



Commissioners Present: Chairman Neil Brennan (Gaston County)
Vice Chairman Peter Hegarty (Mecklenburg County)
Secretary Treasurer Blanche Bryant (York County)
Commissioner Ellen Goff (York County)
Commissioner George Medler (York County)
Commissioner Dan Mullane (Mecklenburg County)
Commissioner Hunter Wilson (Mecklenburg County)
Commissioner Smitty Hanks (Gaston County)

Commissioners Absent: Commissioner Robert Biggerstaff (Gaston County)

LWMC Staff Present: Joe Stowe, Executive Director and Emily Parker, Administrator

LWMC Staff Absent: Chris Clark, Legal Counsel

Meeting Minutes

Lake Wylie Marine Commission Mission Statement

*To promote public policies and support regulations for the preservation of Lake Wylie and its wildlife
and for the education and safety of the citizens who use this beautiful natural resource.*

Item 1 – Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Brennan called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and welcomed everyone present. Chairman Brennan acknowledged new Marine Commissioners Dan Mullane and Hunter Wilson (Mecklenburg County), and return Marine Commissioner Smitty Hanks (Gaston County). Chairman Brennan asked Commissioner Medler to provide an update on Commissioner Biggerstaff. Commissioner Medler reported that Commissioner Biggerstaff has made the decision to step down from the LWMC. Chairman Brennan acknowledged the dedication and service of Commissioner Biggerstaff to the LWMC.

Item 2 – Approval of Minutes

Chairman Brennan asked if any changes need to be made to the September 25, 2017 minutes. Secretary Treasurer Bryant moved to approve the September 25, 2017 minutes. Commissioner Medler seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Item 3 – Approval of Agenda

Chairman Brennan asked if any changes need to be made to the October 23, 2017 agenda. Vice Chairman Hegarty moved to approve the October 23 agenda. Commissioner Medler seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Item 4 – Public Comment

None.

Item 5 – Stakeholder Reports

Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department – Officer Carey reported that Mecklenburg County and the City of Charlotte came to an understanding that CMPD will police the extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ) in the county for another five years. CMPD lake enforcement and York County Sheriff’s Office (YCSO) participated in dive training in

South Carolina. Officer Carey noted that progress is being made towards purchasing dive equipment for their boat and they appreciate assistance from the LWMC. He talked about a recent high-speed car chase in Charlotte in which the perpetrator crossed the Wilkinson Bridge on I-85 and threw a gun over the bridge into the river. CMPD lake enforcement was able to find the gun in the water. On behalf of CMPD lake enforcement, Officer Carey sent thoughts and wishes to Commissioner Biggerstaff.

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

York County Sheriff's Office – Sgt. Mabry reported that YCSO lake enforcement, along with CMPD lake enforcement, went to Lake Murray in South Carolina to dive train with other South Carolina law enforcement agencies. The training focused on simulating mid-air plane crash into the water. It was a useful training experience that highlighted the benefits of multiple agencies working together. Sgt. Mabry handed out a request for materials that the YCSO distributes at the Boat Show, at schools, and during boater safety classes. Those materials include lanyards, whistles, and pencils. Commissioner Hanks moved to approve up to \$1,200 for York County Sheriff's Office to purchase materials as outlined. Secretary Treasurer Bryant seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The vote was taken and approved unanimously. The YCSO will have one more boater safety class on November 8 starting at 8:00 am.

Tega Cay Police Department – No report was given.

NC Wildlife Resources Commission – Sgt. Laton reported that it has been a quiet year so far on Lake Wylie. The NCWRC staff is transitioning into hunting season. They will split their time between land and water.

SC Department of Natural Resources – No report was given.

US Coast Guard – No report was given.

US Coast Guard Auxiliary – No report was given.

Mecklenburg County Land Use and Environmental Services Agency (LUESA) – No report was given.

Duke Energy – No report was given.

Gaston County Cove Keeper – Commissioner Goff spoke with Sam Perkins (Catawba Riverkeeper) and he asked if he could present the Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation's new Water Watcher Phone App at the November LWMC meeting. Ms. Parker will add Mr. Perkins to the November agenda.

Lake Wylie Lakekeeper Report – No report was given.

Item 6 – Riverpointe Wastewater Treatment Project Update

Martin Scanlon with Utilities, Inc. provided background on the Riverpointe project. The discharge pipe extends approximately 850' into the cove. Over time part of pipe had become exposed at low lake levels. The project is to lower that pipe. They will use a barge to access the site and dredge material will be pumped away from the site to an on-land location. The dredged material will be dewatered and land applied. Vice Chairman Hegarty asked how far they will go out into the cove. Mr. Scanlon said 250' feet. Commissioner Hanks asked what they are going to do to keep the soil from washing away again. Mr. Scanlon said they will bed the new pipe with rock. Vice Chairman Hegarty asked if there will still be a problem with erosion since the property bordering the cove is not stable. Mr. Scanlon said that issue is out of the scope of the engineer, but the project team can reach out to the Riverpointe HOA. Vice Chairman Hegarty offered to help Utilities, Inc. with that issue. Vice Chairman Hegarty moved that the LWMC support the amended Riverpointe project. Commissioner Hanks seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The vote was taken and approved unanimously.

Item 7 – Long Cove Marina No Wake Zone Application: Follow Up

Paul Montelongo was present at the LWMC meeting. Chairman Brennan visited the site by boat with CMPD lake enforcement. Chairman Brennan's recommendation is that Mr. Montelongo agree with the number of buoys NCWRC thinks would be necessary. Commissioner Hanks asked if these are buoys that the LWMC buys and installs. It was noted that Mr. Montelongo has offered to pay for the buoys. When installed, it would fall to the LWMC to make sure they stay in place and coordinate with NCWRC. Commissioner Hanks asked if two buoys are enough, and Mr. Montelongo thinks three buoys would be better. Chairman Brennan's suggestion is to turn this issue over to NCWRC. Commissioner Wilson moved to place buoys at the mouth of the Long Cove, as determined by NCWRC, with the recommendation that at least two buoys be placed there. Vice Chairman Hegarty seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The vote was taken and approved unanimously.

Item 8 – Riversweep 2017 Update

Commissioner Goff said that Riversweep 2017 was a successful event. 654 people volunteered and collected enough trash and debris to fill four large construction dumpsters. 135 of 654 volunteers were walk-ups. They collected 110 tires, lots of Styrofoam, a crock pot, a car hood, two kiddie pools, a fire extinguisher, part of a fish attractor, and a 7'x7' floating dock. Commissioner Goff noted that the most interesting image was of paddle boarders collecting trash on their paddle boards. The Riversweep planning committee will have one more meeting to debrief and the inventory of remaining materials is complete. It looks like tarps may be the only material item needed going into 2018 Riversweep. There are 290 Riversweep shirts left over. Chairman Brennan thanked all the Marine Commissioners that worked to bring this year's event together.

Item 9 – Joint Jurisdiction Task Force Update

Chairman Brennan noted that Legal Counsel Clark is under the weather and unable to be at the meeting. Sgt. Laton recommended that Mr. Clark speak with Director Gordon Myers. Ms. Parker will add this item to the November agenda.

Item 10 – Treasurer's Report

Secretary Treasurer Bryant provided the Treasurer's report. She gave an overview of the LWMC financials – revenues and expenditures as of September 30, 2017. She also reminded the Marine Commissioners about the four financial reports they receive each month in their agenda packet – income statement, balance sheet, monthly statement of activity, and the check register.

Item 11 – Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Stowe reported that he went to the "Water for All" meeting at Daniel Stowe Botanical Gardens earlier this month. The keynote speaker was from Austin, Texas, and he spoke about the importance of planning ahead and coordinating across jurisdictions and basins. Emphasis was put on working with river basins contiguous to the Catawba River basin. 50' buffer legislation also came up at that meeting. 50' buffer legislature is alive, well, and being pursued. If this is really the case, then it needs to be opposed. The Bi-state Commission has not met for over a year. The group wants to start meeting again. Reciprocity for fishing licenses in NC/SC was brought up as a topic to address. The LWMC has been asked to be the lead to get information together on this issue. Executive Director Stowe has started working on it. The Bi-state Commission hopes to meet in December. If anyone has information or would like to help Mr. Stowe, let him know.

Item 12 – Chairman's Report

Chairman Brennan reported that he participated in Riversweep on the planning team and as a Boat Captain. He attended four Montcross Chamber of Commerce functions – three in Belmont and one in McAdenville. He noted that these functions are helpful to make connections with the private sector and residents and encouraged Marine Commissioners to attend and talk with people about the LWMC. At one of the Belmont events Chairman Brennan asked Gaston County Commissioner Tom Keigher to invite Rusty Rozzelle to address the Gaston County Commissioners regarding sedimentation issues per the LWMC's goals. Marine Commissioners were provided a copy of the request. Mr. Keigher subsequently recommended that Executive Director Stowe make the request to

Chad Brown, Chairman of the Gaston County Board of Commissioners. Executive Director Stowe has done so, and we await Chairman Brown's response. Chairman Brennan met with new Marine Commissioners and attended the monthly officers meeting. He asked the group if anyone needs a new LWMC shirt. If so, let him know.

Item 13 – Clerk's Report

Ms. Parker reminded the Marine Commissioners that were on the LWMC in fiscal year 2017 to please fill out the audit-related form that has been placed at their seat and turn it in to Ms. Parker before leaving the meeting.

Item 14 – Old/New Business and Commission Project Reports

Old Business

- Water Quality –
 - Clean Marina/Clean Boating – Commissioner Medler reported that Clean Marina re-certification is wrapped for the year. He spoke to the Marine Commissioners about the limited situation with pump out boats and pump out stations on Lake Wylie. Commissioner Hanks asked if pump out station inspection is a line item on the Clean Marina inspection list and Commissioner Medler confirmed that it is on the list. Commissioner Medler announced that he will step down from the LWMC at the November 27, 2017 meeting. He added that he will continue working on the issue at hand. Chairman Brennan requested a list of pump out locations on Lake Wylie, which locations have issues, and any other pertinent information from Commissioner Medler related to Clean Marinas and Clean Boating.
 - Invasive Species – Commissioner Medler did not have a report.
 - Sedimentation – Commission Goff said there is not much to update with regard to the Mattamy Homes sedimentation issue. Chairman Brennan asked Commissioner Mullane if the Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation has staff and/or volunteers checking on these sedimentation sites. Commissioner Mullane replied yes, there are people working in the field. Chairman Brennan asked to be kept in the loop, in real time.
 - Buoys – Commissioner Biggerstaff was not present to report.

Chairman Brennan commented that Marine Commissioners need to be appointed to keep track of and report on buoys, and Clean Marinas/Clean Boating. Commissioner Wilson volunteered to take responsibility for buoys.

- Safety – Secretary Treasurer Bryant did not have a report.
- Recreation – No report was given.
- Public Information – Commissioner Goff plans to focus on the LWMC website and other communications items after wrapping up Riversweep 2017.

Item 15 – Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm.