

**Lake Wylie Marine Commission**  
**January 23, 2012 7:00 p.m.**  
**CMC Steele Creek Healthcare Pavilion**  
**Meeting Minutes**



**Commissioners Present:** Chair Smitty Hanks (Gaston County)  
Vice Chair Terry Everhart (Mecklenburg County)  
Secretary/Treasurer Ron Wanless (York County)  
Commissioner Ed Hull (York County)  
Commissioner Brad Thomas (Gaston County)  
Commissioner Bill Campbell (Gaston County)  
Commissioner Howard Virkler (Mecklenburg County)  
Commissioner Lynn Smith (Mecklenburg County)

**Commissioners Absent:** Commissioner Vernon Peers (York County)

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

**Item 1 – Welcome and Introductions**

Chairman Hanks called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

**Item 2 – Approval of Minutes**

Chairman Hanks requested to change the number of buoys replaced by Walsh Marine from five to four. A motion was made by Commissioner Virkler to approve the November 28, 2011 minutes as amended by Chairman Hanks. Commissioner Everhart seconded and it passed unanimously.

**Item 3 - Approval of the Agenda**

A motion was made by Commissioner Wanless to add a Clean Marina presentation to the agenda. Commissioner Everhart seconded 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**

Mecklenburg County – Commissioner Everhart reported

- The upgrade to the boat dock and fueling system is currently being done. They are moving the fuel off the docks to the bank so it is no longer over water.
- He reviewed a yearly summary of calls and compared 2010 to 2011.
- Discussed a regional law enforcement information exchange he would like to organize this spring. A similar meeting was held in 2009 and proved to be effective. The focus would be on critical infrastructure and their relationship to the Democratic National Convention.
- Commissioner Everhart requested an additional \$50 each for him and Officer Hord to cover the taxes for the airfare to attend the Boating and Water Safety Summit in the spring. Commissioner Wanless made a motion to provide an additional \$50 each for airfare for Commissioner Everhart and Officer Hord to attend the summit in San Diego, Ca. It was seconded by Commissioner Thomas and passed unanimously.

Gaston County Police Department – Officer May reported

- Gaston County is off the water and relying on Charlotte-Mecklenburg for calls.
- They are reviewing bids for boat upgrades.
- Will be doing training with the Coast Guard in March.
- At this time, jet skis will not be available this year.
- He is working to organize a meeting with Gaston County Chief Buie and the commissioners.

York County Sheriff's Office – Sgt Mabry reported

- They are doing equipment maintenance and training while officially off the lake.
- Responded to two dive calls that were not on the lake.
- Responded to a question from David Merryman about the “operation medicine drop off” program. York County has had a program for years and drop off boxes are located at many law enforcement facilities.
- A safe boating class will be held March 17<sup>th</sup>.

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

- Reviewed monthly sampling reports. All LUSI scores are in the good range and no change since September.
- Reviewed press release of results for fish sampling from largemouth bass for mercury and PCBs in Lake Wylie. It focused on a change in the amount of weekly consumption.
- Chairman Hanks announced that the annual membership to the NC Lake Management Society is due. Commissioner Campbell made a motion to renew the membership. It was seconded by Commissioner Virkler and passed unanimously.

Duke Energy of the Carolinas – Ronnie Lawson reported

- Lake level – 97.8’
- Drought Management Group – Low Inflow Protocol (LIP) is at Stage 0.
- Received two requests for dredging but no applications have been received.

**Item 7 - Clean Marina Presentation to Tailrace Marina** – Commissioner Bill Campbell

- Commissioner Campbell began working with Tailrace Marina in 2010 to become a Clean Marina. They have now passed all requirements and are certified.
- Chairman Hanks presented the certificate and flag to marina manager Ken Cottee. Commissioner Campbell presented the notebook.
- This is the sixth marina to be certified.

**Item 8 – Treasurer’s Report**

Secretary Treasurer Wanless reviewed the latest financial statements. Revenues and expenses seem to be in line. Budget amendments will be made at the next meeting to account for recent expenditures.

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

- **Clean Marina** – recommends holding a clean marina get together to encourage communication.
- **Law Enforcement Center** – met with Joe Carriker of Duke Energy to determine an acceptable location for the ramp. The next step is a bathometric survey that will cost approximately \$1,200. Commissioner Everhart made a motion to allow up to \$1,200 for a bathometric survey. It was seconded by Commissioner Wanless and approved unanimously.
- **Osprey Nests** – He has been working with Kelly Graham of the Foundation for the Carolinas to process the grant funds from the Habitat Enhancement Program.
- **Boat Show** – He distributed a schedule for the boat show. If anybody needs to change a time, they should contact another commissioner directly. Commissioner Thomas discussed ideas to make the booth more attractive. He requested all commissioners to forward pictures of lake related activities to him for potential posters.
- **Joint Meeting** – He continues to work with Jerry Campbell of Mountain Island Lake Marine Commission to determine a date for the joint meeting.

**Item 10 – Chairman’s Report** - Chairman Smitty Hanks reported

- **Goal Setting Workshop** – He reviewed the committee structure discussed at the goal setting workshop. The committees are Safety (Everhart and Smith), Public Relations (Hull and Virkler), Recreation (Thomas and Virkler), and Water Quality (Campbell and Wanless). More information about the goals will come from the report to be prepared by Jennie Stultz. Commissioner Virkler added that the entire commission should support the goals before the individual committees begin work.

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

- **Buoy Update** – Chairman Hanks delivered square weights to Dock Masters to try on buoys.
- **Clean Marina** – Commissioner Campbell reminded all the make sure the Clean Boater brochures were available at the boat show.

- **Garden Parkway** – Commissioner Wanless spoke with Bob Clay regarding the Garden Parkway. The process has been slowed because of a change in leadership.
- **Grass Carp Program Update**– Nothing new to report
- **Public Relations** - Commissioner Hull hopes to begin discussions with the web designer finishing up Mountain Island Lake’s Marine Commission website.
- **Logging Operation** – Chairman Hanks reported that he noticed a logging operation along Highway 74 between the 74 Bridge and Park Street. This is located behind Walgreens and NAPA.

**Item 12 - Public Comment**

No one was present for public comments.

**Item 13 – Adjournment**

A motion was made by Commissioner Everhart to adjourn the January 23, 2012 business meeting; seconded by Commissioner Virkler. The motion was approved.

The next LWMC business meeting will be held on February 27, 2012 at Gaston College East Campus and begin at **7:30**.