Treasurer’s Report**

- Secretary Treasurer Wanless reported that the finances were in order.

**Item 9 – Executive Director’s Report** – Executive Director Joe Stowe reported

- **Law Enforcement Center** – Mr. Stowe was pleased to announce that he has received the final approval for the new boat ramp and an official construction permit issued by Duke Energy.
- **Official Welcome of George Medler** – Mr. Stowe officially welcomed new Commissioner Medler and invited him to say a few words about himself.
- **Joint Meeting** – Mr. Stowe thanked those who attended the joint meeting with Mountain Island Lake Marine Commission.
- **Riversweep**
  - Mr. Stowe requested feedback about the t-shirts. The commissioners did not receive any negative comments.
  - Mr. Stowe opened a discussion of having an appreciation event at T-Bones for the site and boat captains. A buffet would cost between \$1,000 and \$2,000. Commissioner Wanless stated this idea might be too late for this year’s event, but perhaps it could be held in the spring to kick off next year’s event planning. Mr. Stowe stated another idea is to arrange volunteers to wash boats after the event as a thank you. After much discussion it was determined that additional discussion and consideration is needed and to discuss this at a later date.

**Item 10 – Chairman’s Report** - Chairman Everhart reported

- **Paddle Users** – Chairman Everhart has spoken with the owner of Tailrace Marina and an official of the Whitewater Center about organizing a meeting with law enforcement officials to discuss safety concerns between paddlers and power boat users.
- **Potential Silt Issues from Airport Expansion** – Chairman Everhart stated that the Charlotte Douglas Airport will expand in the near future. Given the sedimentation issues caused by the previous expansion he believes the Commission needs to be aggressive and discuss potential concerns. Commissioner Wanless recommended that the first place to start is with the airport manager. Mr. Stowe will contact Jerry Orr of the Charlotte Douglas Airport to discuss sediment and erosion control issues. Commissioners Hanks, Wanless and Virkler requested to participate with the discussions.
- **Goal Setting Workshop** – Chairman Everhart asked the commissioners if they wanted to have a goal setting workshop in January. Commissioner Virkler recommended commissioners review their achievements from last year at the next meeting. Commissioner Hanks stated the workshop needs to be a facilitated discussion.

**Item 11 – Old/New Business and Commission Project Reports**

- **Water Quality**
  - Clean Marina - Commissioner Biggerstaff stated that he is working with Harbortown Marina to become a certified Clean Marina.
  - Invasive Species – Commissioner Virkler has nothing new to report.
  - NC Lake Management Society – Commissioner Hanks reviewed the workshop he and Mr. Stowe attended about PCBs in the lake’s fish.
- **Safety**
  - Chairman Everhart stated that Sergeant Mabry informed him that the Coast Guard Auxiliary is seeking out better ways to mark the safety perimeter during the

fireworks display. They might bring this before the Marine Commission at a future meeting.

- Buoys – Commissioner Hanks reviewed a list of buoy work recently completed by Dock Masters.
- **Recreation.**
  - Commissioner Thomas stated he is open to suggestions on where the commission wants to go with the recreation committee.
- **Public Information**
  - Commissioner Hull stated all is well with the website.

#### **Item 12 - Public Comment**

No one was present for public comments.

#### **Item 13 – Adjournment**

With no more business the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

The next LWMC business meeting will be held on November 26, 2012 at Gaston College East Campus