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**Commissioners Present:** Chairman Peter Hegarty (Mecklenburg County)  
Vice Chairman Dan Hartley (Gaston County)  
Secretary Treasurer Dan Mullane (Mecklenburg County)  
Commissioner Smitty Hanks (Gaston County)  
Commissioner Brad Thomas (Gaston County)  
Commissioner Hunter Wilson (Mecklenburg County)  
Commissioner Blanche Bryant (York County)  
Commissioner Debi Chacharon (York County)  
Commissioner Ray Webber (York County)

**Commissioners Absent:** ---

**Staff Present:** Chris Clark, Legal Counsel; Emily Parker, Administrator

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### **Meeting Minutes**

#### **Item 1 – Welcome**

Chairman Hegarty called the virtual meeting to order at 7:00 pm and welcomed everyone present.

#### **Item 2 – Approval of Minutes**

Chairman Hegarty asked if any changes need to be made to the June 22, 2020 minutes. Commissioner Webber moved to approve the June 22, 2020 minutes. Commissioner Bryant seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion was approved unanimously.

#### **Item 3 – Approval of Agenda**

Chairman Hegarty asked if any changes need to be made to the July 27, 2020 agenda. Commissioner Thomas moved to adopt the July 27, 2020 agenda. Commissioner Bryant seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion was approved unanimously.

#### **Item 4 – Public Comment**

None.

#### **Item 5 – Stakeholder Reports**

Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department (CMPD) – No report was given.

Gaston County Police Department (GCPD) – Sgt. Knupp reported that a man drowned two weekend ago near the Mountain Island dam. The victim was found after a couple of hours. Sgt. Knupp reported that access area safety checks have happened a few times this summer. This past weekend, GCPD checked 16-18 boats. They check to see if boaters have all equipment on board. Chairman Hegarty asked if they discuss no wake rules when they stop boaters. GCPD usually does not talk with boaters about no wake zone rules, but they can start this practice.

Sgt. Knupp addressed GCPD's funding request from the LWMC. They are asking for six individual kits that are used to manage bleeding traumas, and twenty throwable personal flotation devices (PFDs). They would like to be able to give the throwable PFDs to boaters, and boaters can return them or not. Chairman Hegarty asked if the LWMC logo could be placed on the PFDs. Sgt. Knupp said yes to this request. Commissioner Webber asked if GCPD officers are trained to use the trauma kits. Sgt. Knupp said they are all trained to use the trauma kits. Commissioner Webber moved to approve GCPD's request. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion was approved unanimously. It was decided that the remainder of the \$2,000 allotted to GCPD could go towards putting the LWMC logo on the throwable PFDs.

York County Sheriff's Office (YCSO) – No report was given.

Tega Cay Police Department (TCPD) – No report was given.

Mecklenburg County ABC Board Law Enforcement – No report was given.

NC Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) – Sgt. Laton reported that they have been splitting time between Lake Norman, Mountain Island Lake, and Lake Wylie. They have noticed an influx in new boaters on the water, so they are trying to educate people on boater safety and no wake zones rules. He noted that they have seen kids under 13 years old not wearing life jackets, so they are also trying to educate boaters on the importance of wearing a life jacket. Sgt. Laton reported that they have seen high blood-alcohol levels when boaters in question comply to a breathalyzer test. NCWRC officers are focusing on impaired boat operators. Boater education classes are still being held online and will be through mid-August 2020. The class schedule can be found at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org). He will send the link to Commissioner Wilson to post on the LWMC website. Chairman Hegarty asked if Sgt. Laton knew of any boat club renting personal watercraft (PWC). Commissioner Wilson commented that boat clubs are renting PWC, but to his knowledge no other entity is renting them. But, some private individuals are renting their PWCs to people. Sgt. Laton said they are seeing people buying PWCs and renting them out, particularly on Lake Norman. This is an alarming trend. There was discussion about boatsetter.com, which is like VRBO for boats. There is no boater education involved in these transactions.

SC Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) – No report was given.

US Coast Guard (USCG) – No report was given.

US Coast Guard Auxiliary (USCGA) – No report was given.

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

Duke Energy – Mr. John Bradley reported that:

- The target elevation for Lake Wylie is 97' or, 3' below full pond. The current lake elevation is 96.6' or, 4.8" below the target.
- He noted that lake levels are measured at the hydro station dam and can vary at other locations on the lake. The lake level is being held slightly below the target elevation as a result of unit outages and required maintenance activities at the downstream hydro stations. Additionally, there is a threat of a tropical storm in the Atlantic which could impact the Carolinas next week. The level being slightly below target provides additional water storage to manage large storms. Commissioner Thomas asked when lake levels will come back up and noted that even with recent significant rain events, the lake level is going down, not up. Commissioner Hanks said that at his house, the lake level is 1-2' below where it would be normally. Mr. Bradley said he would take these questions and comments back to his colleagues and get additional information.
- No dredge permits have been approved or issued.
- Low inflow protocol: Normal

Gaston County Cove Keeper – No report was given.

Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation (CRF) – Mr. John Searby reported that the Swim Guide program continues, and halfway through the summer season, they have had around 14,000 views of Swim Guide map, with around 3,000 views for Lake Wylie. Mr. Searby presented two requests to the LWMC:

- The CRF will apply for a Duke Energy Habitat Enhancement grant in partnership with Duke Energy's invasive species group led by Dr. Brett Hartis. Pilot testing is under way on a beetle that would eat alligator weed on Lake Wylie. Mr. Searby noted that there was a major infestation of alligator weed last spring due to heavy rains. The NC Cooperative Extension has been testing beetles that can safely consume alligator weed over period of 2-3 years. The CRF is requesting a letter of support from the LWMC to be included with the grant application. No monetary support is being requested from the LWMC related to this work. The CRF will report back on progress as the program progresses. The program would start in spring of 2021. Commissioner Chacharon asked a question about the grant application and the due date for needing a letter of support from the LWMC. Mr. Searby said that if the LWMC votes to provide a letter, the CRF would need the letter this week. Secretary Treasurer Mullane added that he has seen alligator weed on Lake Wylie and a beetle would be a good approach versus people using a herbicide spray to kill the weed.

Captain Adam Huth asked if this beetle has been used in the wild before. Mr. Searby said they have been tested by NC Cooperative Extension in a freshwater laboratory setting. The beetle does not fly, so colonies would have to be moved manually, which would be labor intensive. The good news is that they can be contained. Chairman Hegarty asked if there is a fish that could take care of the alligator weed situation. Mr. Searby said there is not a fish species that eats alligator weed. Commissioner Webber asked if the LWMC is being asked to support investigation or authorization. Mr. Searby clarified that the request is for a letter of support so the grant review committee can see evidence of community support for this project. Commissioner Thomas asked if the beetles have been introduced in other bodies of water where they are not indigenous. Mr. Searby said that they have been tested in freshwater in Eastern North Carolina. The CRF's network of volunteers will be needed to execute this program. The NC Cooperative Extension's work has been to ensure that the beetles can survive the winter. They have a strain that will go dormant in the winter then wake back up when it gets warmer. Using these beetles would save time and money because they would not have to be replenished each year. Commissioner Bryant asked what the grant would pay for. Mr. Searby said labor and materials to move the beetles, and the cost of the actual beetles is negligible. The beetles would need to be physically moved to a new alligator weed mat once a month. Commissioner Wilson moved to draft the letter of support. Commissioner Chacharon seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion was approved unanimously. Chairman Hegarty and Ms. Parker will get the letter to the CRF this week.

- The CRF's second proposal is to continue support of Lake Wylie Riversweep. Mr. Searby said the CRF is going to execute Riversweep events all over the basin on the first Saturday in October. They have a planning committee in place on each basin. Mr. Landon Albrick is leading the committee for Lake Wylie. In the past, the LWMC has paid for t-shirts for Lake Wylie Riversweep. By expanding the program across the basin, CRF has had a corporate partner step up to supply t-shirts for all Riversweep volunteers. The request to the LWMC is for funds for materials that would only be used at the Riversweep event on Lake Wylie and signage to promote the event around Lake Wylie. Materials to be purchased by CRF would include trash bags, trash grabbers, and gloves. The funding request letter includes an optional \$2,000 if there is interest from the LWMC to have a specific co-branded giveaway item only for Riversweep volunteers on Lake Wylie. Mr. Searby said that the function funding request (materials and signage) would come to \$2,350. If the LWMC would like to include the co-branded giveaway item, the total request would be \$4,350. Mr. Landon Albrick added that Lake Wylie Riversweep has a huge impact on the community. Last year, more than 1,000 volunteers took 22,000 pounds of trash out of Lake Wylie. He thanked the LWMC for their longtime support of Riversweep.

Chairman Hegarty invited discussion from the LWMC and started by saying he has issues with this request and may abstain from voting. Commissioner Thomas asked how this request compares to what the LWMC usually spend on Riversweep t-shirts. Chairman Hegarty said the cost is comparable. Commissioner Chacharon commented that she was on the Riversweep planning committee before joining the LWMC. In the past the donation from the LWMC primarily went to t-shirts and the Riversweep committee would raise funds. This year, the Riversweep planning committee is not fund raising. Because Riversweep is now being handled by the CRF, these are real costs and the materials are needed. Commissioner Hanks asked why fund raising has stopped if funds are needed. Commissioner Chacharon said because the CRF is doing fund raising for Riversweep events all over the basin. That is why the CRF is asking the LWMC for a contribution. Secretary Treasurer Mullane added that part of the reason the fund raising is less impactful this year is that fewer people are on the Riversweep planning committee and a few of the more influential committee members regarding fund raising are no longer involved.

Chairman Hegarty said that materials such as trash bags, gloves, etc. used to be obtained for free, but now the LWMC is being asked to pay for them. He said he is not sure that the LWMC should pick up the shortfall. Mr. Searby clarified that this is not a shortfall situation. The request is to shift existing funding that the CRF has been able to cover through other means and take the same amount of money to apply to materials. The CRF has been able to get materials donated in the past and they will seek them out again this year. They expect to have at least 80% of last year's volunteers on Lake Wylie alone, which would mean around 800 volunteers. Mr. Searby said they have a significant number of backstock from previous years, and they are also getting donations for Riversweep events across the entire basin. The materials estimate is based on historical data. They expect to get materials donated, but probably will not have enough to cover what is needed for Lake Wylie Riversweep. The request reflects wanting to bridge the gap between in-kind donations and what is actually needed. The consumables (bags, grabbers, gloves, signage) that would be purchased with LWMC funds reflect the difference between possible donations and what they anticipate the demand to be.

Chairman Hegarty commented that t-shirts for previous Riversweep events were good for the LWMC because of visibility. The current request is for about the same money, but it is an amount that the LWMC will not have control over or how it is spent, and the LWMC will lose visibility. Chairman Hegarty noted that he will abstain from voting because he was so involved with Riversweep previously. Commissioner Wilson commented that if the LWMC passed on management of Riversweep to the CRF, the LWMC also passed on the opportunity to manage where the LWMC gets and places its branding. We are not in the position to dictate where the LWMC logo goes because another group is putting in the time to plan and manage the event. There was discussion about whether the management of Riversweep on Lake Wylie was taken or given away. Commissioner Chacharon commented on what a great opportunity it is to work with the CRF on Riversweep for the betterment and health of Lake Wylie. Mr. Searby said that for 17 years Riversweep has been, and continues to be, a joint effort between the LWMC and the CRF. Riversweep has been and will always be a community event. It does not belong to the LWMC or the CRF. The branding opportunity is completely up to the LWMC. If the LWMC wants to fund the full amount (\$4,350), he will work with Commissioners Chacharon and Mullane to come up with a suitable giveaway item that will go to each volunteer. Volunteers will also get a t-shirt that will have the LWMC logo on it. He is comfortable with whatever the LWMC decides. Mr. Searby reiterated that Riversweep will be a joint event.

Commissioner Bryant asked why Riversweep was taken away from the LWMC. Secretary Treasurer Mullane said it has not been taken away. Commissioner Chacharon asked Commissioner Bryant if she is currently on the planning team and added that the Riversweep committee is doing a huge service by carrying the planning work. She said it is not a taking-away but is a community event that benefits the whole lake that the LWMC has funds budgeted for. Commissioner Hanks said he is in favor of supporting Riversweep but asked how we got to the point where Riversweep has been a joint effort between the LWMC and the CRF and the idea to expand Riversweep to the whole basin did not come before the LWMC. Secretary Treasurer Mullane said this is still Lake Wylie Riversweep, and the fact that there are other clean up events going is relevant, but not relevant to this conversation because the CRF is asking for help from organizations that serve other lakes in the basin. We are missing help and support that we used to have. He added that the Riversweep mission is the same and it does not feel different from his perspective.

Chairman Hegarty acknowledged that Riversweep is a budgeted item (\$5,000) and this event is something the LWMC has supported. He asked Mr. Searby if the LWMC logo will be on t-shirts for the whole basin-wide event or just for Lake Wylie's event. Mr. Searby said for the entire chain. There will be one t-shirt design for all sites and all supporting partners will have their logo on the back of the t-shirt. Vice Chairman Hartley asked about the official name of the event and what the t-shirt says. Mr. Searby said 'Catawba Riversweep.' Vice Chairman Hartley surmised that it is no longer Lake Wylie Riversweep in this area, and that the event has been absorbed into the larger basin wide Riversweep event. Commissioner Bryant commented that when volunteers signed up at the Boat Show, they signed up for Riversweep on Lake Wylie. Vice Chairman Hartley said that the Lake Wylie Riversweep exposure has been diluted. He is not comfortable with the dilution of what has been the Lake Wylie Riversweep. Commissioner Wilson commented that this event is not going to happen if the LWMC manages it by itself. The new management arrangement will dilute branding, but if the LWMC's concern is brand dilution on this one event, we need to look at the LWMC's bigger branding issue. Commissioner Hanks called the question. Commissioner Thomas said that he is not convinced that exposure will be diluted but may actually be expanded. Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the \$4,350 in its entirety and if Commissioner Chacharon and Secretary Treasurer Mullane can help ensure that anything that is brandable have the LWMC logo on it. Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Hartley said that that discussion will be revisited next year. Commissioners Chacharon, Hanks, Mullane, Thomas, Webber, and Wilson voted in favor of the motion, Vice Chairman Hartley and Commissioner Bryant voted against the motion, and Chairman Hegarty abstained from voting. The motion passed.

#### **Item 6 – No Wake Zone Application – Red Fez Shrine Club**

Jimmy Burgess is requesting that no wake zones be added to the coves to the north and south of the Red Fez Shrine Club. Chairman Hegarty said Marine Commissioners will make a site visit as a next step. Mr. Burgess said he would be happy to meet with Marine Commissioners during the site visit. Chairman Hegarty and Commissioner Webber will conduct the site visit. Captain Adam Huth commented that boaters do move at high speeds near that area. Commissioner Webber asked if a no wake buoy (such as what was at the south cove near the Red Fez Club) was in place and is now missing, can the buoy be replaced without going through an approval process. The answer is no. Chairman Hegarty commented that the missing buoy may have been a private placement buoy. They will conduct the site visit and this topic will be discussed at the August 24 meeting.

#### **Item 7 – No Wake Zone Application – The Vineyards**

Christine and James Engle launch their boat from the private boat ramp at The Vineyards. Kayakers, paddleboarders, and swimmers recreate in the area near the boat launch area. To get to the main channel from The Vineyards boat ramp, boaters must pass through a very narrow part of the lake.

They commented that boaters come through that narrow channel at high rate of speed, which causes a safety issue. Commissioners Hanks, Webber, and Mullane will conduct the site visit, and Commissioner Hanks will coordinate the visit.

#### **Item 8 – Executive Director Position**

Vice Chairman Hartley reported that he received comments from Commissioners Chacharon, Hanks, and Webber, and asked if other Marine Commissioner have comments on the list of possible LWMC Executive Director duties. Vice Chairman Hartley said he is concerned that there have not been enough comments on the list of duties, so this discussion should be delayed until the August meeting. Commissioners Wilson and Chacharon noted that they have only been on the LWMC when there has not been an Executive Director. Commissioner Thomas commented that this volunteer position is more of an assistant to the LWMC and that person would work at the pleasure and direction of the LWMC. He commented that very little action should be taken by an Executive Director without express consent from the LWMC. Commissioner Thomas said that it is a beneficial position to have in place because most LWMC members have jobs. He said former LWMC Chairman Neil Brennan did an amazing job in his role as Chairman, in part because he had the time to put into it. He acknowledged that Vice Chairman Hartley has a full-time job, and therefore may need assistance as Chairman. Chairman Hegarty commented that it is in the interest of the longevity of the LWMC to have the Executive Director role filled.

Commissioner Chacharon commented that perhaps the title should not be Executive Director, but maybe Assistant to the LWMC. She would be in favor of changing title. Commissioner Thomas thinks Executive Director is not necessarily an appropriate title, but the title needs to convey authority given the different people and entities this person would work with and encounter. He said that former LWMC Executive Director Joe Stowe served in more of an advisory role. Commissioner Chacharon moved to further define the title of Executive Director. This motion ended up being withdrawn. Legal Counsel Clark commented that the person in this position would need to have suitable authority, and “Assistant” does not convey that level of authority. “Advisor” may be a good option. Mr. Clark will think about other title options. Vice Chairman Hartley would like to delay this discussion. Ms. Parker will add this item to the August 24 LWMC agenda. Commissioner Thomas offered that he and Commissioner Hanks could have a call with Vice Chairman Hartley to talk about how the Executive Director role was conducted under Mr. Joe Stowe. Vice Chairman Hartley liked the idea of having this call. Chairman Hegarty noted that he will follow up with each commissioner individually to hear their thoughts on the matter.

#### **Item 9 – Emergency Response Procedures Update**

Commissioner Thomas reported that he has spoken with representatives from each law enforcement agency, and every officer said that we need to stay with the 911 system that is in place, albeit imperfect, to access law enforcement or assistance. He received helpful feedback on the kinds of information that should be incorporated into the handouts for boaters that CMPD will have printed. The handout would include the key pieces of information that someone in distress would need to tell the 911 operator, with location being first. Commissioners Thomas, Webber, and Wilson will work on a plan for getting this information out to boaters. To reiterate, the preferred focus is to stay with 911 and try to educate the boating public on what would help them get assistance faster. Commissioner Webber added he talked with contacts at Lake Hartwell (on the South Carolina-Georgia border) and they have similar issues. He also mentioned that the Lake Hartwell lake commission holds a spring luncheon for all law enforcement agencies that serve the lake so people can get to know each other across agencies.

Sgt. Laton said a call from two weeks ago created a lot of location confusion for law enforcement agencies that were trying to respond to the call – was help needed on Mountain Island Lake or Lake Wylie? Sgt. Laton underscored the idea that location is definitely key when communicating with 911 and law enforcement agencies. He also noted that sometimes boaters do not know where they are on the lake.

Commissioner Hanks brought up the boating incident that Commissioner Thomas raised at the July meeting and commented that the issue in that case seemed to be with 911, not between various law enforcement agencies. Commissioner Thomas clarified that it was not a 911 call center problem, it was a resources on the lake problem.

Commissioner Wilson said he does not think the LWMC has the resources or marketing strength to change the public's minds about what to do in an emergency. The natural response is to call 911. Therefore, the LWMC should stay with trying to help fix shortfalls in the 911 system, as appropriate. Chairman Hegarty asked Commissioner Thomas to outline ideas around who boaters in need should call. Commissioner Thomas concurred with this plan of action and added that this information ('what you need to know and say when you call 911') could possibly be printed on a static stick window decal and distributed to boaters. It was noted that ABC law enforcement has a similar such informational placard that they distribute to boaters. Commissioner Bryant added that whatever is done in North Carolina to improve the 911 system should be replicated for South Carolina 911. Commissioner Thomas noted that the 911 system crosses state lines, and Sgt. Laton confirmed this statement. Commissioner Thomas said the LWMC and law enforcement agencies do not need to re-educate the public, but instead work to improve the 911 system. Ms. Parker will add this item to the August 24 agenda.

Commissioner Chacharon mentioned the 'Charlie Canoe and Other Boats Too' boating safety booklets and asked how they can be distributed to the public. Chairman Hegarty suggested coordinating distribution of these booklets through Riversweep and law enforcement.

#### **Item 10 – No Wake Zone Enforcement Discussion Update**

Chairman Hegarty commented that this will be an ongoing problem and boaters will still ignore no wake zones. There is a need for boater education about no wake zones. He suggested having no wake zone information pieces available at marinas and boat landings. Chairman Hegarty said he would put a draft together for the group to review. Commissioner Hanks commented that until law enforcement puts teeth into enforcing no wake zones, nothing will change with boater behavior in and around no wake zones.

It was noted that law enforcement coverage is stretched thin, so more public education is needed. Chairman Hegarty asked Sgt. Knupp to respond. Sgt. Knupp said they will park at places and watch boater behavior around no wake zones. If a boater gets a citation related to a no wake zone violation, the impact of a citation is up to the district attorney. The fine for a no wake violation is \$50. Commissioner Hanks commented that if the LWMC is going to continue to spend money on buoys, it would be great if law enforcement report could report how many boaters they pull over related to no wake zone infractions. He asked, why have and upkeep no wake buoys if boaters are going to ignore them? Commissioner Wilson said removing no wake buoys would be disastrous. Chairman Hegarty said he is having ongoing discussions with the NCWRC about the LWMC getting out of placing, maintaining, and keeping track of no wake buoys.

#### **Item 11 – Buoys and Buoy Maintenance Update**

Commissioner Thomas asked if there is a procedure in place that the LWMC should start easing into if the LWMC is going to pass the buoys and buoy maintenance torch to NCWRC. Sgt. Laton said he is not aware of any procedure. Chairman Hegarty thinks the LWMC could be a year away from this handoff happening. Commissioner Hanks asked where the LWMC stands with buoy equipment. Chairman Hegarty said the LWMC is out of buoys, and Captain Adam Huth confirmed this statement. Chairman Hegarty noted that drum buoys are all that remains, and they are difficult to place and manage. The LWMC needs to decide if they are going to buy new buoys. He added that no wake zone applicants have also offered to pay for buoys. Chairman Hegarty asked Legal Counsel Clark if the LWMC has the authority to charge applicants for buoys. Mr. Clark confirmed that the LWMC can charge applicants for buoys. Commissioner Hanks said that pencil buoys may cost approximately \$250 each, not including the weight, cable, fittings, and installation.

Vice Chairman Hartley moved that from this point forward the LWMC charge for buoys and installation to the requesting individual or entity for a buoy that has been approved. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion. Discussion: A question was asked about how buoy installation would be priced. Commissioner Hanks noted that Captain Adam Huth could price installation. He also raised a question about who would be billed for buoy installation around bridges. There was discussion about who would maintain buoys if no wake zone applicants purchased buoys, the LWMC or applicant? Chairman Hegarty stated that the LWMC would still need to maintain the buoys, even if an applicant purchased them. A comment was made that the public should not handle buoys in any way. Captain Adam Huth can establish a flat fee for buoy, anchor, hardware, etc. Commissioner Chacharon stated that passing off buoy purchasing to lake residents would not be in keeping with the LWMC's safety mission. Commissioner Webber asked about the budgeted amount in the buoy line item. It was clarified that that figure is to cover purchase of buoys, supplies, installation, and maintenance. Chairman Hegarty said more discussion is needed on this topic. Captain Adam Huth commented on the ongoing growth around Lake Wylie and possible increasing requests for no wake buoys and matters of equity – those who can afford a buoy can buy a buoy (if approved). He said he could start sourcing buoys and equipment and develop an average cost per buoy. Chairman Hegarty requested that Vice Chairman Hartley withdraw his motion and table this topic until the August meeting. Vice Chairman Hartley suggested that we take the vote and if the motion fails, this topic can be discussed at the next meeting. Chairman Hegarty, Vice Chairman Hartley, and Commissioner Thomas voted in favor of the motion, and Commissioners Bryant, Chacharon, Hanks, Mullane, Webber, and Wilson voted against the motion. The motion failed.

Ms. Parker will add this item to the August 24 agenda. Legal Counsel Clark commented and shared how the Lake Norman Marine Commission handles buoys – they charge a \$150 application fee (whether it is approved or not) and cost for materials and installation is estimated to be \$2,500 total. Chairman Hegarty mentioned several buoys that are out of place and discussion ensued with Captain Adam Huth. There was consensus that no wake buoys around bridges are a priority. Captain Adam Huth stated that an immediate concern is that the LWMC is out of buoys and he needs them. He suggested ordering ten (10), unless there would be a better cost to buying in bulk. Commissioner Wilson asked if the LWMC has any authority to paint bridge pylons white and orange with the words “no wake.” Commissioner Thomas asked if a reflective “no wake” sign could be attached to pylons. Commissioner Hanks commented that for the bridge marking project, NCDOT had to give permission for any signage to be attached to bridges.

Captain Adam Huth reiterated that he needs more buoys to continue his work for the LWMC. Commissioner Thomas moved that the LWMC not use buoys that are left in inventory and purchase new buoys, if required. Commissioner Hanks seconded the motion. Discussion: Chairman Hegarty asked how many buoys need to be ordered. Chairman Hegarty said to order ten (10), but also look for the best deal. The vote was taken and approved unanimously.

### **Item 12 – Treasurer's Report**

Secretary Treasurer Mullane reported that:

- York County: The Q1 (July 1 – Sept 30, 2020) invoice has been submitted (\$6,250).
- Gaston County requires a contract to be signed with the LWMC each new fiscal year before funds can be requested and released. The partially executed contract was sent to Gaston County on July 13. Ms. Parker will follow up with County staff about the status of the contract.
- Mecklenburg County also requires a contract to be signed with the LWMC each new fiscal year before funds can be requested and released. The contract has been requested. Ms. Parker will follow up with County staff about when the LWMC will receive the contract.
- Account Consolidation – This agenda item will be addressed at the August 24 meeting.



**Item 13 – Chairman’s Report**

Chairman Hegarty reported that he:

- Updated the LWMC’s annual report for the Mecklenburg County Board of County Commissioners, and also sent it to the York and Gaston county clerks for distribution. This report can be found on the LWMC website.
- Consulted with Vice Chairman Hartley about the LWMC Executive Director position.
- Reviewed the LWMC website to make sure content is accurate and in the right place. He will coordinate with Commissioner Wilson on any edits that are needed.
- Worked with Vice Chairman Hartley to identify potential new Marine Commissioners to fill upcoming vacancies.

**Item 14 – Administrator’s Report**

Ms. Parker did not have a report.

**Item 15 – Public Relations Report**

Mecklenburg County Commission Vice Chairperson Elaine Powell reached out to Commissioner Wilson about regulations on Lake Wylie for large event boats. The Mecklenburg County Board of County Commissioners have been getting complaints about large party boats on Lake Norman that are not adhering to Governor Cooper’s orders. The Marine Commission stated, to its knowledge, that no such boats operate on Lake Wylie.

**Item 16 – Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm.