

**Lake Wylie Marine Commission
March 28, 2011 7 p.m.
Steele Creek Healthcare Pavilion
Meeting Minutes**



Commissioners Present: Chair Smitty Hanks (Gaston County)
Vice Chair Terry Everhart (Mecklenburg County)
Commissioner Ron Wanless (York County)
Commissioner Vernon Peers (York County)
Commissioner Ed Hull (York County)
Commissioner Brad Thomas (Gaston County)
Commissioner Bill Campbell (Gaston 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

A motion was made by Commissioner Peers to approve the February 28, 2011 minutes, Commissioner Hull seconded and it passed unanimously.

Item 3 - Approval of the Agenda

Chairman Hanks announced that Tom Davis has asked to remove his item from the agenda. A motion was made by Commissioner Everhart to approve the agenda as amended, Commissioner Thomas seconded and it passed unanimously.

Item 4 – Consent Agenda

No items were submitted on the consent agenda.

Item 5 – Public Comment

Chris Diggs spoke in opposition to the ReVenture project. He is concerned about air pollution from burning waste. He reviewed the issues currently being considered by Mecklenburg County. He believes the project is a significant threat to the community. He questions the plan to gather waste from other counties.

Item 6 – Stakeholders Reports

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Dept and SPLASH Report – Officer Terry Everhart reported

- Both boats in the water and available for calls.

- SPLASH may visit Lancaster County schools.

Gaston County Police Department – Officer Hamrick reported

- New policy to cut out all part time officers on the lake. Four full time hours will always be available Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

York County Sheriff’s Office – Sgt Mabry reported

- Continuing with regular training
- This summer there will not be jet skis on the water
- Duke Energy has established some “no trespassing” areas in Allison Creek

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

- Reported that there was an increase in turbidity but not high fecal counts.
- Commissioner Wanless asked what the difference is attributed to. Mr. Buetow believes timing is a big issue. Commissioner Wanless asked if there were any actions to improve this. Mr. Buetow stated that it is difficult to determine the origin. They have more activity with local point-source contamination.
- Distributed inserts about fish availability

Duke Energy of the Carolinas – Ronnie Lawson reported

- Lake level – 97.6% and the target continues to be 97%.
- Continues to be stage 1- voluntary restrictions
- All launches are open and will repave Southpoint access soon.

Lake Wylie Lakekeeper Report

- Ellen Goff – They submitted a grant for Riversweep to York County Hospitality; they are starting up the Covekeepers program; Ms. Goff mentioned the Spiderlily Tour is May 21st, kayaks are available for rent but they go quickly.
- David Merryman – Provided an update about the discharge permits for Tega Cay Water Service (TCWS). Mr. Merryman reviewed the judgment from November. The deadline to submit paperwork and plan is March 31st. Nothing has been submitted to date. April 12th is a citizen advisory meeting where TCWS will present findings and a plan. Crescent currently has a large parcel that may be annexed into Mt. Holly and rezoned to unconditional industrial. Crescent would consider deed restrictions which are only enforced by the courts. Rezoning is scheduled for April.

Item 7 – Catawba River Group - withdrawn

Item 8 – Catawba River District

Edna Chirico reviewed the accomplishments since the district was established. They are excited to announce the K-20 Learning Center. This will be a partnership to provide a hands-on learning environment utilizing outdoor recreation for education.

Item 9 – Cores States Group

Mike Novajosky reviewed the proposed upgrade to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department boathouse facility. Mr. Stowe asked about the project's time frame. Mr. Novajosky stated it must first get an approval for a variance from Charlotte. Commissioner Campbell questioned about the violation. Mr. Novajosky stated that damage was repaired without notifying DENR and the repairs were discovered during an inspection. Commissioner Virkler and Mr. Stowe will meet with the engineer on-site to review the proposal.

Item 10 – International Boater and Safety Summit

Commissioners Everhart and Ware reviewed the sessions they attended. A written report will be submitted for the record.

Item 11 – Treasurer's Report

Secretary Treasurer Howard Virkler was not present to report.

Item 12 – Executive Director's Report – Executive Director Joe Stowe reported

- **Garden Parkway** - Mr. Stowe and the commissioners met with staff from NCDOT to discuss their concerns about the parkway's bridge piers. NCDOT will review their concerns and provide feedback at a future meeting. Commissioner Thomas recommended that the project be put on hold until sufficient funds are available to build a bridge more appropriate for the lake.
- **Riversweep** – continue to work on gathering food vendors for 1000 people
- **Sewage Spill Legislation** – Mr. Stowe spoke with Senator Hayes about the status of the sewage spill notification legislation. It is currently in the Senate Medical Affairs Committee. The legislation currently has the following changes: notification now required for 5,000 or more gallons, not 1,000, the fine is \$200/day and sewage spills from industrial companies are not required to be reported.

Item 13 – Chairman's Report - Chairman Smitty Hanks reported

- **Walsh Marine** Chairman Hanks met with Walsh Marine to discuss a different way to attach lights to buoys to make them more tamper proof.

Item 14 – Old/New Business and Commission Project Reports

- **Clean Marina** – Commission Campbell announced that the SC Clean Marina workshop will be Wednesday April 27th. Commissioner Campbell made a motion to be authorized to spend up to \$1,000 for expenses for the event. It was seconded by Commissioner Peers and passed unanimously.
- **Fireworks** – No new comments.
- **Public Relations** – Commissioner Hull presented his public relations plan to the commission with the purpose of raising the visibility of the commission.
- **SPLASH** – Commissioner Everhart stated that the trailer for SPLASH needs minor repairs and improvements. Commissioner Everhart made a motion to spend up to \$200 on materials to upgrade the trailer. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

- **Recognitions** – Commissioner Campbell recognized three local programs that have benefited the lake and requested that they be entered into the record.
 - Crowders Creek Elementary School held its first adopt-a-stream clean-up and removed 12bags of recyclable materials, 10 bags of trash and two tires.
 - The Lake Wylie Chamber of Commerce will partner with York County in an adopt-a-stream program and storm drain marking program.
 - Commissioner Everhart will speak at the Charlotte Power Squadron’s April meeting to discuss mandatory education program for youth who drive boats and other safety topics.

Item 15 – Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Wanless to adjourn the March 28, 2011 business meeting; seconded by Commissioner Peers. The motion was approved.

The next LWMC business meeting will be held on April 25, 2011 at the Gaston College Textile Center in Belmont, NC.